

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## Bureau of Land Management

[CO-921-04-1320-EL; COC 67643]

**Notice of Invitation for Coal Exploration License Application, Oxbow Mining, LLC COC 67643; Colorado.****AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.**ACTION:** Notice of invitation for coal exploration license application, Oxbow Mining, LLC.**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Mineral Leasing Act of February 25, 1920, as amended, and to title 43, Code of Federal Regulations, subpart 3410, members of the public are hereby invited to participate with Oxbow Mining, LLC, in a program for the exploration of unleased coal deposits owned by the United States of America containing approximately 2,016.42 acres in Gunnison County, Colorado.**DATES:** Written Notice of Intent to Participate should be addressed to the attention of the following persons and must be received by them within 30 days after publication of this notice of Invitation in the **Federal Register**.**ADDRESSES:** Karen Purvis, CO-921, Solid Minerals Staff, Division of Energy, Lands and Minerals, Colorado State Office, Bureau of Land Management, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80215; and Jim Kiger, Oxbow Mining, LLC, P.O. Box 535, 3737 Highway 133, Somerset, Colorado 81434.**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The application for coal exploration license is available for public inspection during normal business hours under serial number COC 67643 at the Bureau of Land Management, Colorado State Office, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80215, and at the Uncompahgre Field Office, 2505 South Townsend Avenue, Montrose, Colorado 81401. Any party electing to participate in this program must share all costs on a pro rata basis with Oxbow Mining, LLC, and with any other party or parties who elect to participate.

Dated: March 29, 2004.

**Karen Purvis,***Solid Minerals Staff, Division of Energy, Lands and Minerals.*

[FR Doc. 04-10438 Filed 5-6-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JB-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## Bureau of Land Management

[MT-030-1320-EL, NDM 91535]

**Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement To Lease a Coal Tract in North Dakota****AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.**ACTION:** Notice of availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement to lease a coal tract in Mercer Co., North Dakota.**SUMMARY:** Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) implementing regulations and other applicable statutes and regulations, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) that has been prepared for coal resources administered by the BLM. The BLM is considering leasing approximately 5,600 acres of Federal coal adjacent to the Freedom Mine, Mercer County, North Dakota. The public is invited to review and comment on proposed alternatives and associated environmental impacts.**DATES:** The comment period will end 60 days after the Environmental Protection Agency's Notice of Availability (NOA) is published in the **Federal Register** announcing release of this DEIS.**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be sent to: Coal Team, Bureau of Land Management, North Dakota Field Office, 2933 3rd Ave W, Dickinson, ND 58601; or via telefax to (701) 227-8510. Review copies will be available at the following locations:

BLM North Dakota Field Office (701) 227-7700;

Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library (701) 222-6410;

Beulah Public Library (701) 873-2884;

Dickinson Public Library (701) 456-7700;

Hazen Public Library (701) 748-2977;

Mandan Public Library (701) 667-3255;

Fort Berthold Cultural Preservation Office (701) 627-4399;

Standing Rock Cultural Preservation Office (701) 854-2120;

Fort Peck Cultural Preservation Office (406) 768-5478.

The DEIS may also be viewed online at the North Dakota Field Office Web site: <http://www.mt.blm.gov/ndfo>.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lee Jefferis, Project Manager, at (701) 227-

7713, or Doug Burger, Field Manager, at (701) 227-7703.

**Public Comment Procedures:**

Comments must be received on or before the end of the comment period at the address or fax number listed above. For comments to be most helpful, they should relate to specific concerns or conflicts within the legal responsibility of the BLM. Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the North Dakota Field Office during regular business hours, 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Responses to the comments will be published as part of the Final Environmental Impact Statement. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Coteau Properties Company applied to lease 5,571 acres of Federal coal beneath private surface in Mercer County, west-central North Dakota. The DEIS analyzes the environmental consequences of three alternatives, including a No-Action (No Leasing) Alternative, which were developed with public involvement during the scoping process. Potential concerns include impacts to cultural resources, air quality, water resources, soils, land use, vegetation, wildlife, environmental justice, and socio-economics.

The Freedom Mine, which is adjacent to the proposed expansion area, is approved to remove 15-16 million tons of coal per year. Addition of Federal coal would extend the life of Freedom Mine by about 6 years.

Public meetings will be held as follows:

June 1, 2004 .....	Public Meeting .....	4 Bears Casino & Lodge, 202 Frontage Road, New Town, ND, 6:30 p.m.—8 p.m., Mandan and Hidatsa Rooms.	6:30 p.m.—8 p.m.
June 2, 2004 .....	Public Meeting .....	Civic Center, 120 7 Av NE., Beulah, ND .....	6:30 p.m.—8 p.m.

June 3, 2004 .....	Public Meeting .....	Prairie Knights Casino & Lodge, 7932 Highway 24, Fort Yates, ND, Room 801 (main floor).	6:30 p.m.–8 p.m.
June 23, 2004 .....	Hearing on DEIS/Maximum Economic Recovery/Fair Market Value.	State Capital Grounds, Heritage Center, 612 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck, ND.	7 p.m.–10 p.m.

Meetings and the Hearing will also be announced through public notices, media news releases, and on the North Dakota Web site at <http://www.mt.blm.gov/ndfo>.

After comments are reviewed and relevant adjustments made, a Final Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared and is expected to be available in late 2004.

Dated: March 31, 2004.

**Douglas J. Burger,**

*Field Manager.*

[FR Doc. 04–10439 Filed 5–6–04; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WY–100–04–1610–DR]

#### Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for Snake River Resource Management Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Snake River Resource Management Plan (RMP), Teton County, Wyoming.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of the ROD for the Snake River RMP and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS).

The ROD and FEIS present the RMP for the Snake River planning area, containing approximately 1000 acres of public land and 15,123 acres of Federal mineral estate in Teton County, northwestern Wyoming. The completed RMP fulfills the obligations set forth by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and Federal regulations. The FEIS was available for protest from October 3, 2003, through November 3, 2003. All protests and comments received were considered during the preparation of the ROD.

**ADDRESSES:** The document will be available electronically on the following Web site:

<http://www.wy.blm.gov/srrmp/>. Copies of the ROD are available for public inspection at the following BLM office locations:

- Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming State Office, 5353 Yellowstone Road, Cheyenne, Wyoming, 82009.

- Bureau of Land Management, Pinedale Field Office, 432 East Mill Street, Pinedale, Wyoming, 82941.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** Contact Ms. Kellie Roadifer, Project Manager, P.O. Box 768, Pinedale, WY 82941, or electronically [kellie\\_roadifer@blm.gov](mailto:kellie_roadifer@blm.gov). Ms. Roadifer may also be reached at 307–367–5309.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A copy of the ROD has been sent to affected Federal, State, and local government agencies and interested parties. The Snake River planning area includes almost 1,000 acres of public lands administered by the BLM Pinedale Field Office and approximately 15,123 acres of Federal mineral estate near the Snake River, Teton County, Wyoming.

The Snake River RMP ROD is in conformance with the BLM's National Fire Plan. The National Energy Policy was also considered. The potential for energy development in the Snake River planning area is very low, to the extent that energy development in support of the National Energy Policy is not practical.

The RMP provides for transfer and management of the parcels to another public land-managing agency or entity. The actual land surface could be retained by BLM or transferred, as long as certain stipulations for its future management are met.

The transfer of lands or resources management will take place within 15 years. BLM will retain all mineral rights. It is the goal of the RMP to ensure the entities acquiring these parcels or taking over management responsibility are obligated under the terms of the transaction to apply the management prescriptions described.

Dated: January 28, 2004.

**Alan L. Kesterke,**

*Associate State Director.*

**Editorial Note:** This document was received at the Office of the Federal Register on April 21, 2004.

[FR Doc. 04–9365 Filed 5–6–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–22–P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

#### Notice of Public Meeting: Resource Advisory Council to the Lower Snake River District, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Lower Snake River District Resource Advisory Council (RAC), will meet as indicated below.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held May 26, 2004, beginning 9 a.m. at the Bureau of Land Management, Lower Snake River District Office Sage Brush Conference Room, located at 3948 Development Ave, Boise, Idaho 83705. Public comment periods will be held after topics on the agenda. The meeting will adjourn at 4:30 p.m.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** MJ Byrne, Public Affairs Officer and RAC Coordinator, Lower Snake River District, 3948 Development Ave., Boise, ID 83705, Telephone (208) 384–3393.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The 15-member Council advises the Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Land Management, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with public land management in southwestern Idaho. At this meeting, the following actions will occur/topics will be discussed:

- Review 2004 Work Plan;
- Report on National RAC Chair's Meeting;
- Native American Laws, Regulations and Trust Obligations—Training
- Presentation on Ranch Level Socioeconomic Impacts of Public Land Grazing Policy Alternatives in Owyhee and Other Rural Counties of Idaho, by J.D. Wulfhorst, University of Idaho;
- Update on BLM-Idaho Organizational Refinement;
- BLM-LSRD Report to Judge Winnmill—Status of 67 Court-Ordered Environmental Assessments conducted on Priority Grazing Allotments in the