

Management. The exploration plan, as submitted by Spring Creek Coal Company, is available for public inspection at the Bureau of Land Management, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, Montana, during regular business hours (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.), Monday through Friday.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Robert Giovanini, Mining Engineer, at (406) 896-5084 or Connie Schaff, Land Law Examiner, at (406) 896-5060, Branch of Solid Minerals, Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office, PO Box 36800, Billings, Montana 59107-6800.

Dated: September 23, 2002.

**Randy D. Heuscher,**

*Chief, Branch of Solid Minerals.*

[FR Doc. 02-28759 Filed 11-12-02; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[ES-930-08-1310-00-241A; MSES 50961]

#### Mississippi: Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease

Under the provisions of Public Law 97-451, a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas lease MSES 50961, Scott County, Mississippi, was timely filed and accompanied by all required rentals and royalties from the date of termination.

No valid lease has been issued affecting the lands. The lessee has agreed to new lease terms for rentals and royalties at rates of \$10 per acre and 16 $\frac{2}{3}$  percent. Payment of \$500 in administrative fees and a \$155 publication fee has been made.

The Bureau of Land Management is proposing to reinstate the lease effective April 1, 2002, subject to the original terms and conditions of the lease and the increased rental and royalty rates cited above. This is in accordance with section 31 (d) and (e) of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended (30 U.S.C. 188 (d) and (e)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gina Goodwin at (703) 440-1534.

Dated: October 9, 2002.

**Walter Rewinski,**

*Acting State Director.*

[FR Doc. 02-28760 Filed 11-12-02; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

#### Information Quality Guidelines Pursuant to Section 515 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2002

**AGENCY:** Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of guidelines.

**SUMMARY:** These final guidelines implement guidelines published by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in the **Federal Register** which directed Federal agencies to issue and implement guidelines to ensure and maximize the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of government information disseminated to the public. We, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM), are issuing these final Information Quality Guidelines in order to comply with the OMB requirement.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Division of Administration, Office of Surface Mining, 1951 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20240. Telephone (202) 208-2961 or by e-mail to [infoquality@osmre.gov](mailto:infoquality@osmre.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### I. Background

A notice published by Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in the **Federal Register**, dated February 22, 2002 (67 FR 8452), directed Federal agencies to issue and implement guidelines to ensure and maximize the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of Government information disseminated to the public. We are issuing these final Information Quality Guidelines in order to comply with OMB and Department of the Interior direction. Draft Information Quality Guidelines were published in the **Federal Register**, on July 22, 2002 (67 FR 47829). One comment was received from a public regulatory review group during the public comment period and was considered, and where applicable or appropriate, was incorporated into our final guidelines.

OSM, which includes Headquarters, three regional offices, and ten field offices, disseminates a wide variety of information to the public regarding the nation's surface coal mining and reclamation activities on Federal, tribal or other lands within states which may include state or privately-owned lands. The disseminated information includes

organizational and management information, program and service products, research and statistical reports, policy and regulatory information, and general reference material. We will evaluate and identify, prior to dissemination, the types of information subject to these guidelines.

#### II. Information Quality Standards

OSM will make use of OMB's Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. chapter 35) clearance process to help improve the quality of information that OSM collects and disseminates to the public. All such collections of information will demonstrate in their PRA clearance submissions to OMB that the information will be collected, maintained, and used in a way consistent with the DOI and OMB Quality Information Guidelines. As a matter of good and effective agency information resource management, we will develop a process for reviewing the quality (including utility and integrity) of collected information before it is disseminated to the public.

Information we disseminate to the public is normally subject to one or more levels of internal staff, or supervisory review for quality before actual dissemination.

The number of levels of internal quality review applied in a particular case depends on the nature, scope, and purpose of the information to be disseminated. For example, routine reports that may be prepared by staff about the agency's activities or operations may be subject to one or two levels of staff or supervisory review for basic accuracy and completeness before such reports are released to the general public. Additional levels of internal review, supplementation, clarification, or approval by our management may be appropriate, however, to the extent that a report may be intended as the basis for more complicated budgeting decisions or legislative reporting (e.g. to satisfy a need for greater statistical detail or explanation).

We have adopted the information quality definitions published by OMB and the Department of Interior. they are set forth in IV. below.

#### III. Information Quality Procedures

While we may vary in our implementation approaches, the basic guidance published by OMB on February 22, 2002, (67 FR 8452) and adopted by the Department of the Interior in the **Federal Register**, dated May 24, 2002 (67 FR 36642) is included in our policy and will apply to our dissemination of information/