

Section 6: Lots 5-8, S½SE¼;
 Section 7: All;
 Section 8: NW¼NW¼;
 Section 18: Lots 1-2, NE¼.
 Containing 5,563 acres more or less.

The Tract has two potentially minable coal seams including, the Hiawatha and the Blind Canyon. The minable portions of the seams in this area are from 6 to 12 feet in thickness. This tract contains an estimated 60-65 million tons of recoverable high-volatile bituminous coal. The range of coal quality in the seams on an as received basis is as follows: 12,800-13,300 Btu/lb., 4-5.25 percent moisture, 4.7-8.8 percent ash, 42-44 percent volatile matter, 45-46 percent fixed carbon, and 0.6-0.65 percent sulfur. The public is invited to the hearing to make public or written comments on the Environmental Analysis concerning the proposal to lease the Mill Fork Tract, and also to submit comments on the fair market value (FMV) and the maximum economic recovery (MER) of the tract.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with Federal coal management regulations 43 CFR 4322 and 4325, a public hearing shall be held on the proposed sale to allow public comment on and discussion of the potential effects of mining and proposed lease. Not less than 30 days prior to the publication of the notice of sale, the Secretary shall solicit public comments on fair market value appraisal and maximum economic recovery and on factors that may affect these two determinations. Proprietary data marked as confidential may be submitted to the Bureau of Land Management in response to this solicitation of public comments. Data so marked shall be treated in accordance with the laws and regulations governing the confidentiality of such information. A copy of the comments submitted by the public on fair market value and maximum economic recovery, except those portions identified as proprietary by the author and meeting exemptions stated in the Freedom of Information Act, will be available for public inspection at the Bureau of Land Management, Utah State Office during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) Monday through Friday.

Comments on fair market value and maximum economic recovery should be sent to the Bureau of Land Management and should address, but not necessarily be limited to, the following information:

1. The quality and quantity of the coal resource.
2. The mining method or methods which would achieve maximum economic recovery of the coal,

including specifications of seams to be mined and the most desirable timing and rate of production.

3. The quantity of coal.

4. If this tract is likely to be mined as part of an existing mine and therefore be evaluated on a realistic incremental basis, in relation to the existing mine to which it has the greatest value.

5. If this tract should be evaluated as part of a potential larger mining unit and evaluated as a portion of a new potential mine (i.e., a tract which does not in itself form a logical mining unit).

6. The configuration of any larger mining unit of which the tract may be a part.

7. Restrictions to mining which may affect coal recovery.

8. The price that the mined coal would bring when sold.

9. Costs, including mining and reclamation, of producing the coal and the time of production.

10. The percentage rate at which anticipated income streams should be discounted, either in the absence of inflation or with inflation, in which case the anticipated rate of inflation should be given.

11. Depreciation and other tax accounting factors.

12. The value of any surface estate where held privately.

13. Documented information on the terms and conditions of recent and similar coal land transactions in the lease sale area.

14. Any comparable sales data of similar coal lands.

Coal quantities and the FMV of the coal developed by BLM may or may not change as a result of comments received from the public and changes in market conditions between now and when final economic evaluations are completed.

DATES: The public hearing will be held in the conference room at the Museum of the San Rafael (64 North 100 East) Castle Dale, Utah, at 7:00 p.m., on November 4, 1997. Written comments on fair market value and maximum economic recovery must be received at the Bureau of Land Management, Utah State Office, by November 17, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Max Nielson, 801-539-4038, Bureau of Land Management, Utah State Office, Division of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 45155, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84145-0155. Copies of the Mill Fork EA may be obtained by contacting Janette Kaiser, Forest Supervisor at the Manti-LaSal National Forest, 599 West Price River Dr. in Price, Utah (801-637-2817).

Dated: September 29, 1997.

Douglas M. Koza,

DSD, Natural Resources, Utah.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

Oil and Gas Leasing Analysis; Helena & Deerlodge National Forests, MT Counties: Lewis and Clark, Powell, Jefferson, Broadwater, and Meagher. State: Montana

AGENCIES: Forest Service, USDA & Bureau of Land Management, USDI.

ACTION: Notice; extension of public review period for the draft supplement to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Helena National Forest and Elkhorn Portion of the Deerlodge National Forest Oil and Gas Leasing Analysis.

SUMMARY: The period of public review for the draft supplement to the FEIS for the Helena National Forest and Elkhorn Portion of the Deerlodge National Forest Oil and Gas Leasing Analysis has been extended to October 29, 1997. The USDA Forest Service and USDI Bureau of Land Management as joint lead agencies agree to extend the public review an additional 30 days from September 29, 1997 to October 29, 1997.

DATES: This action is effective October 3, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Thomas J. Clifford, Forest Supervisor, Helena National Forest, 2880 Skyway Drive, Helena, Mt. 59601; and Larry E. Hamilton, State Director, USDA—Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office, 222 North 32nd Street, P.O. Box 36800, Billings, MT 59107-6800.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Tom Andersen, Helena National Forest, 2880 Skyway Drive, Helena, Mt. 59601; phone (406) 449-5201, ext 277.

Dated: September 26, 1997.

Dwight Chambers,

Acting Forest Supervisor, Helena National Forest.

Dated: September 29, 1997.

Janet Singer,

Acting State Director, Montana State Office.

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