

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**Abstract:** This collection of information enables the BLM to process assignments of record title interest and transfers of operating rights in a lease for oil and gas or geothermal resources. Each assignment or transfer is a contract between private parties but, by law, must be approved by the Secretary. The BLM uses information about assignments and transfers to prevent unlawful extraction of mineral resources, to ensure prompt payment of rentals and royalties for the rights obtained under a Federal lease, and to ensure that leases are not encumbered with agreements that cause the minerals to be uneconomical to produce, resulting in lost revenues to the Federal Government. The information also enables the BLM to ensure the assignee or transferee is in compliance with the bonding requirements, when necessary, before approval of the transfer or assignment.

**Title of Collection:** Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources: Transfers and Assignments.

**OMB Control Number:** 1004-0034.

**Form Numbers:** 3000-3 and 3000-3a.

**Type of Review:** Revision of a currently approved collection.

**Respondents/Affected Public:** Assignors and assignees of record title interest in a lease for oil and gas or geothermal resources; and transferors and transferees of operating rights (sublease) in a lease for oil and gas or geothermal resources.

**Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents:** 17,626.

**Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:** 17,626.

**Estimated Completion Time per Response:** 30 minutes.

**Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:** 8,813.

**Respondent's Obligation:** Required to obtain or retain a benefit.

**Frequency of Collection:** On occasion.

**Total Estimated Annual Nonhour Burden Cost:** \$1,674,470.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The authority for this action is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

**Jean Sonneman,**

*Senior Regulatory Analyst, Bureau of Land Management.*

[FR Doc. 2018-01436 Filed 1-25-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[LLCAD06800.L17110000.KD0000.16X]

#### Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Impact Statement and Notice of Decision for Proposed Land Exchange Between the Bureau of Land Management and Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, California

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability and decision.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, and pursuant to Section 206 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)-Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office announces the availability of an abbreviated Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD) for the proposed land exchange between the BLM and the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians (Tribe). The BLM will issue the ROD concurrently with the Final EIS, but will not implement the ROD until after the 45-day protest period (43 CFR 2201.7-1). The Environmental Protection Agency's 30-day "cooling off" period will run concurrently with the protest period. The Decision approving the land exchange was issued by Douglas J. Herrema, Field Manager, BLM-Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office on January 18, 2018.

**DATES:** A Decision to complete an exchange is subject to protest for 45 days beginning on the first day of publication of this Notice. Thereby, all protests must be written and received by the BLM at the address below, no later than March 12, 2018. Protests related to NEPA documentation or other content of the decision document will be

considered by the BLM. Verbal protests will not be accepted.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit a protest of the proposed ROD by either of the following methods:

- **Email:** [AguaCalienteExchange@blm.gov](mailto:AguaCalienteExchange@blm.gov).

- **Mail:** Field Manager, BLM Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office, 1201 Bird Center Dr., Palm Springs, CA, 92262.

Copies of the proposed ROD and Final EIS for the proposed land exchange are available for public review in the Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office at the above address, during regular business hours (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.) Monday through Friday (except holidays), or on the internet at <https://goo.gl/qyjNJa>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ashley Adams, Monument Manager, telephone 760-833-7100; address BLM Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office, 1201 Bird Center Drive, Palm Springs CA 92262; email [amadams@blm.gov](mailto:amadams@blm.gov). Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The Service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Approval of the proposed land exchange transfers 2,560 acres of Federal lands, appraised in the amount of \$795,000, to the Tribe in exchange for 1,471.24 acres of tribally-owned properties, appraised in the amount of \$845,000. Since the appraised value of the offered Tribal lands exceeds the appraised value of the selected Federal lands, the BLM will make a cash payment of \$50,000 to the Tribe in order to equalize values. The selected Federal lands and offered Tribal lands all occur within the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument (Monument).

Federal land to be patented to the Tribe:

#### San Bernardino and Base Meridian, California

T. 5 S., R. 4 E.

Sections 16, 21, 27, and 29.

The area described aggregates 2,560 acres.

The patent that conveys the Federal lands will reserve a Right-of-Way for ditches and canals constructed by the authority of the United States pursuant to the Act of August 30, 1890 (43 U.S.C. 945).

Non-Federal land to be conveyed to the United States:

**San Bernardino and Base Meridian, California**

T. 5 S., R. 5 E.,

Section 7,  
Section 19,  
Section 20, W1/2W1/2.

The area described aggregates 1,471.24 acres.

The purpose of the land exchange is to reduce the extent of “checkerboard” land ownership, thereby providing the BLM and the Tribe with more effective and efficient land management responsibilities within the Monument. The public interest will be well served by making this exchange.

Lands acquired by the BLM will be managed in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations, as well as the California Desert Conservation Area Plan, as amended, and the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Management Plan. Lands acquired by the Tribe will be managed in accordance with its Land Use Ordinance, Indian Canyons Master Plan, and Tribal Habitat Conservation Plan.

In 2008, the proposed land exchange was announced in a Notice of Exchange Proposal (NOEP), which included a 45-day public comment period. In 2010, an Environmental Assessment was released for public review, which allowed for a 30-day comment period. Based on their findings, the BLM determined that preparation of an EIS was necessary.

In 2012, the BLM initiated a public scoping process and subsequently released a Draft EIS with a 90-day public comment period, which concluded on March 29, 2015. Comments on the Draft EIS received from the public and internal BLM review were considered and incorporated as appropriate into the Final EIS. The BLM concluded that changes to the Draft EIS were minor, and as a result, an abbreviated Final EIS was completed. Those changes were primarily related to the exchange value equalization efforts based on a current appraisal. As a result, the amount of trails that were identified for disposal by the BLM were reduced.

Before including your phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your protest, you should be aware that your entire protest—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask the BLM in your protest to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**Authority:** 40 CFR 1506.6, 40 CFR 1506.10, 43 CFR 2200

**Douglas J. Herrema,**

*Field Manager, Palm Springs—South Coast Field Office.*

[FR Doc. 2018–01437 Filed 1–25–18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310–40–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Land Management**

[LLWYP06000.LL13100000.DB0000.17X]

**Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Converse County Oil and Gas Project, Converse County, Wyoming**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as the lead Federal agency, and the United States Forest Service (USFS), participating as a cooperating agency, have prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) that evaluates, analyzes, and discloses to the public direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts of a proposal to develop oil and natural gas in Converse County, Wyoming. This notice announces a 45-day public comment period to meet the requirements of NEPA and section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

**DATES:** To ensure that comments will be considered, the BLM must receive written comments on the Converse County Oil and Gas Project Draft EIS within 45 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**. The BLM will announce future meetings and any other public involvement activities at least 15 days in advance through public notices, media releases, mailings, and/or at the BLM website <http://bit.ly/2oxHxeq>.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments on the Converse County Oil and Gas Project may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Website:* <http://bit.ly/2oxHxeq>.
- *Email:* [blm\\_wy\\_casper\\_wymail@blm.gov](mailto:blm_wy_casper_wymail@blm.gov).
- *Fax:* 307–261–7587.
- *Mail or hand delivery:* Converse County Oil and Gas Project EIS, BLM Casper Field Office, Attn: Mike Robinson, Project Manager, 2987 Prospector Drive, Casper, WY 82604.

Documents pertinent to this proposal may be examined at the following offices:

- BLM Casper Field Office, 2987 Prospector Drive, Casper, WY 82604;
- USFS Douglas Ranger District Office, 2250 East Richards Street, Douglas, WY 82633; and
- BLM Wyoming State Office, 5353 Yellowstone Road, Cheyenne, WY 82009.

Interested persons may also view the documents online at: <http://bit.ly/2oxHxeq>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Mike Robinson, Project Manager, telephone: 307–261–7520; address: 2987 Prospector Drive, Casper, WY 82604; email: [blm\\_wy\\_casper\\_wymail@blm.gov](mailto:blm_wy_casper_wymail@blm.gov). Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1–800–877–8339 to contact the above person during normal business hours. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** An Operator Group (OG) comprised of Anadarko Petroleum Company, Chesapeake Energy Corporation, Devon Energy, EOG Resources, Inc., and SM Energy, proposes to develop oil and gas leases within the Converse County Project Area (CCPA) in Converse County, Wyoming.

The CCPA encompasses approximately 1.5 million acres of land, of which approximately 88,466 surface acres (6 percent of the CCPA) are public lands administered by the BLM and approximately 63,911 surface acres (4 percent of the CCPA) are administered by the USFS. The remaining surface estate consists of approximately 101,012 surface acres (7 percent) administered by the State of Wyoming and approximately 1,247,477 surface acres (83 percent) that are privately owned. The BLM administers approximately 964,525 acres of mineral estate (64 percent) within the CCPA. Split estate lands, lands with private surface and Federal mineral ownership, comprise approximately 812,189 acres of those 964,525 acres (54 percent of the 64 percent) of the Federal mineral ownership of land within the CCPA.

The Draft EIS describes and analyzes the impacts of the OG’s Proposed Action (Alternative B) and two alternatives, the No Action Alternative (Alternative A) and Alternative C. Additional alternatives were considered, but eliminated from detailed analysis. All alternatives incorporate best management practices