

4. How to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Title: Portland and Masonry Cement.

OMB approval number: 1028-0058.

Abstract: Respondents supply the U.S. Geological Survey with data on cement shipments to final customers. This information will be published as monthly reports for use by Government agencies, industry, and the general public.

Bureau form number: 9-3079.

Frequency: Monthly.

Description of respondents:

Manufacturers and importers of portland and masonry cement.

Annual responses: 600.

Annual burden hours: 300.

Bureau clearance officer: John E. Cordyack, Jr., 703-648-7313.

John H. DeYoung, Jr.,

Chief Scientist, Minerals Information Team.

[FR Doc. 97-32515 Filed 12-11-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-31-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ID-990-1020-01]

Call for Nominations for Upper Snake River District, Resource Advisory Council

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Resource Advisory Council Call for Nominations.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to solicit public nominations for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Upper Snake River District (USRD), Resource Advisory Council that have two vacant positions, which expire August 1998. This Council provides advice and recommendations to the BLM USRD on land use planning and management of the public lands within central and eastern Idaho. Public nominations will be considered for 30 days after the publication date of this notice.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) directs the Secretary of the Interior to involve the public in planning and issues related to management of lands administered by BLM. Section 309 of FLPMA directs the Secretary to select 10 to 15 member citizen-based advisory councils that are established and authorized consistent with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). As

required by the FACA, Resource Advisory Council members appointed to the council must be balanced and representative of the various interests concerned with the management of the public lands. The two vacant categories are in Category 1 and Category 2. Category 1 includes holders of federal grazing permits, representatives of energy and mining development, timber industry, off-road vehicle use and developed recreation; Category 2 includes representatives of environmental and resource conservation organizations, archaeological and historic interests, and wild horse and burro groups.

Individuals may nominate themselves or others. Nominees must be residents of the State of Idaho in which the council has jurisdiction. Nominees will be evaluated based on their education, training, and experience of the issues and knowledge of the geographical area of the Council. Nominees should have demonstrated a commitment to collaborative resource decision making. All nominations must be accompanied by letters of reference from represented interests or organizations, a completed background information nomination form, as well as any other information that speaks to the nominee's qualifications.

Simultaneous with this notice, BLM Upper Snake River District will issue press releases providing additional information for submitting nominations and with specifics about the positions available for this council. Nominations for Upper Snake River District Resource Advisory Council should be sent to Debra Kovar, BLM Shoshone Resource Area Office, 400 West F Street, P O Box 2-B, Shoshone, Idaho 83352-1522.

Dated: December 5, 1997.

Tom Dyer,

Area Manager.

[FR Doc. 97-32535 Filed 12-11-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GG-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AK-931-1310-00-NPRA]

Northeast National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska Draft Integrated Activity Plan/Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management.

ACTION: Notice of availability and announcement of public subsistence-related hearing schedule

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management announces the availability

of Northeast National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska Draft Integrated Activity Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (IAP/EIS). The planning area is roughly bounded by the Colville River to the east and south, the Ikpikpuk River to the west and the Beaufort Sea to the north. The IAP/EIS contains five alternatives for a land management plan for the 4.6 million-acre planning area and assessments of each plan's impacts on the surface resources present there. These alternatives provide varying answers to two primary questions. First, will BLM conduct oil and gas lease sales in the planning area and, if so, what lands will be made available for leasing? Second, what protections and enhancements will be implemented for natural and cultural resources and the activities that are based on these resources?

Alternative A calls for no action, or no change from the status quo, and under it no leasing would occur. Alternatives B through E make progressively more land, and more environmentally sensitive land, available to possible leasing. Alternative B makes 43 percent available, Alternative C makes 74 percent available, Alternative D makes 89 percent available and Alternative E makes the entire planning area available. Restrictive stipulations would provide protections for natural and cultural resources under all alternatives, but their number and scope would vary between alternatives.

Alternative A contains the fewest stipulations because it authorizes the fewest activities and entirely precludes leasing. As alternatives B through E make progressively more sensitive lands available for leasing, they also include increasing numbers of protective stipulations. Thus, while Alternative E opens the entire planning area to leasing it also has many specific stipulations whose intent is to ensure that sensitive natural resources are protected.

Some alternatives contain proposals for specially designated areas that would enhance recognition of their values. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to identify specific lands in the NPR-A as "Special Areas", and there are two previously designated Special Areas within the planning area. Some alternatives recommend that the Pik Dunes, an unusual geologic feature in the planning area with importance for caribou, be added to the existing Teshekpuk Lake Special Area. Some alternatives also contain recommendations that lands along the Ikpikpuk River be designated as a Special Area for their paleontological values.

Under various alternatives, BLM would recommend that Congress designate the Colville River a wild, scenic, or recreation river under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. BLM is also proposing that it work with nearby Colville River land owners, including the State and Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, to create a Bird Conservation Area under the Partners in Flight Program. Finally, in some alternatives BLM is proposing a plan, or plans, to guide future studies of caribou and waterfowl populations in the Teshekpuk Lake area.

Section 810 of the Alaska National Lands Conservation Act requires BLM to evaluate the effects of the alternative plans presented in this IAP/EIS on subsistence activities in the planning area, and to hold public hearings if it finds that any alternative might significantly restrict subsistence activities. Appendix D of the document indicates that alternatives D and E may significantly restrict subsistence activities, therefore, BLM is holding the public hearings whose dates are given below.

DATES: Written comments on the draft IAP/EIS must be submitted or postmarked no later than February 10, 1998. Oral and/or written comments may also be presented at seven public hearings to be held:

January 12, 1998, 7:30 pm, Atqasuk Community Hall, Atqasuk, Alaska
 January 13, 1998, 7:30 pm, North Slope Assembly Chambers, Barrow, Alaska
 January 14, 1998, 7:30 pm, Kisik Community Center, Nuiqsit, Alaska
 January 15, 1998, 7:30 pm, Anaktuvuk Pass Community Hall, Anaktuvuk Pass, Alaska
 January 21, 1998, 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm, Marston Theater, Loussac Library, Anchorage, Alaska
 January 22, 1998, 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm, Carlson Center, Conference Room, Fairbanks, Alaska
 January 26, 1998, 7:00 pm and 9:00 pm, Washington Capital Hilton, Federal Room, 16th and K Street NW, Washington, DC

Any changes to the hearing schedule will be accompanied by appropriate public notice.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the document should be addressed to: NPR-A Planning Team, Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office (930), 222 West 7th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599. Comments can also be sent to the NPR-A home page (<http://aurora.ak.blm.gov/npra/>).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gene Terland (907-271-3344; gterland@ak.blm.gov) or Jim Ducker

(907-271-3369; jducker@ak.blm.gov). They can be reached by mail at the Bureau of Land Management (930), Alaska State Office, 222 West 7th Avenue, Anchorage Alaska 99513-7599.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Authority for developing this document is derived from the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976 and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The BLM leased tracts in the NPR-A in 1982 and 1983 (all now expired), but halted a lease sale in 1984 when no acceptable bids were made. Recently, interest in a lease sale has increased as oil and gas infrastructure moved west. Soon a development at the Alpine Field, in the Colville River delta, will bring a pipeline to within 10 miles of the eastern boundary of the planning area. None of the federal lands in the planning area are currently available to oil and gas leasing because existing NEPA documentation is dated and inadequate to meet current standards. Should BLM undertake a leasing program, this IAP/EIS will form the basic NEPA documentation to authorize leasing, and it will determine those lands that are available and those that are unavailable for leasing.

Public participation has occurred throughout the period since the Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement was published on February 13, 1997. In addition to holding scoping meetings in Nuiqsit, Atqasuk, Barrow, Fairbanks and Anchorage several publicly attended workshops have addressed important issues within the planning area. The planning area provides particularly important habitat for caribou, waterfowl and other species and many of the local residents of the area rely on harvesting these resources for subsistence purposes. Ensuring adequate protection of these resources has been one of the driving forces behind workshops to seek input from a variety of public sources with expertise in related fields. Additional information from these workshops has also been helpful in developing this draft document.

The BLM has worked very closely with the North Slope Borough and the State of Alaska in developing this draft IAP/EIS. Representatives of both organizations have directly participated in meetings that led to the development of the alternatives presented here, although BLM is solely responsible for the form the alternatives took. The Mineral Management Service of the Department of the Interior has also

assisted BLM in developing the document.

Copies of the draft IAP/EIS will be available for public review at the following locations: Tuzzy Public Library, Barrow, AK; City of Nuiqsut, Nuiqsut, AK; City of Atqasuk, Atqasuk, AK; City of Anaktuvuk, Pass, Anaktuvuk Pass, AK; and City of Wainwright, Wainwright, AK.

Tom Allen,

State Director.

[FR Doc. 97-31771 Filed 12-11-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JA-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NM-030-1990-00]

Record of Decision, Phelps Dodge Little Rock Mine Project, Environmental Impact Statement, Grant County, New Mexico

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The BLM Las Cruces District Office has prepared a Record of Decision (ROD) for the Phelps Dodge Little Rock Mine Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The ROD was signed by the District Manager approving the proposed mine project and incorporating environmental protection measures in the EIS.

The EIS analyzed the impacts of the re-establishment of the Little Rock Mine. The Little Rock Mine is an open-pit copper mine located approximately 7 miles south of Silver City, New Mexico. The Proposed Action includes the construction, operation, and reclamation of the proposed mine pit, including the diversion of stream water in California Gulch, and the creation of a pit lake after mining operations have ceased. Approximately 100 million tons of leachable ore could be removed from the proposed pit. Up to 160,000 tons of ore per day would be mined and processed over a 2- to 4-year period.

The proposed project will also require the construction of a haul road that will allow transportation of ore from the mine site to the processing facilities located at the Tyrone Mine facility. Overburden or other inert, nonmineralized materials will be stockpiled for potential use in reclamation. Project construction will employ the existing workforce at Tyrone.

ADDRESSES: Linda S. C. Rundell, District Manager, BLM, Las Cruces District