

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management**

[CO-933-98-1320-01; COC 60941]

Notice of Coal Lease Offering By Sealed Bid; COC 60941

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of competitive coal lease sale.

SUMMARY: Bureau of Land Management, Colorado State Office, Lakewood, Colorado, hereby gives notice that certain coal resources in the lands hereinafter described in La Plata County, Colorado, will be offered for competitive lease by sealed bid in accordance with the provisions of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.).

DATES: The lease sale will be held at 11 a.m., Monday, March 30, 1998. Sealed bids must be submitted no later than 10 a.m., Monday, March 30, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The lease sale will be held in the Conference Room, Fourth Floor, Colorado State Office, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado. Sealed bids must be submitted to the Cashier, First Floor, Colorado State Office, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80215.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Purvis at (303) 239-3795.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The tract will be leased to the qualified bidder submitting the highest offer, provided that the high bid meets the fair market value determination of the coal resource. The minimum bid for this tract is \$100 per acre or fraction thereof. No bid less than \$100 per acre or fraction thereof will be considered. The minimum bid is not intended to represent fair market value.

Sealed bids received after the time specified above will not be considered.

In the event identical high sealed bids are received, the tying high bidders will be requested to submit follow-up bids until a high bid is received. All tie-breaking sealed bids must be submitted within 15 minutes following the Sale Official's announcement at the sale that identical high bids have been received.

Fair market value will be determined by the authorized officer after the sale.

Coal Offered: The coal resource to be offered is limited to coal recoverable by underground mining methods on the Upper Menefee seam on the 7 South Mains Tract in the following lands:

T. 34 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M.
sec. 6, lots 1 to 5, inclusive, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$,
and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

containing 194.79 acres.

The recoverable reserves have been adjusted from 646,000 tons down to 624,100 tons to account for coal purchased within a mineral right-of-way by National King Coal, LLC. The underground minable coal is ranked as high volatile B bituminous coal. The estimated coal quality for the Upper Menefee seam on an as-received bases is as follows:

Btu—12,300 Btu/lb.
Moisture—5.60%
Sulfur Content—0.67%
Ash Content—10.64%

Rental and Royalty

The lease issued as a result of this offering will provide for payment of an annual rental of \$3.00 per acre or fraction thereof and a royalty payable to the United States of 8 percent of the value of coal mined by underground methods. The value of the coal will be determined in accordance with 30 CFR 206.

Notice of Availability

Bidding instruction for the offered tract are included in the Detailed Statement of Coal Lease Sale. Copies of the statement and the proposed coal lease are available upon request in person or by mail from the Colorado State Office at the address given above. The case file is available for inspection in the Public Room, Colorado State Office, during normal business hours at the address given above.

Dated: February 13, 1998.

Karen Purvis,

Solid Minerals Team Resource Services.

[FR Doc. 98-4422 Filed 2-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JB-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management**

[MT-921-08-1320-01; MTM 80697]

Notice of Hearing

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held at 10:00 a.m., Friday, April 3, 1998, in the conference room on the Sixth Floor of the Granite Tower Building, Bureau of Land Management, 222 North 32nd Street, Billings, Montana 59107.

Western Energy Company has requested the Bureau of Land Management to reschedule a coal lease sale for Coal Lease Application MTM 80697. The Bureau of Land Management requests additional public comments on the fair market value and maximum economic recovery of certain coal

resources it proposes to re-offer for a competitive lease sale. A Decision Record was signed on May 16, 1995, which allows for coal leasing.

The land included in Coal Lease Application MTM 80697 is located in Rosebud County, Montana, and is described as follows:

T. 1 N., R. 39 E., P.M.M.
Sec. 2: S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$
T. 1 N., R. 40 E., P.M.M.
Sec. 6: Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$
Sec. 8: E $\frac{1}{2}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$
Sec. 14: S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$
T. 2 N., R. 40 E., P.M.M.
Sec. 32: All 2,061 acres

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.

Randy D. Heuscher,

Chief, Branch of Solid Minerals.

Dated: February 17, 1998.

[FR Doc. 98-4465 Filed 2-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DN-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management**

[WY-921-1430-01; WYW 134662]

Public Land Order No. 7312; Withdrawal of Public Land for the Protection of Arabis Pusilla Plant Habitat; Wyoming

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Public land order.

SUMMARY: This order withdraws 1,020 acres of public land from surface entry and mining for a period of 50 years to protect *Arabis pusilla* (small rockcress) plant habitat. The land has been and will remain open to mineral leasing.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 23, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet Booth, BLM Wyoming State Office, P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003, 307-775-6124.

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior by Section 204 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714 (1994), it is ordered as follows:

1. Subject to valid existing rights, the following described public land is hereby withdrawn from settlement, sale, location, or entry under the general land laws, including the United States mining laws (30 U.S.C. Ch. 2 (1994)), but not from leasing under the mineral leasing laws, for the Bureau of Land Management to protect *Arabis pusilla* plant habitat:

Sixth Principal Meridian

T. 29 N., R. 101 W.,
 Sec. 26, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ and S $\frac{1}{2}$;
 Sec. 27, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$,
 E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Sec. 35, N $\frac{1}{2}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, and N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

The area described contains 1,020 acres in Fremont County.

2. The withdrawal made by this order does not alter the applicability of those public land laws governing the use of lands under lease, license, or permit, or governing the disposal of their mineral or vegetative resources other than under the mining laws.

3. This withdrawal will expire 50 years from the effective date of this order unless, as a result of a review conducted before the expiration date pursuant to Section 204(f) of the Federal

Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714(f) (1994), the Secretary determines that the withdrawal shall be extended.

Dated: February 4, 1998.

Bob Armstrong,

Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

[FR Doc. 98-4396 Filed 2-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-015-1430-01: GP-8-0103]

Realty Action

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Lakeview District.

ACTION: Direct sale of public land in Lake County, Oregon (OR 53809).

The following parcel of public land is suitable for direct sale under Section 203 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1713, at no less than the appraised fair market value. The land will not be offered for sale for at least 60 days following the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Legal description	Acreage	Sale price	Deposit
Parcel Serial No., OR 53809 T.27S., R.17E., W.M., Oregon Sec. 14: N1/2SW1/4.	80	\$12,000.00	\$2,400.00

The above described parcel of land is hereby segregated from appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws, but not from sale under the above cited statute for 270 days from the date of publication or until title transfer is completed or the segregation is terminated by publication in the **Federal Register**, whichever occurs first.

The land is not considered essential to the public land management base and is unsuitable for management by another Federal agency. No significant resource values will be affected by this disposal. The sale is consistent with Bureau planning for the land involved and will serve important public objectives.

The sale parcel will be offered under direct sale procedures to the North Lake Family Progress Team. Direct sale procedures are considered appropriate, in this case, as the offered public land is necessary to accommodate the development of a community park for Christmas Valley, Oregon. Direct sale procedures are authorized under 43 CFR 2711.3-3. The land will be offered for direct sale at 10:00 am PST, on May 18, 1998 and will be by written bid only. A written bid must be submitted to the BLM, Lakeview District Office at P.O. Box 151, 1000 South Ninth Street, Lakeview, Oregon 97630, no later than 4:30 pm PST, May 15, 1998, and must be for not less than the appraised sale price indicated. The written bid must be

accompanied by a certified check, postal money order, bank draft or cashier's check, made payable to the Department of the Interior-BLM for not less than the bid deposit specified in this notice.

The total purchase price for the land shall be paid within 180 days of the date of sale or the bid deposit will be forfeited and the parcel withdrawn from further sale consideration.

The terms, conditions and reservations applicable to the sale are as follows:

(1) Patent to the sale parcel will contain a reservation to the United States for ditches and canals.

(2) The sale parcel will be subject to all valid existing rights of record at the time of patent issuance.

(3) The mineral interests being offered for conveyance with sale parcel OR 53809 have no known value. A deposit or bid to purchase the parcel will also constitute an application for conveyance of the mineral estate with the following reservations;

(a) Oil and gas and geothermal resources will be reserved to the United States.

The above mineral reservations are being made in accordance with Section 209 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

The North Lake Family Progress Team must include with their final payment a non-refundable \$50.00 filing fee for conveyance of the mineral estate.

Federal law requires that the bidder must be a U.S. citizen, 18 years of age or older, a state or state instrumentality authorized to hold property, or a corporation authorized to own real estate in the state in which the land is located.

Detailed information concerning the sale, including the reservations, sale procedures, terms and conditions, planning and environmental documentation, is available at the Lakeview District Office, P.O. Box 151, 1000 South Ninth Street, Lakeview, Oregon 97630.

For a period of 45 days from the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, interested parties may submit comments to the Lakeview Resource Area Manager, Bureau of Land Management, at the above address. Objections will be reviewed by the Lakeview District Manager 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.

Dated: February 6, 1998.

Scott R. Florence,

Manager, Lakeview Resource Area.

[FR Doc. 98-4417 Filed 2-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-33-P