

acreage and management to the area and was not economically feasible.

Domenick R. Ciccone,

*Acting Regional Director, Region 2,
Albuquerque, New Mexico.*

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BILLING CODE 4510-55-U

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY-040-00-1060-HI]

Notice of Intent To Gather Excess Wild Horses During Calendar Year 2000

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Rock Springs Field Office, prepared an environmental assessment for wild horse gathering inside and outside of wild horse herd management areas in 1999. The proposed action to gather excess wild horses to appropriate management levels was approved in a decision record on July 14, 1999. Gathering of excess wild horses to appropriate management levels was not completed in 1999. BLM is scheduled to continue gathering operations in the year 2000. The environmental assessment and decision record are available for review at the Rock Springs Field Office, 280 Highway 191 North, Rock Springs, Wyoming. It is also available via the world wide web at: <http://www.wy.blm.gov/currentnews/wildhorses/WILDHORSEADOPTION.HTML> The planned gathering period will extend from July 15, 2000 until inclement weather prevents gathering operations. Up to 800 wild horses may be removed from four wild horse herd management areas including Great Divide Basin, White Mountain, Little Colorado, and Salt Wells Creek. Excess wild horses outside of the herd management areas in the North Baxter/Jack Morrow hills areas may also be removed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John (Stan) McKee, Field Manager, Rock Springs Field Office, 280 Highway 191 North, Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901 (307-352-0201).

Dated: May 3, 2000.

John S. McKee,

Field Manager.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

Proposed Kykotsmovi Sewer Lagoon—Public Facility Project

AGENCY: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of application for grant funding; public comment period for the Hopi Tribe's request to fund the Village of Kykotsmovi Sewer Lagoon—Public Facility Project.

SUMMARY: OSM is announcing its receipt of a grant application from the Hopi Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Program, in Kykotsmovi, Arizona. The Hopi Tribe is requesting \$200,000 from the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund to pay the cost of upgrades to the existing wastewater infrastructure within the Village of Kykotsmovi on the Hopi Indian Reservation. In its application, the Hopi Tribe proposes paying for a percentage of the total construction cost as a public facility project (PFP) to offset various socioeconomic impacts to the community that is impacted by the mining of Hopi coal. The Chairman of the Hopi Tribe has determined that this project is necessary to prevent an imminent threat to human health and safety.

This notice describes when and where you may read the Grant Application that requests funding for the Village of Kykotsmovi—Sewer Lagoon Public Facilities Project. It also sets the time period during which you may send written comments on the request to OSM.

DATES: We will accept written comments until 4 p.m., d.s.t., June 8, 2000.

ADDRESSES: You should mail or hand-deliver your written comments to Willis L. Gainer, Albuquerque Field Office Director, at the address shown below.

You may preferably read the Hopi Tribes Grant Application for this proposed project during normal business hours Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) at the same address. However, OSM will send one free copy of the grant application to you if you contact OSM's Albuquerque Field Office.

Willis L. Gainer, Director, Albuquerque Field Office, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 505 Marquette Avenue NW., Suite 1200, Albuquerque, New Mexico 82601-1918.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Willis L. Gainer, Telephone: (505) 248-5070.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background on Title IV of SMCRA

Title IV of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) established an Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation (AMLR) Program. The purpose of the AMLR Program is to reclaim and restore lands and waters that were adversely affected by past mining. The AMLR Program is funded by a reclamation fee paid by active coal mining operations. Lands and waters eligible for reclamation under Title IV are primarily those that were mined, or affected by mining, and abandoned or inadequately reclaimed before August 3, 1977, and for which there is no continuing reclamation responsibility under State, Federal, or other laws.

Title IV of SMCRA allows States or Indian Tribes to submit AMLR plans to OSM. On behalf of the Secretary, OSM reviews those plans and considers any public comments received. If OSM determines that a State or Indian Tribe has the ability and necessary legislation to operate an AMLR program, the Secretary can approve it. The Secretary's approval gives a State or Tribe exclusive authority to put its AMLR plan into effect.

Once the Secretary approves a State's AMLR plan, the State or Tribe may apply to OSM for money to fund specific projects that will achieve the goals of its approved plan. OSM follows the requirements of the Federal regulations at 30 CFR parts 874, 875, and 886 when we review and approve such applications.

II. Background on the Hopi AML Plan

The Secretary of the Interior approved the Hopi Tribe's AML plan on June 28, 1988. General background information on the Hopi Tribe AML Plan, including the Secretary's findings and disposition of comments, can be found in the June 28, 1988, **Federal Register** (53 FR 25262). Subsequent actions concerning the Hopi Tribe's AML Plan can be found at 30 CFR 756.16, 756.17, and 756.18. Effective June 9, 1994, (59 FR 29721) the Director approved the Hopi Tribe's certification that it had addressed all known coal-related impacts on the Hopi Reservation that were eligible for funding.

As a result, the Hopi Tribe may submit annual grant requests for AML funds to address eligible lands, waters, and facilities impacted by noncoal mining and construction of new facilities in accordance with the provisions of Section 411 of SMCRA.