written request to the Forest Supervisor at the address indicated above within 90 days from the date of publication of this notice. Upon determination by the authorized officer that a public meeting will be held, a notice of the time and place will be published in the Federal Register at least 30 days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The withdrawal application will be processed in accordance with the regulations set forth in 43 CFR 2300. For a period of 2 years from the date of publication of this notice in the Federal Register, the lands will be segregated as specified above unless the application is denied or canceled or the withdrawal is approved prior to that date. The temporary land uses which may be permitted during this segregative period include licenses, permits, rights-of-way, and disposal of vegetative resources other than under the mining laws.


Sherrie L. Reid,
Acting Chief, Branch of Realty and Records Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

Watershed Cooperative Agreement Program

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

ACTION: Extension of time to submit applications for the Watershed Cooperative Agreement Program.

SUMMARY: The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) of the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) published a Federal Register notice on December 27, 1999 (64 FR 72360), soliciting applications for funding under the Watershed Cooperative Agreement Program. This notice extends the time for submitting applications until September 15, 2000, or until all available funds have been awarded.

DATES: Applications for the cooperative agreements will be accepted until September 15, 2000, or until all available funds have been awarded. Applications should be submitted to the appropriate individual listed under ADDRESSES AND FURTHER INFORMATION.

ADDRESSES AND FURTHER INFORMATION:

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For Fiscal Year 2000, OSM expects to award up to 1.75 million dollars to eligible not-for-profit groups to undertake actual construction projects to clean up streams impaired by acid mine drainage. The cooperative agreements normally will be in the $5,000–$80,000 range in order to assist as many groups as possible. The cooperative agreements will have a performance period of two years. Eligible applicants are not-for-profit, established organizations with IRS 501(c)(3) status. Applicants must have partners, contributing either funding or in-kind services; the partners must provide a substantial portion of the total resources needed to complete the project.

Projects in the following States are eligible: Alabama, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. Projects must meet eligibility criteria for coal projects outlined in Section 404 of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977:

- Lands and water eligible for reclamation or drainage abatement expenditures under this title are those which were mined for coal or which were affected by such mining, wastebanks, coal processing, or other coal mining processes. * * * and abandoned or left in an adequate reclamation status prior to the date of enactment of this Act [August 3, 1977], and for which there is no continuing reclamation responsibility under State or other Federal laws.

There must be demonstrated public support for the project. The project should propose to use proven or innovative technology that has a high probability of success. The project must produce tangible results, e.g., fishery restored, stream miles improved, educational and community benefits, pollutants removed from the streams. The funds must be used primarily for the construction phase of a project; reimbursement of administrative costs will be carefully scrutinized. There must be a plan to address any ongoing operation/maintenance considerations.

Two copies of a complete application should be submitted to the appropriate Appalachian Clean Streams Coordinator identified under ADDRESSES AND FURTHER INFORMATION. Awards are subject to the availability of funds. Applications will receive technical and financial management reviews.

The application deadline was June 1, 2000. However, because there are funds remaining, OSM is extending the application period. Applications will now be accepted through September 15, 2000, or until all available funds have been awarded.


Kathrine Henry,
Acting Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.

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