

- Sacramento at the Meadowview Community Center, 2450 Meadowview Road
- Herald at the Herald Fire Department, Hendrickson Hall, 127 Ivie Road

Written comments on the project scope should be sent to Freeport Regional Water Project, c/o Gregg Ellis, 2600 V Street, Sacramento, CA 95818.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Rob Schroeder at 7794 Folsom Dam Road, Folsom California, 95630, telephone number (916) 989-7274.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** SCWA provides water to two separate retail service areas within the unincorporated areas of central Sacramento County, SCWA Zone 41, and Elk Grove Water Service on the east side of the City of Elk Grove. SCWA is responsible for providing water supplies and facilities throughout these areas including the Laguna, Vineyard, Elk Grove and Mather Field communities through a capital funding zone known as "Zone 40". The long-term master plan for Zone 40 envisions meeting present and future water needs through a program of conjunctive use of groundwater and surface water. SCWA presently has a CVP entitlement of 22,000 acre-feet. Water for SCWA is currently delivered through the City of Sacramento's intake and treatment facilities, based on SCWA need and available City capacity. These and additional water supplies are expected to be conveyed through the FRWP.

EBMUD is a multipurpose regional agency that provides water to over 1.3 million municipal and industrial water users throughout portions of Contra Costa and Alameda Counties in the East Bay region. EBMUD currently obtains most of its supply from Pardee Reservoir on the Mokelumne River, with the remainder collected from local runoff in its East Bay terminal reservoirs. On July 26, 2001, EBMUD and Reclamation entered into an amendatory CVP contract which allows EBMUD to take delivery of its CVP supply at the location known as Freeport on the Sacramento River south of downtown Sacramento subject to all applicable environmental laws and regulations.

The FRWP is intended by the Joint Powers Authority to meet the identified water delivery needs of the SCWA and EBMUD. It would also enable Reclamation to meet its CVP water delivery obligations to these agencies under existing water supply contracts with EBMUD and SCWA.

The general purposes of the Freeport Regional Water Project are to:

- Provide surface water facilities through which SCWA can deliver water

to Zone 40 to support growth approved under the County of Sacramento General Plan. Water would be delivered under SCWA's CVP water supply contract with Reclamation and other anticipated CVP contract assignments, appropriated water rights, and water rights transfers;

- Provide surface water facilities through which EBMUD can deliver water under its amendatory CVP water service contract to provide EBMUD with a supplemental water supply that would reduce existing and future customer deficiencies to manageable levels during drought conditions; and

- Capitalize on the opportunity to cooperate in an endeavor that would minimize costs to each agency and minimize environmental effects by constructing joint facilities to the extent feasible.

The FRWP would also enable Reclamation to deliver water under its CVP amendatory contract with EBMUD and its contract with SCWA.

The FRWP as currently envisioned would consist of:

- An approximately 185 million gallon per day (mgd) intake/pumping facility
- A raw water pipeline to a turnout at approximately Bradshaw Road in central Sacramento County,
- A new water treatment plant in central Sacramento County to serve SCWA needs,
- A raw water pipeline connecting to the Folsom South Canal,
- A new pumping plant near the end of the Folsom South Canal,
- A pipeline from the Folsom South Canal to the Mokelumne Aqueducts,
- A new pumping and treatment facility at the Mokelumne Aqueducts to deliver water to EBMUD.

The EIS/EIR will consider a range of alternatives including the no-action alternative.

Scoping is an early and open process designed to determine the issues and alternatives to be addressed in the EIS/EIR. The following are issues that have been identified by Reclamation to date: Sacramento River fishery effects; water quality; agricultural and municipal water supply availability, and quality; construction-related effects on the Sacramento River, urban areas, and natural habitats; and, wetland, upland, and aquatic habitats.

The draft EIS/EIR will focus on the impacts and benefits of implementing the various alternatives. It will contain an analysis of the physical, biological, social, and economic impacts arising from the alternatives. In addition, it will address the cumulative impacts of implementation of the alternatives in

conjunction with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable actions.

If special assistance is required, contact Mr. Robert Schroeder at Reclamation (916) 989-7274. Please notify Mr. Schroeder as far in advance of the workshops as possible to enable Reclamation to secure the needed services. If a request cannot be honored, the requestor will be notified. A telephone device for the hearing impaired (TDD) is available at (916) 989-7285.

Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from public disclosure, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold a respondent's identity from public disclosure, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public disclosure in their entirety.

Dated: February 20, 2002.

**Frank Michny,**

*Regional Environmental Officer.*

[FR Doc. 02-7065 Filed 3-22-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-MN-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

#### Proposed Construction of Campbell County Force Road

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

**ACTION:** Notice of application for grant funding; public comment period on request to fund the reconstruction of Campbell County Force Road.

**SUMMARY:** OSM is announcing its receipt of a grant application from the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, Abandoned Mine Land Division (AMLD). Wyoming is requesting \$255,000 from the Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Fund to pay 8.2 percent of the cost of building the Campbell County Force Road. In its application, the State proposes paying for part of the construction cost as a public facility project that will benefit a community impacted by coal mining.

This notice describes when and where you may read the grant application for funding the Campbell County Force Road. It also sets the time period during which you may send written comments on the request to us.

**DATES:** We will accept written comments until 4:00 p.m., m.s.t. April 24, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** You should mail or hand-deliver written comments to Guy V. Padgett, Casper Field Office Director, at the address shown below. You may read Wyoming's grant application for this proposed project during normal business hours Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) at the same address. Also, we will send one free copy of the grant application to you if you contact OSM's Casper Field Office. Guy V. Padgett, Director, Casper Field Office, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Federal Building, Rm. 2403, 100 East "B" Street, Casper, Wyoming 82601-1918.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Guy V. Padgett, Telephone: (307) 261-6555.

Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the rulemaking [or administrative] record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the rulemaking [or administrative] record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. We will take all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Background on Title IV of SMCRA**

Title IV of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) established an Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation (AMLR) program. The purpose of the AMLR program is to reclaim and restore lands and waters that were adversely affected by past mining. The program is funded by a reclamation fee paid by active coal mining operations. Lands and waters eligible for reclamation under Title IV are primarily those that were mined, or affected by mining, and abandoned or inadequately reclaimed before August 3,

1977, and for which there is no continuing reclamation responsibility under State, Federal, or other laws.

Title IV of SMCRA allows States to submit AMLR plans to us. We, on behalf of the Secretary review those plans and consider any public comments we receive about them. If we determine that a State has the ability and necessary legislation to operate an AMLR program, the Secretary can approve it. The Secretary's approval gives a State exclusive authority to put its AMLR plan into effect.

Once the Secretary approves a State's AMLR plan, the State may apply to us for money to fund specific projects that will achieve the goals of its approved plan. We follow the requirements of the Federal regulations at 30 CFR parts 874, 875, and 886 when we review and approve such applications.

##### **II. Background on the Wyoming AMLR Plan**

The Secretary of the Interior approved Wyoming's AMLR plan on February 14, 1983. You can find background information on the Wyoming AML program, including the Secretary's findings and our responses to comments, in the February 14, 1983 **Federal Register** (48 FR 6536). Wyoming changed its plan a number of times since the Secretary first approved it. In 1984, we accepted the State's certification that it had addressed all known coal-related impacts in Wyoming that were eligible for funding under its program. As a result, the State may now reclaim low priority non-coal reclamation projects. You can read about the certification and OSM's acceptance in the May 25, 1984, **Federal Register** (49 FR 22139). At the same time, we also accepted Wyoming's proposal that it will ask us for funds to reclaim any additional coal-related problems that occur during the life of the AML program as soon as it becomes aware of them. In the April 13, 1992, **Federal Register** (57 FR 12731), we announced our decision to accept other changes in Wyoming's plan that describe how it will rank eligible coal, non-coal, and public facility projects for funding. Those changes also authorized the Governor of Wyoming to elevate the priority of a project based upon the Governor's determination of need and urgency. They also expanded the State's ability to construct public facilities under section 411 of SMCRA. We approved additional changes in Wyoming's plan concerning non-coal lien authority and contractor eligibility that improved the efficiency of the State's AML program. That approval is

described in the February 21, 1996, **Federal Register** (61 FR 6537).

Once a State certifies that it has addressed all remaining abandoned coal mine problems and the Secretary concurs, then it may request funds to undertake abandoned non-coal mine reclamation, community impact assistance, and public facilities projects under sections 411(b), (e), and (f), of SMCRA.

State law regulations that apply to the proposed Abandoned Coal Mine Land Program Campbell County Force Road funding request include Wyoming Statue 35-11-1202 and Wyoming Abandoned Mine Land Regulations, Chapter VII, of the Wyoming Abandoned Mine Program.

##### **III. Wyoming's Request To Fund the Cost of the Campbell County Force Road**

The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality will submitted to us a grant application in the fall of 2003. In that application, Wyoming will ask for \$255,000 to pay for a part of the cost of constructing the Campbell County Force Road. This is 8.2 percent of the estimated cost of the project. The Governor of Wyoming certified the need and urgency to fund this project prior to completing the State's remaining inventory of non-coal reclamation work, as allowed by section 411(f) of SMCRA. that certification says the project is in a community impacted by coal mining activities. Campbell County will provide the balance of funding from county reserves, and may seek additional grant funding for future phases of the project.

This project will allow the realignment of a hazardous secondary road to reduce dangerous 90 degree curves which are public safety hazards. The Governor's certification states that the safety hazards impacting the Campbell County Force Road warrant funding of this project before the remaining inventory of non-coal projects are completed.

##### **IV. How We Will Review Wyoming's Grant Application**

We will review the grant application using regulations at 30 CFR 875.15; specifically subsections 875.15(e)(1) through (7). As stated in those regulations, the application must include the following information: (1) The need or urgency for the activity or the construction of the public facility; (2) the expected impact the project will have on Wyoming's coal or minerals industry; (3) the availability of funding from other sources and, if other funding is provided, its percentage of the total cost involved; (4) documentation from

other local, State, Federal agencies with oversight for such utilities or facilities describing what funding they have available and why their agency is not fully funding this specific project; (5) the impact on the State, the public, and the minerals industry if the facility is not funded; (6) the reason why this project should be selected before the priority projects relating to the protection of public health and safety or the environment from the damages caused by past mining activities, and (7) an analysis and review of the procedures Wyoming used to notify and involve the public in this request, and a copy of all comments received and their resolution by the State. Wyoming's application for the Campbell County Force Road project contains the information described in these seven subsections.

Section 875.15(f) requires us to evaluate all comments we receive and determine whether the funding meets the requirements of sections 875.15(e)(1) through (7) described above. It also requires us to determine if the request is in the best interests of the State's AML program. We will approve Wyoming's request to fund this project if we conclude that it meets all the requirements of 30 CFR 875.15.

#### V. What To Do if You Want To Comment on the Proposed Project

We are asking for public comments on Wyoming's request for funds to pay for part of the cost of reconstructing the Campbell County Force Road. You are welcome to comment on the project. If you do, please send us written comments. Make sure your comments are specific and pertain to Wyoming's funding request in the context of the regulations at 30 CFR 875.15 and the provisions of section 411 of SMCRA. You should explain any recommendations you make. If we receive your comments after the time shown under **DATES** or at locations other than the Casper Field Office, we will not necessarily consider them in our final decision or include them in the administrative record.

Dated: March 18, 2002.

**Guy Padgett,**

*Director, Casper Field Office.*

[FR Doc. 02-7090 Filed 3-22-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-05-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

#### Proposed Construction of City of Lander Water Treatment Plant

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

**ACTION:** Notice of application for grant funding; public comment period on request to fund the City of Lander Water Treatment Plant.

**SUMMARY:** OSM is announcing its receipt of a grant application from the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, Abandoned Mine Land Division (AMLDR). Wyoming is requesting \$1,000,000 from the Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Fund to pay part of the cost of building a City of Lander Water Treatment Plant. In its application, the State proposes paying for part of the construction cost as a public facility project that will benefit a community impacted by mineral mining.

This notice describes when and where you may read the grant application for funding the City of Lander Water Treatment Plant. It also sets the time period during which you may send written comments on the request to us.

**DATES:** We will accept written comments until 4 p.m., m.s.t., April 24, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** You should mail or hand-deliver written comments to Guy V. Padgett, Casper Field Office Director, at the address shown below. You may read Wyoming's grant application for this proposed project during normal business hours Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) at the same address. Also, we will send one free copy of the grant application to you if you contact OSM's Casper Field Office.

Guy V. Padgett, Director, Casper Field Office, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Federal Building, Rm. 2403, 100 East "B" Street, Casper, Wyoming 82601-1918.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Guy V. Padgett, Telephone: (307) 261-6555.

Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the rulemaking [or administrative] record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the rulemaking [or administrative] record a respondent's

identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. We will take all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### I. Background on Title IV of SMCRA

Title IV of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) established an Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation (AMLR) program. The purpose of the AMLR program is to reclaim and restore lands and waters that were adversely affected by past mining. The program is funded by a reclamation fee paid by active coal mining operations. Rands and waters eligible for reclamation under Title IV are primarily those that were mined, or affected by mining, and abandoned or inadequately reclaimed before August 3, 1977, and for which there is no continuing reclamation responsibility under State, Federal, or other laws.

Title IV of SMCRA allows States to submit AMLR plans to us. We, on behalf of the Secretary review those plans and consider any public comments we receive about them. If we determine that a State has the ability and necessary legislation to operate an AMLR program, the Secretary can approve it. The Secretary's approval gives a State exclusive authority to put its AMLR plan into effect.

Once the Secretary approves a State's AMLR plan, the State may apply to us for money to fund specific projects that will achieve the goals of its approved plan. We follow the requirements on the Federal regulations at 30 CFR parts 874, 875, and 886 when we review and approve such applications.

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