

coal resources in said tract will result in a competitive lease sale to be held at a time and place to be announced through publication pursuant to 43 CFR 3422.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Coteau Properties Company is the lessee and operator of Coal Lease NDM 071813 at the Freedom Mine. The entire area included within this lease application lies within the Freedom Mine NACT 9501 permit area.

On November 3, 1994, The Coteau Properties Company received Federal Coal Exploration License NDM 83356 from the BLM to conduct drilling on lands contained within the Coteau Properties coal lease application tract.

The area applied for would be mined as an extension of the Freedom Mine and would utilize the same methods as those currently being used. The lease being applied for can extend the life of the mine by about 4 months and enable recovery of coal that might never be mined if not mined as a logical extension of current pits.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY: The application is available for review between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office, 222 North 32nd Street, Billings, Montana 59101, and at the Bureau of Land Management, Dakotas District Office, whose address is 2033 Third Avenue West, Dickinson, North Dakota 58601-2619, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ed Hughes, telephone 406-255-2830, Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office, 222 North 32nd Street, P.O. Box 36800, Billings, Montana 59107-6800.

Dated: September 24, 1996.

Francis R. Cherry, Jr.,

Acting State Director.

[FR Doc. 96-25447 Filed 10-3-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DN-P

[MT-921-06-1320-01-P; NDM 85537]

**Notice of Coal Lease Application—
NDM 85537 Acquired—The Coteau
Properties Company**

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is Notice of The Coteau Properties Company's Coal Lease Application NDM 85537 Acquired for certain coal resources within the Fort Union Coal Region.

The land included in Coal Lease Application NDM 85537 Acquired is

located in Mercer County, North Dakota, and is described as follows:

T. 146 N., R. 87 W., 5th P.M.
Sec. 31: NE¼

The 160.00-acre tract contains an estimated 1 million tons of recoverable coal reserves.

Pursuant to Public Law 760 of September 6, 1950 (7 U.S.C. 1033-1039), all mineral interests owned by the United States which were reserved or acquired under programs administered by the Governmental agencies mentioned therein, and which were not disposed of by the Secretary of Agriculture, were transferred to the Department of the Interior, after September 6, 1957, for administration under the mineral laws. A quitclaim deed, identified as FFM-ND-1145, dated September 6, 1957, was received from the Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation, transferring 50 percent mineral interests in the aforementioned lands.

The application will be processed in accordance with the provisions of the Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands of 1947, (61 Stat. 913, 30 U.S.C. 351-359), and the implementing regulations at 43 CFR 3400. A decision to allow leasing of the coal resources in said tract will result in a competitive lease sale to be held at a time and place to be announced through publication pursuant to 43 CFR 3422.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Coteau Properties Company is the lessee and operator of Coal Lease NDM 071813 at the Freedom Mine. The entire area included within this lease application lies within the Freedom Mine NACT 9501 permit area.

On November 3, 1994, The Coteau Properties Company received Federal Coal Exploration License NDM 83357 from the BLM to conduct drilling on lands contained within the Coteau Properties coal lease application tract.

The area applied for would be mined as an extension of the Freedom Mine and would utilize the same methods as those currently being used. The lease being applied for can extend the life of the mine by about 1 month and enable recovery of coal that might never be mined if not mined as a logical extension of current pits.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY: The application is available for review between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office, 222 North 32nd Street, Billings, Montana 59101, and at the Bureau of Land Management, Dakotas District Office, whose address is 2033 Third Avenue West, Dickinson, North Dakota 58601-2619, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ed Hughes telephone 406-255-2830, Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office, 222 North 32nd Street, P.O. Box 36800, Billings, Montana 59107-6800.

Dated: September 24, 1996.

Francis R. Cherry, Jr.,

Acting State Director.

[FR Doc. 96-25448 Filed 10-3-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DN-P

[UT-060-06-1310-00]

**Notice of Availability of Draft Price
Coalbed Methane Environmental
Impact Statement**

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Department of Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of Draft Price Coalbed Methane Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) has been prepared for the Price Coalbed Methane Project and is available for distribution to the public.

River Gas Corporation of Northport, Alabama proposes to develop a coalbed methane (CBM) gas production field in Carbon and Emery Counties, Utah. The proposed project would involve the construction (wellpads), drilling, and completion/stimulation of 601 CBM gas wells and associated access roads, pipelines, and electrical distribution lines over approximately a 10-year period within an approximately 290-square mile project area. Life of project would be approximately 30 years. A maximum of four CBM gas wells per square mile (160-acre spacing) would be developed on leased acreage (Federal, state, and private) in accordance with procedures and guidelines of the Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

Copies of the DEIS will be available at libraries in Moab, Price, and Castle Dale, Utah. Copies will also be available from the Moab District Office, 82 East Dogwood, Moab, Utah 84532, the Price BLM Office, 125 South 600 West, Price, Utah 84501, and the BLM Utah State Office, 324 South State, P.O. Box 45155, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84105-0155.

DATES: Written comments on the DEIS will be accepted for a period of 45 days following Federal Register publication of the Notice of Availability by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The anticipated date of EPA Federal Register publication is October 18, 1996. Comments must therefore be

submitted or postmarked no later than December 2, 1996 in order to be considered. Oral and/or written comments may also be presented at public meetings to be held November 13 at the Courthouse in Price, Utah and November 14 at the Courthouse in Castledale, Utah. Meeting times will be announced through local news media.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the DEIS should be addressed to: Kate Kitchell, Moab Field Office Manager, Bureau of Land Management, 82 East Dogwood, Moab, Utah, 84532.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daryl Trotter, Project Coordinator, Moab Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 82 East Dogwood, Moab, Utah, 84532, (801) 259-6111.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of this EIS is to provide decision makers and the public with information pertaining to River Gas's proposal, and to disclose environmental impacts and identify mitigation measures to reduce impacts.

The DEIS analyzes a proposal by River Gas Corporation of Northport, Alabama, to locate, drill, complete, and produce 601 CBM wells over a 10-year period in an approximately 290-square mile project area in Carbon and Emery Counties, Utah at 160-acre spacing. The proposed action would also include the construction and operation of access roads, gas and water collection pipelines/flowlines, high-pressure delivery pipelines, and electrical utilities within a transportation corridor system accessing all wells.

The DEIS also analyzes four alternatives: (1) Field development at 80-acre spacing; (2) field development at 160-acre and 80-acre spacing, precluding well drilling on Federal mineral estate within boundaries of critical deer and elk winter range; (3) field development at 160-acre and 80-acre spacing, precluding well drilling and operations on Federal mineral estate in security habitat areas (concentration areas) within critical winter range for mule deer and elk; and (4) No Action alternative.

BLM's preferred alternative is field development at 160-acre spacing, precluding well drilling and operations on Federal mineral estate in security habitat areas.

Dated: September 27, 1996.

Kate Kitchell,

Moab Field Office Manager.

[FR Doc. 96-25449 Filed 10-3-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DQ-P

[(CA-067-7122-6663); CACA-29996]

Realty Action; Proposed Sale of Public Land

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The following land has been found suitable for sale under Section 203 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1713), at not less than the appraised fair market value of \$24,000:

San Bernardino Meridian, Imperial County, California

T. 10 S., R. 13 E.,

Sec. 10, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ (80 acres)

This land will not be offered for sale for at least 60 days following the date of this notice. The sale will be by modified competitive procedures. Persons permitted to bid will be limited to the adjacent landowners. The petitioner of this proposed sale will be given the opportunity to meet the highest bid received. Sale will be by sealed bid only. All sealed bids must be submitted to the BLM's El Centro Resource Area Office, 1661 South 4th Street, El Centro, CA 92243 no later than 4:30 p.m., December 2, 1996. Bids must be for not less than the appraised \$24,000. Each sealed bid must be accompanied by a certified check, postal money order, bank draft, or cashier's check made payable to USDI/BLM for not less than 10 percent of the amount bid. Federal law requires that all bidders be U.S. citizens 18 years of age or over, or in the case of corporations, be subject to the laws of any State or of the U.S. These lands contain no known locatable or salable mineral values, however the property is classified as being prospectively valuable for geothermal resources. Locatable and salable mineral interests will be conveyed simultaneously with the land. Leasable minerals will be reserved to the U.S.

DATES: For a period of 45 days after publication of this notice in the Federal Register, interested parties may submit comments to the Area Manager, Bureau of Land Management, El Centro Resource Area, 1661 South 4th Street, El Centro, CA 92243. Objections will be reviewed by the State Director, who may sustain, vacate, or modify this realty action. In the absence of any objections, this realty action will become the final determination of the Department of the Interior.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Linda Self, Realty Specialist, at the above address or telephone (619) 337-4426.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Publication of this Notice in the Federal Register segregates the public land to the extent that it will not be subject to appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws. The segregative effect of this notice shall terminate upon issuance of patent or other conveyance document, publication in the Federal Register of a termination of the segregation or 270 days from the date of publication, whichever occurs first. The patent, when issued, will contain a reservation of ditches and canals to the U.S.

Dated: September 27, 1996.

Terry A. Reed,

Area Manager.

[FR Doc. 96-25441 Filed 10-3-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-40-P

[(ID-056-1430-01)]

Notice of Realty Action: State Indemnity Selection Classification, Jerome County, ID (IDI-31387)

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The following public land in Jerome County, Idaho has been examined and found suitable for classification and conveyance to the State of Idaho under the provisions of Sections 2275 and 2276 of the Revised Statutes, as amended (43 U.S.C. 851, 852). It will be managed by the State as school endowment land to provide the highest possible return to the school endowment fund.

T. 8 S., R. 17 E., Boise Meridian
Section 13, NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$,
NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

The land is not needed for federal purposes. Conveyance is consistent with current and proposed Bureau of Land Management and local planning and is in the public interest.

When issued, the patent will be subject to the following terms, conditions and reservations:

1. A reservation to the United States of America for rights-of-way for ditches and canals constructed by the authority of the Act of Congress approved August 30, 1890 (43 U.S.C. 945).

2. A reservation to the United States of America under 44 L.D. 513, IDI-013419, FAA communication facility.

3. Material Site Right-of-Way IDI-20199, Idaho Transportation Dept.

The following communication site rights-of-way:

4. IDI-09728, AT&T Communications.
5. IDI-16896, Auto Phone Corp.
6. IDI-20185, B&B Broadcasting.