

Land Management, Ely Field Office, 702 North Industrial Way, Ely, NV 89301.

Dated: February 2, 2005.

Gene A. Kolkman,

Ely Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 05-7104 Filed 4-7-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-NV-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

Conservation Helium Sale

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice Implementing a Supplemental Conservation Helium Sale.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this action is to continue implementation of the terms of the Helium Privatization Act (HPA) of 1996 dealing with the disposal of the Conservation Helium Reserve. The HPA requires the Department of the Interior to *offer for sale*, beginning no later than 2005, a portion of the Conservation Helium stored underground at the Cliffside Field, north of Amarillo, Texas. The Department of the Interior, in consultation with the private helium industry, has determined that private companies, with refining capacity along the crude helium pipeline, will need a supply of helium in excess of that available from their own storage accounts and that available from crude helium extractors in the region. Given the current market, Conservation Helium sold in this sale will cause minimal market disruption.

DATES: Submit bids and other documentation as required in Notice on or before May 9, 2005.

ADDRESSES: You may submit your bids and other documentation as required in this Notice to the Bureau of Land Management; Amarillo Field Office; 810 S. Fillmore, Suite 500; Amarillo, TX 79101-3545; Attention: Crude Helium Sales Analyst.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Connie H. Neely, (806) 356-1027.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1.01 What Is the Purpose of the Sale?

The purpose of this sale is to continue implementation of the terms of the HPA of 1996 dealing with the disposal of the Conservation Helium Reserve. The HPA

requires the Department of the Interior to *offer for sale*, beginning no later than 2005, a portion of the Conservation Helium stored underground at the Cliffside Field, north of Amarillo, Texas. The Department of the Interior, in consultation with the private helium industry, has determined that private companies, with refining capacity along the crude helium pipeline, will need a supply of helium in excess of that available from their own storage accounts and that available from crude helium extractors in the region. This is a supplemental sale of the excess helium offered for sale in September 2004 that the Department will conduct to dispose of the Conservation Helium stored underground at the Cliffside Field. The annual sales and Supplemental Sale are being conducted in a manner intended to prevent pure helium market disruptions from occurring to end users; shortages of crude helium to pure helium refiners; and an oversupply of crude helium on the market for crude helium extractors. Subsequent sales may be adjusted as needed.

1.02 What Terms Do I Need To Know To Understand This Sale?

Allocated Sale—That portion of the annual sale volume of Conservation Helium that will be set aside for purchase by the Crude Helium Refiners.

Annual Conservation Helium Sale—The sale of a certain volume of Conservation Helium to private entities conducted annually beginning no later than 2005.

Bidder—Any entity or person who submits a request for purchase of a volume of the Annual Conservation Helium Sale and has met the qualifications contained in part 1.05 in this Notice.

BLM—The Bureau of Land Management.

Conservation Helium—The crude helium purchased by the U.S. Government under the authority of the Helium Act of 1960 and stored underground in the Cliffside Field.

Crude Helium—A partially refined gas containing about 70 percent helium and 30 percent nitrogen. However, the helium concentration may vary from 50 to 95 percent.

Crude Helium Refiners—Those entities with a capability of refining crude helium and having a connection point on the crude helium pipeline and a valid Helium Storage Contract as of the date of a Conservation Helium Sale.

Excess Volumes—Allocated sale volumes not requested by the Crude Helium Refiners.

Helium Storage Contract—A contract between the BLM and a private entity allowing the private entity to store crude helium in underground storage at the Cliffside Field.

HPA—The Helium Privatization Act of 1996.

In-Kind Crude Helium—Conservation Helium purchased by private refiners in exchange for like amounts of pure helium sold to Federal agencies and their contractors in accordance with the HPA.

MMcf—One million cubic feet of gas measured at standard conditions of 14.65 pounds per square inch (psi) and 60° F.

Mcf—One thousand cubic feet of gas measured at standard conditions of 14.65 psi and 60° F.

Non-Allocated Sale—That portion of the annual sale volume of Conservation Helium that will be offered to all qualified Bidders.

Supplemental Sale—If all the Conservation Helium offered for sale is not sold during the annual sale, then an additional sale will be conducted to offer for sale the remaining volumes not purchased during the annual sale.

1.03 What Volume of Conservation Helium Will Be Offered in the Supplemental Conservation Helium Sale?

The volume of helium available for this sale is 1,610 MMcf. In accordance with the HPA, this volume was determined by subtracting the volume sold in the October 2004 sale from the total volume offered for sale.

1.04 At What Price Will the Conservation Helium Be Sold?

The Conservation Helium will be sold at the same price as In-Kind Crude Helium. In accordance with the HPA, this price covers helium debt repayment and its escalation by the Consumer Price Index since the helium debt was frozen in 1995. Additionally, the price includes administrative and storage costs associated with the Conservation Helium calculated on a per Mcf basis. For Fiscal Year 2005 that price is \$54.50 per Mcf.

1.05 Am I Qualified To Purchase Conservation Helium at This Sale?

Any person, firm, partnership, joint stock association, corporation, or other domestic or foreign organizations operating partially or wholly within the United States who meets one or more of the following requirements is qualified to submit a purchase request:

- Operates a helium purification plant within the U.S., or

- Operates a crude helium extraction plant within the U.S., or
- Is a wholesaler of pure helium or purchases helium for resale within the U.S., or
- Is a consumer of pure helium within the U.S., or
- Has an agreement with a helium refiner to provide its helium processing needs, commonly referred to as a "tolling agreement."

All entities requesting participation in the Non-Allocated Sale must submit proof of being qualified to purchase Conservation Helium and must either have a Helium Storage Contract with the BLM or have a third-party agreement in place with a valid storage contract holder so that all Conservation Helium sold to the Bidder will be properly covered by a Helium Storage Contract (including associated storage charges).

1.06 When Will the Conservation Helium Be Offered for Sale?

The BLM, Amarillo Field Office, will accept requests for purchase of Conservation Helium from final publication of this Notice until May 9, 2005. On the next business day after this Notice closes, requests to purchase Conservation Helium will be opened and evaluated. Upon evaluation, volumes of this Conservation Helium Sale will be apportioned and allocated according to the sale rules described in this Notice.

1.07 What Must I Do To Submit a Request for Purchase?

You must submit the following information to the BLM, Amarillo Field Office:

- Billing address information and name(s) of principle officers of the company.
- Proof of being an entity qualified to purchase Conservation Helium at this sale as defined in part 1.05 above. Documents such as invoices for sale or purchase of helium, Helium Storage Contracts, or other relevant documents may be submitted as proof of qualification.
- The amount (in Mcf) of Conservation Helium requested.
- Certified check or money order in the amount of \$1,000 made payable to the Bureau of Land Management. This money will be used to cover administrative expenses to conduct this sale and is nonrefundable.

1.08 Where Do I Send My Request for Purchases?

All requests for purchase of helium, as part of this sale, must be sent by certified mail to: Bureau of Land Management, Amarillo Field Office, 810 S. Fillmore, Suite 500, Amarillo, TX 79101-3545, Attention: Crude Helium Sales Analyst.

1.09 When Do I Need to Submit Payment for Any Conservation Helium Sold to Me?

Successful purchasers will submit payments according to the following schedule:

- 50 percent by April 30, 2005, or 30 days after notification of the award volumes, whichever is later.
- 50 percent by July 30, 2005.

Conservation Helium will not be transferred to the purchaser's storage account until payment is received for that portion. Successful purchasers may, at their option, accelerate the purchase schedule.

1.10 To Whom Do I Make Payments for Awarded Conservation Helium Volumes?

Make checks payable to the Bureau of Land Management at the address listed in part 1.08 of this Notice.

1.11 What Are the Penalties for Not Paying for the Conservation Helium in a Timely Manner?

If BLM does not receive a payment by the original due date or by the deadline established on a written late notice, the purchaser will forfeit the remainder of its allotment unless the purchaser can show that payment was late through no fault of its own. However, penalty interest will be assessed in accordance with the Debt Collection Act of 1982, 31 U.S.C. 951-953.

1.12 How Will I Know If I Have Been Successful in My Purchase Request?

Successful purchasers will be notified in writing by BLM no later than 2 weeks after the close of this Notice with the awarded volumes and payment schedule.

Allocated Sale

2.01 What Is the Allocated Sale?

That portion of the annual sale volume of Conservation Helium that

will be set aside for purchase by the Crude Helium Refiners.

2.20 Who Will Be Allowed To Purchase Conservation Helium in the Allocated Sale?

Only those who meet the definition of Crude Helium Refiners as defined in part 1.02 of this Notice.

2.03 What Volume of Conservation Helium Is Available in the Allocated Sale?

The amount available will be 90 percent of the total volume of the Supplemental Conservation Helium Sale - 1,449 MMcf.

2.04 How Will the Conservation Helium Be Apportioned Among the Refiners?

The apportionment to each Crude Helium Refiner will be based on its percentage share (rounded to the nearest 1/10th of 1 percent) of the total refining capacity as of October 1, 2000, connected to the BLM crude helium pipeline.

2.05 What Will Happen if a Refiner or Refiners Request an Amount Other Than Their Share of What Is Offered for Sale?

- If one or more refiners request less than their allocated share, any other refiner(s) that requested more than their share will be allowed to purchase the excess volume based on proportionate shares of remaining refining capacities.

- Requests by the Crude Helium Refiners that are in excess of the amount available above will be carried over to the Non-Allocated Sale and considered a separate bid under the Non-Allocated Sale rules.

2.06 What Will Happen If the Total Amount Requested By the Crude Helium Refiners Is Less Than the 1,449 MMcf Offered in the Allocated Sale?

Any excess volume not sold to the Crude Helium Refiners will be added to the Non-Allocated Sale volume.

2.07 Do You Have a Hypothetical Example of How an Allocated Sale Would Be Conducted?

Assume 2,100 MMcf were available for total sale with 90 percent available for Allocated Sale (1,890 MMcf).

Bidder—allocated sale	Installed refining capacity (percent)	Refiner bid volume*	Allocated volume*	Excess volume requested*	Proration percent	Excess allocated*	Total allocated*	Carry over to non-allocated sale*
Refiner A	10	225	189	36	20	36	225	0

Bidder—allocated sale	Installed refining capacity (percent)	Refiner bid volume*	Allocated volume*	Excess volume requested*	Proration percent	Excess allocated*	Total allocated*	Carry over to non-allocated sale*
Refiner B	50	750	750	0	0	0	750	0
Refiner C	40	985	756	229	80	156+3	915	70
Total	100	1,960	1,695	265	100	195	1,890	0

* All volumes in MMcf.

After the initial allocation, Refiner B has received all it requested. However, 265 MMcf is deemed excess of the total in the first iteration of the allocated Sale and reallocated to the two remaining refiners based on the refining capacity between them. With the reallocation, Refiner A gets all requested, but Refiner C is still short by 73 MMcf. Additionally, 3 MMcf remains unallocated and without any other Refiners is awarded to Refiner C, who now has a remaining request of 70 MMcf that is posted into the Non-Allocated Sale. All percentages used in the calculation will be rounded to the nearest 1/10th of 1 percent. All volumes calculated will be rounded to the nearest 1 Mcf.

Non-Allocated Sale

3.01 What Is the Non-Allocated Sale?

That portion of the annual sale volume of Conservation Helium that will be offered to all qualified Bidders.

3.02 What Is the Minimum Volume I Can Request?

The minimum request is 5 MMcf.

3.03 What Volume of Conservation Helium Is Available for the Non-Allocated Sale?

The total volume of Conservation Helium available for this portion of the sale is 161 MMcf plus any additional helium that is not sold as part of the Allocated Sale.

3.04 How Is the Ratio of Allocated to Non-Allocated Sale Volumes Determined?

According to the terms of the HPA, the BLM must conduct the Annual Conservation Helium Sales in a manner not to cause undue helium market disruptions; and therefore, the majority of the Conservation Helium is being offered as part of the Allocated Sale. Currently, the Crude Helium Refiners have refining capacity roughly double what can be supplied through the Annual Conservation Helium Sales. Although there are other crude helium supplies available to the Crude Helium Refiners, these supplies are declining each year. The BLM must be sensitive to the Crude Helium Refiners' requirements while maintaining a balance with other helium industry requirements. The exact ratio of Allocated to Non-Allocated Sale volumes may change for subsequent Annual Conservation Helium Sales.

3.05 How will the Non-Allocated Conservation Helium Be Apportioned Among the Bidders?

The Conservation Helium will be apportioned equally in 1 Mcf increments among the Bidders with no prospective Bidder receiving more than its request.

3.06 What Will Happen if the Bidders Request More Than What Is Made Available for Sale in Part 3.03 of This Notice?

• If one or more Bidders request less than their apportioned amount, any

other Bidder(s) that requested more than its apportioned amount will be allowed to purchase equally apportioned amounts of the remaining volume available for this sale.

• If all Bidders request more than their apportioned amount each Bidder will receive its apportioned amount as determined in part 3.05 in this Notice.

3.07 What Will Happen If a Bidder Requests Less Than Its Apportioned Amount?

Any Bidder requesting less than the calculated apportioned volume will receive the amount of its request and amounts remaining will be reapportioned in accordance with part 3.05 in this Notice.

3.08 What Will Happen If the Total Requests From All Bidders Are Less Than That Offered for Sale in the Non-Allocated Sale?

If there is any excess amount after the Supplement Sale, then it will not be sold and will be held in storage for future sales.

3.09 Do You Have a Hypothetical Example of How a Non-Allocated Sale Would Be Conducted?

Assume, 2,100 MMcf were available for total sale with 10 percent available for Non-Allocated Sale (210 MMcf).

Bidder—non-allocated sale	Bid volume	Apportioned volume*	Excess volume requested*	Proration percent	Excess apportioned*	Total apportioned*	Amount requested not received*
Refiner C	70	52.5	17.5	50	15	67.5	2.5
Company D	100	52.5	47.5	50	15	67.5	32.5
Company E	50	50	0	0	0	50	0
Company F	25	25	0	0	0	25	0
Total	245	180	65	100	30	210	35

*All volumes in MMcf.

In this example, three companies submit a request and there is a carryover

amount from one of the Crude Helium Refiners in the Allocated Sale that is

considered as a separate request. Each Bidder would be apportioned 52.5

MMcf, (i.e., 210 MMcf of Non-Allocated Conservation Helium + 4 Bidders = 52.5 MMcf per Bidder).

After the initial allocation, Companies E and F have received all the helium they requested. However, 30 MMcf is deemed excess in the first iteration of the Non-Allocated Sale and reallocated to the two remaining Bidders. With the reallocation, Refiner C and Company D each receives an additional 15 MMcf. No more helium is available, Refiner C and Company D do not receive all that they requested, and the sale is complete. All percentages used in the calculation will be rounded to the nearest 1/10th of 1 percent. All volumes calculated will be rounded to the nearest 1 Mcf.

Dated: January 27, 2005.

Jesse J. Juen,

Acting State Director, New Mexico.

[FR Doc. 05-6978 Filed 4-7-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-A6-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ID-200-1120-PH]

Notice of May Resource Advisory Council Meeting to be Held in Twin Falls District, ID

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Twin Falls District.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the intent to hold a Bureau of Land Management Resource Advisory Council (RAC) meeting in the Twin Falls District of Idaho on Tuesday, May 17, 2005. The meeting will be held in the Oak Room at the Red Lion Canyon Springs Hotel, 1357 Blue Lakes Boulevard, in Twin Falls, Idaho at 8 a.m.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Twin Falls District Resource Advisory Council consists of the standard fifteen members residing throughout south central Idaho. The May meeting will be the group's third quarterly meeting. Agenda items will include relocation of the Sun Valley Airport, status of the proposed Cotterell Mountain Wind Energy Project, Grazing Regulation Status, a presentation of the new Idaho BLM Off-Highway Vehicle campaign, and an update on the Jim Sage Vegetation Treatment Project, among other smaller updates.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sky Buffat, Twin Falls District, Idaho, 378 Falls Avenue, Twin Falls, Idaho, 83301, (208) 732-7307.

Dated: April 1, 2005.

Howard Hedrick,

Twin Falls District Manager.

[FR Doc. 05-7011 Filed 4-7-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GG-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

[MT-920-04-1310-FI-P; (NDM 75388)]

Notice of Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease NDM 75388

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Per 30 U.S.C. 188(d), the lessee timely filed a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas Lease NDM 75388, Billings County, North Dakota. The lessee paid the required rental accruing from the date of termination.

No Leases were issued that affect these lands. The lessee agrees to new Lease terms for rentals and royalties of \$5 per acre and 16²/₃ percent or 4 percentages above the existing competitive royalty rate. The lessee paid the \$500 administration fee for the reinstatement of the Lease and \$155 cost for publishing this Notice.

The lessee met the requirements for reinstatement of the Lease per Sec. 31 (d) and (e) of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. 188). We are proposing to reinstate the Lease, effective the date of termination subject to:

- The original terms and conditions of the Lease;
- The increased rental of \$5 per acre;
- The increased royalty of 16²/₃ percent or 4 percentages above the existing competitive royalty rate; and
- The \$155 cost of publishing this Notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen L. Johnson, Chief, Fluids Adjudication Section, BLM Montana State Office, PO Box 36800, Billings, Montana 59107, 406-896-5098.

Dated: February 23, 2005.

Karen L. Johnson,

Chief, Fluids Adjudication Section.

[FR Doc. 05-6976 Filed 4-7-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-SS-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY-920-1310-01: WYW153236]

Notice of Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of 30 U.S.C. 188(d) and (e), and 43 CFR 3108.2-3(a) and (b)(1), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas lease WYW153236 for lands in Sweetwater County, Wyoming. The petition was filed on time and was accompanied by all the rentals due since the date the lease terminated under the law.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bureau of Land Management, Pamela J. Lewis, Chief, Fluid Minerals Adjudication, at (307) 775-6176.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The lessee has agreed to the amended lease terms for rentals and royalties at rates of \$10.00 per acre or fraction thereof, per year and 16²/₃ percent, respectively. The lessee has (lessees have) paid the required \$500 administrative fee and \$166 to reimburse the Department for the cost of the **Federal Register** notice. The lessee has met all the requirements for reinstatement of the lease as set out in Section 31(d) and (e) of the Mineral Lands Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. 188), and the Bureau of Land Management is proposing to reinstate lease WYW153236 effective June 1, 2003, under the original terms and conditions of the lease and the increased rental and royalty rates cited above. BLM has not issued a valid lease affecting the lands.

Pamela J. Lewis,

Chief, Fluid Minerals Adjudication.

[FR Doc. 05-6979 Filed 4-7-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-22-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY-920-1310-01; WYW155759]

Notice of Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of proposed reinstatement of terminated Oil and Gas Lease.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of 30 U.S.C. 188(d) and (e), and 43 CFR 3108.2-3(a) and (b)(1), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas Lease WYW155759 for lands in Sheridan County, Wyoming. The petition was filed on time and was