

appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Title: Use and Occupancy Under the Mining Laws, 43 CFR 3715.

OMB Approval Number: 1004-0169.

Abstract: BLM collects information from mining claimants and operators to analyze and approve proposed mining development activities on public lands. The nonform information under 43 CFR 3715 authorizes BLM to manage the use and occupancy on public lands for developing the mineral deposits by mining claimants. Respondents are mining claimants and operators of prospecting, exploration, mining, and processing operations.

Form Number: None.

Frequency: Once.

Description of Respondents:

Respondents are mining claimants and operators of prospecting, exploration, mining, and processing operations.

Estimated Completion Time: 2 hours.

Annual Responses: 150.

Application Fee Per Response: There is no filing fee.

Annual Burden Hours: 300.

Bureau Clearance Officer: Michael H. Schwartz, (202) 452-5033.

Dated: March 6, 2002.

Michael H. Schwartz,

Bureau of Land Management, Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-8872 Filed 4-11-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-84-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-033-02-1230-EA]

Temporary Closure of Public Lands—Recreation Special Events: Nevada, Carson City Field Office

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Temporary closure of affected public lands in Lyon, Storey, Churchill, Carson, Douglas, Mineral and Washoe Counties.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management, Carson City Field Office (BLM), announces the temporary closure of selected public lands under its administration in Lyon, Storey, Churchill, Carson, Douglas, Mineral and Washoe Counties. This action is taken to provide for public and participant safety and to protect adjacent natural and cultural resources during the conduct of permitted special recreation events.

The Assistant Manager, Non-Renewable Resources announces the

temporary closure of selected public lands under his administration. This action is taken to provide for public and participant safety and to protect adjacent natural and cultural resources during the conduct of permitted special recreation events.

EFFECTIVE DATES: April through November, 2002. Events may be canceled or rescheduled at short notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Fran Hull, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Carson City Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 5665 Morgan Mill Road, Carson City, Nevada 89701, Telephone: (775) 885-6161.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice applies to closures on and adjacent to permitted special events such as: Motorized Off Highway Vehicle, Mountain Bike, Horse Endurance competitive event sites and routes. Competitive events (races) are conducted along dirt roads, trails, washes, and areas approved for such use through the Special Recreation Permit application process. Events occur from April through November, 2002. Closure period is from 6 a.m. race day until race finish or until the event has cleared between affected Check Point locations; approximately 2 to 24 hour periods. The general public will be advised of each event and Closure specifics via local newspapers and mailed public letters within seven (7) to thirty (30) days prior to the running of an event. Event maps and information will be posted at the Carson City Field Office.

Locations most commonly used for permitted events include, but are not limited to:

1. Lemmon Valley MX Area—Washoe Co., T21N R19E S8
2. Hungry Valley Off Highway Vehicle Area—Washoe Co., T21-23N R20E
3. Pine Nut Mountains—Carson, Douglas & Lyon Counties: T11-16N R20-24E
4. Virginia City/Jumbo Areas—Washoe & Storey Counties: T 16-17N R20-21E
5. Yerington/Weeks Areas—Lyon Co.: T12-16N R23-27E
6. Fallon Area (Including Sand Mtn.)—Churchill Co.: T14-18N R27-32E;
7. Hawthorne Area—Mineral County: T5-14N R31½-36E

Marking and Effect of Closure

BLM lands to be temporarily closed to public use include the width and length of those roads and trails identified as the race route by colorful flagging, chalk arrows in the dirt and directional arrows attached to wooden stakes. The authorized applicants or their representatives are required to post

warning signs, control access to, and clearly mark the event routes during closure periods.

Public uses generally affected by a Temporary Closure include: Road and trail uses, camping, shooting of any kind of weapon including paint ball, and public land exploration.

Spectator and support vehicles may be driven on open roads only.

Spectators may observe the races from specified locations as directed by event and agency officials.

You may obtain a map and schedule of each closure area at the contact address.

Exceptions

Closure restrictions do not apply to race officials, medical/rescue, law enforcement, and BLM personnel monitoring the event.

Authority: 43 CFR 8364.1 and 43 CFR subpart 8372.

Penalty

Any person failing to comply with the closure orders may be subject to imprisonment for not more than 12 months, or a fine in accordance with the applicable provisions of 18 U.S.C. 3571, or both.

Dated: March 1, 2002.

Charles P. Pope,

Assistant Manager, Non-Renewable Resources.

[FR Doc. 02-8874 Filed 4-11-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-HC-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY-920-1320-EM, WYW136142]

Federal Coal Lease Modification, WY

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of the Environmental Assessment (EA) and Notice of Public Hearing on the Modification of Federal Coal Lease WYW136142 at the North Antelope/Rochelle Mine Complex operated by Powder River Coal Company, in Campbell County, WY.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and implementing regulations and other applicable statutes, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the modification of Federal coal lease WYW136142 in the Wyoming Powder River Basin, and announces the scheduled date and place for a public hearing pursuant to 43 CFR

3432, 3425.3 and 3425.4. The EA addresses the impacts of modifying this Federal coal lease and mining the modification area as a part of the North Antelope/Rochelle Mine Complex operated by Powder River Coal Company, in Campbell County, WY. The purpose of the hearing is to solicit public comments on the EA, the fair market value (FMV), the maximum economic recovery (MER), and the proposed noncompetitive offer of the coal included in the proposed lease modification. This lease modification is being considered for offer as a result of a request received from Powder River Coal Company on June 14, 2000. The tract as requested includes about 19.97 acres containing approximately 2.5 million tons of Federal coal reserves.

DATES: A public hearing will be held at 7 p.m. MDT, on May 14, 2002, at the BLM, Casper Field Office, 2987 Prospector Drive, Casper, WY. Written comments on the EA will be accepted for 30 days from the date this notice is published.

ADDRESSES: Please address questions, comments or requests for copies of the EA to the BLM, Casper Field Office, Attn: Mike Karbs, 2987 Prospector Drive, Casper, WY 82604; or you may e-mail them to the attention of Mike Karbs at casper-wymail@blm.gov; or fax them to 307-261-7587.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mike Karbs or Nancy Doelger at the above address, or phone: 307-261-7600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The BLM Casper Field Office has received a request to modify an existing Federal coal lease at the North Antelope/Rochelle Mine Complex. This mine is operated by Powder River Coal Company, and is located in Campbell County, WY, approximately 20 miles southeast of Wright. On June 14, 2000, Powder River Coal Company filed an application with the BLM to modify federal lease WYW136142 by adding the following lands:

T. 41 N., R. 70 W., 6th PM, Wyoming

Section 18: Lot 6 (N $\frac{1}{2}$) or (N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$).

This tract is adjacent to Powder River Coal Company's North Antelope/Rochelle Mine Complex and includes 19.97 acres more or less with an estimated 2.5 million tons of coal. This application was filed as a lease modification under the provisions of 43 CFR 3432.

BLM believes that this lease modification serves the interests of the U.S. because it allows for a more efficient recovery of coal in a narrow or "neck" area of the current lease. This modification area is logically recovered

as a part of the planned operations on the existing lease, and while this area could be recovered as part of a later competitive coal lease tract, that is not a certainty. If this coal is recovered in concert with the existing lease, it would result in minimal additional surface disturbance.

BLM further believes that there is no current competitive interest in the lands proposed for lease modification, although as noted above, this area could be recovered as part of a later competitive coal lease tract, but that may or may not occur. This lease modification would not reduce the competitive value of a later competitive coal lease tract. Under the lease modification process, the modified lands would be added to the existing lease without competitive bidding. Before offering the lease modification the BLM will prepare an appraisal of the FMV of the lease. The U.S. would receive FMV of the lease for the added lands.

The proposed lease modification is within the mine permit area of the North Antelope/Rochelle Mine Complex. No new facilities or employees would be needed to mine the coal. Haul distances would not be increased. If production at the North Antelope/Rochelle Mine continues at the 2000 rate of 70 million tons of coal, the 2.5 million tons of coal included in the proposed lease modification would represent less than one-half month of production. The lands have most recently been studied under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) as part of the Powder River/Thundercloud LBA EIS (lease by application environmental impact statement), as well as several earlier NEPA analyses. The environmental assessment incorporates these existing NEPA analyses. If this tract is modified into the current lease, the new lands must be incorporated into the existing mining plans for the North Antelope/Rochelle Mine Complex. The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) is a cooperating agency in the preparation of the environmental document because it is the Federal agency that is responsible for any required actions necessary to incorporate these lands into the current mining plan.

BLM conducted scoping during August 2001, soliciting specific concerns that should be considered in processing this modified lease application, with scoping comments accepted through September 7, 2001. A NEPA analysis addressing issues identified or information received during this scoping period for the

proposed lease modification was completed and distributed to the public on September 27, 2001. There was a public comment period on the NEPA analysis, with comments accepted until November 7, 2001. A public hearing was held on October 9, 2001, at the Clarion Western Plaza Hotel in Gillette, WY, to solicit public comment on the NEPA analysis, the proposed modification, and the FMV and MER of coal in the proposed tract. The EA addresses all the issues and information received as a result of the scoping and the review of the NEPA analysis. The EA was mailed to all known parties interested in this action on February 14, 2001. All written comments received and any additional comments received at the hearing or for 30 days from the date this notice is published will be addressed in the decision for this lease modification. In addition to preparing the EA, BLM will also develop possible stipulations regarding mining operations, determine the FMV of the tract, and evaluate MER of the coal in the proposed tract while processing this lease modification.

Comments on the EA, the FMV, the MER, and the proposed noncompetitive offer of the coal included in the proposed lease modification, as well as comments already received, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the address below during regular business hours (7:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. 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 or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Dated: March 28, 2002.

Phillip C. Perlewitz,

Chief, Branch of Solid Minerals.

[FR Doc. 02-8883 Filed 4-11-02; 8:45 am]

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