

Fairfax Drive, Rm 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone (703) 358-2104 or Fax (703) 358-2281.

Dated: April 10, 1998.

**MaryEllen Amtower,**

*Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.*

[FR Doc. 98-10051 Filed 4-15-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Letters of Authorization to Take Marine Mammals

**AGENCY:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

**ACTION:** Notice of issuance of Letters of Authorization to take marine mammals incidental to oil and gas industry activities.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with section 101(a)(5) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) implementing regulations, notice is hereby given that Letters of Authorization to take polar bears and Pacific walrus incidental to oil and gas industry exploration, development, and production activities have been issued to the following companies:

Company	Activity	Date issued
BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc. ....	Exploration (Liberty) .....	March 16, 1998.
BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc. ....	Exploration (Flaxman Island) .....	March 16, 1998.
Exxon Company, U.S.A. ....	Construction (Flaxman Island) .....	March 24, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. John W. Bridges, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Management Office, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99503, (800) 362-5148 or (907) 786-3810.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Letters of Authorization were issued in accordance with Service implementing regulations 50 CFR 18.27 and 50 CFR 18.128.

Dated: March 30, 1998.

**Robyn Thorson,**

*Acting Regional Director.*

[FR Doc. 98-9366 Filed 4-15-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Garrison Diversion Unit Federal Advisory Council Meeting

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a meeting of the Garrison Diversion Unit Federal Advisory Council which was established under the authority of the Garrison Diversion Unit Reformulation Act of 1986 (Pub. L. 99-294, May 12, 1986). The meeting is open to the public.

**DATES:** The Garrison Diversion Unit Federal Advisory Council will have a meeting, on Tuesday, May 5, from 1 through 4:30 p.m. and from 8 a.m. until noon on Wednesday, May 6.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the North Dakota Game and Fish Department, 100 N. Bismarck Expressway, Bismarck, North Dakota.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Grady Towns, Refuges and Wildlife,

North Dakota/South Dakota, at (303) 236-8145, extension 644.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Garrison Diversion Unit Federal Advisory Council will consider and discuss subjects such as the Kraft Slough status and acquisition, the Dakota Water Resources Act, North Dakota Wetland Trust, Operation Maintenance, and Replacement funding for mitigation and enhancement lands, Wildlife Development Plan, Lonetree Update, Arrowwood National Wildlife Refuge EIS and mitigation effort, Designation of Kraft Slough as a National Wildlife Refuge, and the Oakes Test area.

Dated: April 9, 1998.

**Terry Terrell,**

*Regional Director, Denver, Colorado.*

[FR Doc. 98-10074 Filed 4-15-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[MT-921-08-1320-01; MTM 80697]

#### Coal Lease Offering

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Coal Lease Offering By Sealed Bid MTM 80697—Western Energy Company.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the coal resources in the lands described below in Rosebud County, Montana, will be offered for competitive lease by sealed bid. This offering is being made as a result of an application filed by Western Energy Company, in accordance with the provisions of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (41 Stat. 437; 30 U.S.C. 181-287), as amended.

An Environmental Assessment of the proposed coal development and related

requirements for consultation, public involvement, and hearing have been completed in accordance with 43 CFR 3425. Concerns and issues expressed by the public during the public scoping process centered on social, economic, and cultural impacts to the Northern Cheyenne and Crow Tribes, hydrologic impacts to the area, and the need to do an Environmental Impact Statement as the appropriate level of environmental documentation for the development of the coal resources. Three alternatives (Preferred, No Action, and Cultural Resource Avoidance) were developed to analyze impacts and to address issues relating to the proposed action. The Preferred Alternative, including special stipulations and mitigation measures, was chosen because it will maximize the beneficial use of the subject coal resource and will mitigate impacts to one historic site and two sites which have high values as traditional cultural properties.

The tract will be leased to the qualified bidder of the highest cash amount provided that the high bid meets the fair market value of the coal resource. The minimum bid for the tract is \$100 per acre, or fraction thereof. No bid that is less than \$100 per acre, or fraction thereof, will be considered. The minimum bid is not intended to represent fair market value. The fair market value will be determined by the authorized officer after the sale.

#### Coal Offered

The coal resource to be offered consists of all recoverable reserves in the following-described lands located approximately 10 miles west of the town of Colstrip, Montana:

- T. 1 N., R. 39 E., P.M.M.  
 Sec. 2: S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$   
 T. 1 N., R. 40 E., P.M.M.  
 Sec. 6: Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ , S $\frac{1}{2}$   
 Sec. 8: E $\frac{1}{2}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$

Sec. 14: S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$   
T. 2 N., R. 40 E., P.M.M.  
Sec. 32: All.  
Containing 2,061 acres, Rosebud County,  
Montana.

The Rosebud seam, averaging 22.3 feet in thickness, is the only economically minable coal seam within the tract. The tract contains an estimated 35.6 million tons of recoverable reserves. Coal quality, as received, averages 8,360 BTU/lb., 25.52 percent moisture, 10.03 percent ash, and 0.97 percent sulfur. This coal bed is being mined in adjoining tracts by Western Energy Company.

#### Rental and Royalty

A lease issued as a result of this offering will provide for payment of an annual rental of \$3 per acre, or fraction thereof, and a royalty payable to the United States of 12.5 percent of the value of coal mined by surface methods and 8.0 percent of the value of the coal mined by underground methods. The value of the coal shall be determined in accordance with 43 CFR 3485.2.

**DATES:** Lease Sale—The lease sale will be held at 10 a.m., Thursday, May 7, 1998, in the Conference Room on the Sixth Floor of the Granite Tower Building, Bureau of Land Management, 222 North 32nd Street, Billings, Montana 59107.

**Bids**—Sealed bids must be submitted on or before 9 a.m., Thursday, May 7, 1998, to the cashier, Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office, Second Floor, Granite Tower Building, 222 North 32nd Street, P.O. Box 36800, Billings, Montana 59107-6800. The bids should be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, or be hand-delivered. The cashier will issue a receipt for each hand-delivered bid. Bids received after that time will not be considered.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Bidding instructions for the offered tract are included in the Detailed Statement of Lease Sale. Copies of the statement and the proposed coal lease are available at the Montana State Office. Casefile documents are also available for public inspection at the Montana State Office.

Dated: April 3, 1998.

**Larry E. Hamilton,**  
State Director.

[FR Doc. 98-10127 Filed 4-15-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DN-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[OR-050-1020-00; GP8-0154]

#### Notice of Meeting of John Day-Snake Resource Advisory Council

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Prineville District.

**ACTION:** Meeting of John Day-Snake Resource Advisory Council; Pendleton, Oregon; May 11 & 12, 1998.

**SUMMARY:** A meeting of the John Day-Snake Resource Advisory Council will be held on May 11, 1998 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Department of Natural Resources Conference Room on the Umatilla Reservation, and on May 12 from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Doubletree Inn, 304 SE Nye Ave., Pendleton, Oregon. The meeting is open to the public. Public comments will be received at 1:00 p.m. on May 12. The May 11 session will include a tour of Tribal Headquarters and a field trip to view conservation work on the reservation. The May 12 session will include the future RAC program of work, a review of the BLM Strategic Plan, approval of a subgroup nomination and selection process, an update of the John Day River plan subgroup and an update on the recreation fee demonstration areas.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** James L. Hancock, Bureau of Land Management, Prineville District Office, 3050 NE Third Street, P.O. Box 550, Prineville, Oregon 97754, or call 541-416-6700.

Dated: April 2, 1998.

**James L. Hancock,**  
District Manager.

[FR Doc. 98-10107 Filed 4-15-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-33-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WY-921-41-5700; WYW96029]

#### Notice of Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease

April 2, 1998.

Pursuant to the provisions of 30 U.S.C. 188(d) and (e), and 43 CFR 3108.2-3(a) and (b)(1), a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas lease WYW96029 for lands in Sweetwater County, Wyoming, was timely filed and was accompanied by all the required rentals accruing from the date of termination. The lessee has agreed to the amended lease terms for rentals and

royalties at rates of \$5.00 per acre, or fraction thereof, per year and 16 $\frac{2}{3}$  percent, respectively.

The lessee has paid the required \$500 administrative fee and \$125 to reimburse the Department for the cost of this **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 WYW96029 effective November 1, 1997, subject to the original terms and conditions of the lease and the increased rental and royalty rates cited above.

**Pamela J. Lewis,**

Chief, Leasable Minerals Section.

[FR Doc. 98-10108 Filed 4-15-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-22-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NV-930-1430-01; N-56769]

#### Notice of Realty Action; Recreation and Public Purposes Act Classification; NV

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, DOI.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The following described land in Eureka County, Nevada, has been examined and identified as suitable for classification for conveyance for recreation or public purpose under the provisions of the Recreation and Public Purpose (R&PP) Act of June 14, 1926, as amended, (43 U.S.C. 869 *et seq.*). The Eureka County Board of Commissioners has made application to acquire the land which contains the existing Maiden's Grave Cemetery site. The action would serve to authorize the cemetery which has important historical values. The lands would be conveyed to Eureka County at the regular pricing rate of fair market value as determined by an appraisal, less a fifty percent discount.

#### Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada

T. 31 N., R. 49 E.,

Section 10, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Comprising 10.00 acres, more or less.

The land is not required for any other Federal purpose. The classification and subsequent conveyance is consistent with the Bureau's land use planning for the area and would be in the public interest.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The patent, when issued, will contain the