

Cochair and the Lt. Governor of the State of Alaska as the State Cochair. In addition, the charter provides for appointing the commissioners or directors of specified State agencies, the State directors of specified Federal land management agencies, and the heads of two Alaska Native organizations.

Administrative establishment of the Alaska Land Managers Forum is necessary and in the public interest.

Dated: November 28, 1995.

Bruce Babbitt,

Secretary of the Interior.

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Bureau of Land Management

[NM-932-4120-06; OKNM 96155]

Notice of 5-year Extension of Current Qualification of the Designated Nine (9) County "Area" of Oklahoma Federal Coal for "Category 5" Royalty Rate Reductions

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notices.

SUMMARY: This announcement gives notice that since the lands within the nine (9) Oklahoma Counties of Atoka, Coal, Haskell, Latimer, LeFlore, McIntosh, Muskogee, Pittsburg, and Sequoyah were designated in 1990 by the New Mexico State Office of the Bureau of Land Management as a Federal Coal "Area", and that said Area was determined to be "Qualified" as eligible for "Category 5" royalty rate reductions in order to establish fair and competitive royalties, and since no basic changes in the Area coal market have occurred, the State Director of the New Mexico State Office of the Bureau of Land Management has extended the Qualification of the Designated Area for "Category 5" Royalty Rate Reductions from December 17, 1995 to, and inclusive of, December 17, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Darwyn F. Pogue, Geologist/Minerals Review Appraiser, Minerals Support Team, Division of Planning, Use and Protection, New Mexico State Office, Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 27115, Mail Stop 93000, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-0115, Phone (505) 438-7466.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: According to data contained in the latest available Annual Report to the Governor of Oklahoma by the Oklahoma Mining Commission, Department of Mines, the nine (9) Oklahoma Counties of Atoka, Coal, Haskell, Latimer, LeFlore,

McIntosh, Muskogee, Pittsburg, and Sequoyah contain approximately 80% of the known coal resources of Oklahoma, as determined by the latest studies of the Oklahoma Geological Survey. These same nine (9) counties also contain 100% of the known Federally owned and economically recoverable coal resources in Oklahoma. The Federally owned coal resources are "acquired minerals" contained within coal deposits that were purchased from the Choctaw and Chickasaw Native American Tribes in the late 1940's. Therefore, the New Mexico Bureau of Land Management State Director in 1990 designated the aforementioned nine (9) counties as a Federal Coal area, hereinafter referred to as the "Area", for the purposes of Federal coal management under the guidelines set forth in Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Manual 3485—Reports, Royalties, and Records; in 43 CFR Part 3400—Coal Management: General; and in Subpart 3485—Reports, Royalties, and Records. BLM Manual 3485 sets forth five (5) Categories by which the holder and/or operator of a Federal Coal Lease may apply for a royalty that is less than the base royalty stated in the lease. Categories 1 through 4 refer to royalty reductions based mainly upon mining and financial criteria, or combinations thereof, that are specific to the mining operation requesting relief. Category 5, however, refers to royalty reductions granted within a designated State or Area that the BLM has concluded to have met all of the following criteria:

1. The Federal Government is not market dominant.
2. Federal royalty rates are above the current market royalty rates for non-Federal coal in the Area.
3. Federal coal would be bypassed or remain undeveloped due to royalty rate differentials.
4. The above conditions exist throughout the Area.
5. A royalty rate reduction under this Category is not likely to result in undue competitive advantages over neighboring areas.

Studies supplementary to those completed in 1990 that resulted in the present Area and subsequent "Category 5" reduced royalties, and continuous Area coal economic studies since 1990, have shown, and continue to show, that there have not been any basic changes in the Area coal markets that would substantiate the discontinuation of the present policy. As a result, the State Director has determined that the Qualification of the nine (9) county Area should be extended for another five (5) years, as provided by the Guidelines in BLM Manual 3485—Reports, Royalties,

and Records. This will allow operators and/or holders of Federal Coal leases within the Area the continued opportunity to obtain fair and competitive Federal royalty rates; i.e., 2% for Federal coal mined by accepted underground methods, and 4% for Federal coal mined by accepted surface methods. It will further allow for the continued economic viability of the Area.

All Oklahoma coal operators that currently hold Federal coal leases within the Area have been mailed a copy of the above notice.

Dated: November 22, 1995.

Rich Whitley,

Deputy State Director, Division of Planning, Use and Protection, Bureau of Land Management, New Mexico State Office.

[FR Doc. 95-29237 Filed 12-1-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-84-M

[NM-030-7122-03-8546]

Proposed Expansion of the Continental Mine in Grant County, New Mexico

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Interior.

ACTION: Rescheduled public scoping meeting and extension of public comment period.

SUMMARY: Due to the Federal Government shutdown, the public scoping meeting scheduled by BLM on Wednesday, November 15, 1995 in Silver City, New Mexico (Federal Register, Vol. 60, No. 205, October 24, 1995, pages 54508-54509) to discuss Cobre Mining Company's proposed Continental Mine Expansion Project was postponed. The meeting is rescheduled at the following time and location:

Time/date	Location
7 p.m., December 19, 1995.	Grant County Courthouse Building, 2nd Floor Courtroom, 201 North Cooper Street, Silver City, New Mexico.

DATES: The public comment period has been extended through January 2, 1996. Written comments should be sent to the address listed below.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to BLM, Las Cruces District, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chuck O'Donnell, BLM, Las Cruces District Office at (505)525-4373.

Dated: November 29, 1995.
Linda S.C. Rundell,
District Manager.
[FR Doc. 95-29530 Filed 12-1-95; 8:45 am]
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[WY-920-06-1320-00]

Powder River Regional Coal Team Activities: Announcement of Public Meeting

AGENCY: BLM, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Powder River Regional Coal Team (RCT) announces that it will hold a public meeting on January 10, 1996 for the following purposes: (1) Review current and past activities in the Powder River Coal Region, (2) review pending coal lease applications (LBA), and (3) make recommendations on pending applications.

DATES: The RCT meeting will begin at 9 a.m. MST on January 10, 1996, at the Hitching Post Inn, in the Cheyenne Club Room, 1700 W. Lincolnway, Cheyenne, Wyoming. The meeting is open to the public.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Hitching Post Inn, Cheyenne Club Room, 1700 W. Lincolnway, Cheyenne, WY 82001, telephone (307) 638-3301. Attendees may wish to make their personal room reservations from a block of rooms which has been set aside until December 27, 1995. For room reservations call 1-800-221-0125.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pam Hernandez or Eugene Jonart, Wyoming State Office, Attn. (MLA), P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003; telephone (307) 775-6270 or 775-6257.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Primary purpose of the meeting is to discuss the following new coal lease applications (LBA): Spring Creek Coal Comp., Kennecott, (MTM83859), filed March 22, 1995; Powder River Coal Company (PRCC), Peabody, (WYW136142), filed March 23, 1995; and Jacob's Ranch, Kerr-McGee, (WYW136458), filed April 14, 1995. This is the initial public notification of the pending applications listed above, in accordance with the Powder River Operational Guidelines. The pending applications are to sustain existing coal mining operations. Generally, a coal lease application filed under the LBA portion of the regulations (43 CFR 3425) takes two to four years to be processed to the competitive lease sale stage, depending on informational and environmental study requirements. The RCT may

generate recommendation(s) for any or all of the pending LBAs.

The meeting will serve as a forum for public discussion on Federal coal management issues of regional concern. Any party interested in providing comments or data related to the above pending applications may either do so in writing to the State Director (925), Wyoming State Office, Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, WY 82003 no later than January 3, 1996, or by addressing the RCT with his/her concern at the meeting on January 10, 1996.

A copy of the new RCT Charter can be obtained from either of the following offices: Wyoming State Office; ATTN: Eugene Jonart 925; P.O. Box 1828; Cheyenne, WY 82003; Montana State Office; ATTN: Ed Hughes (921); P.O. Box 36800; Billings, MT 59107.

The proposed agenda for the meeting follows:

1. Introduction of RCT Members and guests.
2. Approval of the Minutes of the June 16, 1993 Regional Coal Team Meeting held in Billings, Montana.
3. Organizational Changes within BLM.
 4. New Powder River RCT Charter.
 5. Regional Coal Activity Status:
 - a. Current Production and trends
 - b. Activity Since Last RCT Meeting: Competitive Sales: Wyoming—Eagle Butte LBA, April 5, 1995; Montana—Spring Creek LBA, August 9, 1995.
 - c. Pending LBAs previously reviewed by RCT:
 - Antelope LBA; (Antelope Coal Comp.) filed 12/29/92; 60 million tons; est. sale date is June 1996. EA review to be completed December 1995.
 - North Roundup LBA; (Zeigler), filed 7/22/92; 140 million tons; est. sale date is December 1996. EIS will be started December 1995.
 - d. Status of Coal Exchanges—Texaco/Lake DeSmet; Belco/Hay Creek
 - e. Coal Lease Modifications Pending (if any): Montana/Wyoming
 - f. Pending coal lease applications (LBAs):
 - Spring Creek Coal Comp.—MTM83859; (Montana); Kennecott Energy; est. 37.8 million tons, 285 acres; no schedule yet.
 - PRCC—WYW136142; (Wyoming), Peabody, est. 550 million tons, 4,020 acres, no schedule yet.
 - Jacob's Ranch—WYW136458; (Wyoming), Kerr-McGee; est 432 million tons, 4,000 acres, no schedule yet.
 6. Executive Summary/Comparison of Previous Leasing Activities.
 7. Review of Regional Market Conditions—Demand.

8. Industry Presentations:

—Kennecott Energy.

—PRCC.

—Kerr-McGee.

9. Other Regional Issues:

—Status of Buffalo Resource Area's Management Plan, (Wyoming).

10. RCT Activity Planning Recommendations:

—Review and recommendation(s) on pending lease Application(s).

11. Discussion of next meeting date and location.

12. Adjourn.

Public discussion opportunities will be provided on all agenda items.

Alan R. Pierson,

State Director, Wyoming.

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Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council Workshop; Meeting

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: As provided in Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Service announces a meeting designed to foster partnerships to enhance recreational fishing and boating in the United States. This meeting sponsored by the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council, is open to the public, and interested persons may make oral statements to the Council or may file written statements for consideration. Summary minutes of the conference will be maintained by the Coordinator for the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council at 4040 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203, and will be available for public inspection during regular business hours within 30 days following the meeting. Personal copies may be purchased for the cost of duplication.

DATES: December 20, 1995, beginning at 2 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Stouffer Renaissance Crystal City Hotel located at 2399 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia, telephone (703) 418-6800.

Agenda

The Council will hear reports from its Initiatives Committee on the draft strategic plan for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Recreational Fisheries Program. The Council will also consider recommendations from the Initiatives Committee on cost savings measures to reduce the Service's Fisheries Program