

occurring sodium bicarbonate that is found in association with oil shale deposits. After the nahcolite is removed from the ground, it would be processed into a sodium carbonate solution and transported by a 44-mile pipeline south to a processing operation to be located at an existing industrial site in the Parachute Valley in Garfield County, Colorado. There it would be further processed to commercial grade sodium carbonate, sodium bicarbonate, and other sodium products which would then be shipped from the processing facility via a 4-mile long dedicated rail spur to an interstate rail connection near the town of Parachute.

John J. Mehlhoff,

Resource Area Manager, White River Field Office.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WO-220-09-1060-00-24 1A]

Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board; Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Announcement of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces that the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board will conduct a meeting on matters pertaining to management and protection of wild, free-roaming horses and burros on the Nation's public lands.

DATES: The advisory board will meet Monday, August 16, 1999, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. local time, and on Tuesday, August 17, 1999, from 8 a.m. to 12 noon local time.

Submit written comments pertaining to the advisory board meeting no later than close of business August 24, 1999.

ADDRESSES: The Advisory Board will meet at the Nightengale Building, Room 5, Westminster College, 1840 South 1300 East, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Send written comments pertaining to the advisory board meeting to Bureau of Land Management, WO-610, Mail Stop 406 LS, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for electronic access and filing address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mary Knapp, Wild Horse and Burro Public Affairs Specialist, (202) 452-5176. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may reach Ms. Knapp at any time

by calling the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Meeting

Under the authority of 43 CFR part 1784, the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board advises the Secretary of the Interior, the Director of the BLM, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Chief, Forest Service, on matters pertaining to management and protection of wild, free-roaming horses and burros on the Nation's public lands. The tentative agenda for the meeting is:

Monday, August 16, 1999

Old Business/April 1999
Recommendations

- Approval of January and April, 1999 minutes;
- Ely field trip;
- Establishing aml;
- Scenarios for attaining AMLs (appropriate management levels);
- Prioritization of herd management areas;
- Forage allocation;
- Strategic plan amendment time frame;
- Public comment.

Tuesday, August 17, 1999

New Business

- 2000-2001 WH&B Advisory Board;
- 1999 End of Year Congressional Report;
- Funding process for 2000 & 2001;
- Advisory Board recommendations;
- Agenda for November 1999 Meeting;
- Adjournment

The meeting sites are accessible to individuals with disabilities. An individual with a disability who will need an auxiliary aid or service to participate in the meeting, such as interpreting service, assistive listening device, or materials in an alternate format, must notify the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** two weeks before the scheduled meeting date. Although the BLM will attempt to meet a request received after that date, the requested auxiliary aid or service may not be available because of insufficient time to arrange it.

The Federal advisory committee management regulations (41 CFR 101-6.1015(b)), require BLM to publish in the **Federal Register** notice of a meeting 15 days prior to the meeting date.

II. Field Trip

There will be an optional field trip to BLM's Salt Lake City Holding Facility Tuesday afternoon, August 17, 1999 after adjournment of the meeting. BLM will provide transportation for

Advisory Board members and BLM staff. The public will have to provide its own transportation.

III. Public Comment Procedures

Members of the public may make oral statements to the advisory board on August 16, 1999, at the appropriate point in the agenda. This is anticipated to occur at 3:45 p.m. local time. Persons wishing to make statements should register with the BLM by noon on August 16, 1999, at the meeting location. Depending on the number of speakers, the advisory board may limit the length of presentations. At previous meetings, presentations have been limited to three minutes in length. Speakers should address specific wild horse and burro-related topics listed on the agenda. Speakers must submit a written copy of their statement to the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section or bring a written copy to the meeting.

Participation in the advisory board meeting is not a prerequisite for submittal of written comments. The BLM invites written comments from all interested parties. Your written comments should be specific and explain the reason for any recommendation. The BLM appreciates any and all comments, but those most useful and likely to influence decisions on management and protection of wild horses and burros are those that are either supported by quantitative information or studies or those that include citations to and analysis of applicable laws and regulations. Except for comments provided in electronic format, speakers should submit two copies of their written comments where feasible. The BLM will not necessarily consider comments received after the time indicated under the **DATES** section or at locations other than that listed in the **ADDRESSES** section.

In the event there is a request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) for a copy of your comments, we intend to make them available in their entirety, including your name and address (or your e-mail address if you file electronically). However, if you do not want us to release your name and address (or e-mail address) in response to a FOIA request, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will honor your wish to the extent allowed by law. BLM will release all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying as representatives or officials or organizations or businesses, in their entirety, including names and address (or e-mail addresses).

Electronic Access and Filing Address

Speakers may transmit comments electronically via the Internet to: Mary_Knapp@blm.gov or mknapp@wo.blm.gov. Please include the identifier "WH&B" in the subject of your message and your name and address in the body of your message.

Henri R. Bisson,

Assistant Director, Renewable Resources and Planning.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Minerals Management Service****Outer Continental Shelf, Western Gulf of Mexico, Oil and Gas Lease Sale 174**

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

ACTION: Final Notice of Sale 174.

On August 25, 1999, the Minerals Management Service (MMS) will open and publicly announce bids received for blocks offered in Sale 174, Western Gulf of Mexico, pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331-1356, as amended) and the regulations issued thereunder (30 CFR Part 256). Bidders can obtain a "Final Notice of Sale 174 Package" containing this Notice of Sale and several supporting and essential documents referenced herein, from the MMS Gulf of Mexico Region's Public Information Unit, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394, (504) 736-2519 or (800) 200-GULF, or via the MMS Gulf of Mexico Region's Internet site at <http://www.gomr.mms.gov>. The MMS also maintains a 24-hour Fax-on-Demand Service at (202) 219-1703. The "Final Notice of Sale 174 Package" contains information essential to bidders, and bidders are charged with the knowledge of the documents contained in the package.

Location and Time

Public bid reading will begin at 9 a.m., Wednesday, August 25, 1999, at the Hyatt Regency Conference Center (Cabildo Rooms), 500 Poydras Plaza, New Orleans, Louisiana. All times referred to in this document are local New Orleans time.

Filing of Bids

Bidders must submit sealed bids to the Regional Director (RD), MMS Gulf of Mexico Region, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394, during normal business

hours (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.) prior to the Bid Submission Deadline at 10 a.m., Tuesday, August 24, 1999. If the bids are mailed, mark on the envelope containing all the sealed bids the following:

Attention: Mr. John Rodi

Contains Sealed Bids for Sale 174
If the RD receives bids later than the time and date specified above, he will return the bids unopened to bidders. Bidders may not modify or withdraw their bids unless the RD receives a written modification or written withdrawal request prior to 10 a.m., Tuesday, August 24, 1999. In the event of widespread flooding or other natural disaster, the MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Office may extend the bid submission deadline. Bidders may call (504) 736-0537 for information about the possible extension of the bid submission deadline due to such an event.

Areas Offered for Leasing

The MMS is offering for leasing all the blocks and partial blocks listed in the document "List of Blocks Available for Leasing, Sale 174" included in the Sale Notice Package. All of these blocks are shown on the following Leasing Maps and Official Protraction Diagrams (which may be purchased from the MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Office Public Information Unit).

Outer Continental Shelf Leasing Maps—Texas, Nos. 1 through 8 (latest revisions are dated March 15, 1999). This is a set of 16 maps which sells for \$18.00.

Outer Continental Shelf Official Protraction Diagrams (these diagrams sell for \$2.00 each):

NG 14-3 Corpus Christi (rev. 01/27/76)
NG 14-6 Port Isabel (rev. 09/09/98)
NG 15-1 East Breaks (rev. 01/27/76)
NG 15-2 Garden Banks (rev. 03/15/99)
NG 15-4 Alaminos Canyon (rev. 04/27/89)
NG 15-5 Keathley Canyon (rev. 09/09/98)
NG 15-8 (No Name) (rev. 04/27/89)

Acreage of all blocks is shown on these Leasing Maps and Official Protraction Diagrams. The available Federal acreage of all whole and partial blocks in this sale is shown in the document "List of Blocks Available for Leasing, Sale 174" included in the Sale Notice Package. Some of these blocks may be partially leased, or transected by administrative lines such as the Federal/State jurisdictional line, or partially included in the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary (in accordance with the President's June 1998 withdrawal directive, portions of

blocks lying within National Marine Sanctuaries are no longer available for leasing). Information on the unleased portions of such blocks, including the exact acreage, is found in the document titled "Western Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 174—Unleased Split Blocks and Unleashed Acreage of Blocks with Aliquots and Irregular Portions Under Lease," included in the Sale Notice Package.

Areas not Available for Leasing

The following blocks in the Western Gulf of Mexico Planning Area are not available for leasing:

blocks currently under lease; and the following unleased blocks or partial blocks:

High Island Area Block 170, and Galveston Area, South Addition, Block A-125 (which are currently under appeal); and

High Island Area, East Addition, South Extension, Blocks A-375 and A-398 (at the Flower Garden Banks), and the portions of other blocks within the boundary of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary: portions of High Island Area, East Addition, South Extension, Block A-401; High Island Area, South Addition, Block A-513; and Garden Banks Area Block 135; and

Mustang Island Area Blocks 793, 799, and 816 (blocks located off Corpus Christi which have been identified by the Navy as needed for testing equipment and training mine warfare personnel); and

The following blocks which are beyond the United States Exclusive Economic Zone and have been temporarily deferred from leasing by the Department of the Interior due to ongoing negotiations with the Government of Mexico:

Keathley Canyon (area NG 15-05)	Area NG 15-08
Blocks:	Blocks:
722 through 724	11 through 34.
764 through 770	56 through 81.
807 through 816	102 through 128.
849 through 861	148 through 173.
892 through 907	194 through 217.
934 through 953	239 through 261.
978 through 999	284 through 305.
	336 through 349.

Leasing Terms and Conditions

Primary lease terms, minimum bids, annual rental rates, royalty rates, and royalty suspension areas are shown on