

analysis would be granted to operators on a site-specific project basis. The Study Area lies entirely within the exterior boundaries of the Southern Ute Indian Reservation and includes Indian mineral estate, a patchwork of Tribal and fee lands, and a small amount of State of Colorado parkland. The Indian mineral estate is held in trust by the United States of America for the benefit of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, and the federal government retains this trust responsibility due to historical factors. The DEIS is a cooperative effort by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, the BLM and the BIA.

Most of the Study Area is already substantially developed for both conventional gas production and coalbed methane (CBM) production. The Study Area also supports substantial agricultural and residential surface use, with lesser amounts of commercial and recreational land use.

The EPA and the BLM each published a Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register** on January 5, 2001. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) was mailed to the public in January, 2001. A public meeting for the DEIS was held, pursuant to 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1506.6, at 6 p.m. MDT, on Tuesday, February 27, 2001 at the Rolling Thunder Hall in Ignacio, Colorado. The purpose of the meeting was to solicit public comments on the DEIS. The 60-day comment period on the DEIS ended on March 20, 2001.

The FEIS analyzes three alternatives. Alternative 1 is the no-action alternative and represents the continuation of present management and of exploration and development at rates that are similar to recent drilling and development activity rates. A total of 210 wells would be developed, including both conventional and CBM wells.

Alternative 2 considers the drilling or recompletion of an optional second well, or infill well, on a majority of CBM spacing units located on Tribal trust lands within the Study Area. This would result in an effective CBM well density of four wells per section. The increased number of wells would allow accelerated production of the resource, increase recoveries of the gas in place, and increase economic returns to the Tribe. The status quo development described in Alternative 1 is included within Alternative 2, resulting in a total of 636 new wells that would be drilled under Alternative 2, including both conventional and CBM production wells.

Alternative 3 is the Agency and Tribal preferred alternative. This alternative includes all the developments included

within Alternative 2 plus the addition of Enhanced Coalbed Methane (ECBM) recovery techniques; *i.e.*, the injection of nitrogen, carbon dioxide, or other fluids into the Fruitland Formation. For the purpose of Alternative 3, ECBM was projected to occur on almost half the Tribal CBM spacing units within the exterior boundaries of the Reservation, resulting in 70 injection wells drilled or recompleted (one injection well per every two producing wells in the injection project areas) on Tribal trust lands. Some of the injection wells may be directionally drilled off existing pads to minimize impacts and costs. Additional production wells would not be required. A total of 706 wells would be developed under Alternative 3, including conventional wells, CBM production wells, and injection wells.

Eighteen letters were received during the comment period on the Draft EIS from February 6, 2001 to March 20, 2001, and five oral comments were recorded at the public meeting on February 27, 2001. The issues that were identified in the comment letters and at the meeting included the scope of the air quality, water quality, cultural resource, socioeconomic, transportation and cumulative impact analyses; the range and detail of the alternatives; the need for additional air and water quality monitoring; the lack of analysis for 80 acre gas well spacing; and the need for additional analysis of impacts from cavitation and flaring.

All comments received on the DEIS have been addressed appropriately in the FEIS, including revisions to the document as warranted. The FEIS is not a decision document. A Record of Decision will be prepared and made available to the public following the 30-day comment period on the FEIS.

Comments on the FEIS, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the San Juan Public Lands Center, 15 Burnett Court, Durango, Colorado, during regular business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives of officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Dated: June 10, 2002.

Mark Stiles,

Acting Center Manager, San Juan Public Lands Center, Colorado, Bureau of Land Management, USDI.

[FR Doc. 02-21684 Filed 8-29-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JB-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-050-5853-EU]

Notice of Realty Action: Competitive Sale of Public Lands in Clark County, NV

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: The following lands have been designated for disposal under Public Law 105-263, and the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 (112 Stat. 2343). They will be sold competitively in accordance with Section 203 and Section 209 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (90 Stat. 2750, 43 U.S.C. 1713 and 1719) at not less than the appraised fair market value (FMV).

Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada

T. 19 S., R. 60 E.,

Sec. 18, SW¹/₄NW¹/₄NE¹/₄,
NE¹/₄NW¹/₄NE¹/₄, W¹/₂SW¹/₄SW¹/₄NE¹/₄;

Sec. 19, W¹/₂NE¹/₄NW¹/₄SE¹/₄;

Sec. 32, SE¹/₄NE¹/₄NE¹/₄SW¹/₄,

NE¹/₄SE¹/₄NE¹/₄SW¹/₄,

SE¹/₄SE¹/₄NE¹/₄SW¹/₄,

SW¹/₄NW¹/₄NW¹/₄SE¹/₄,

NW¹/₄SW¹/₄NW¹/₄SE¹/₄.

T. 21 S., R. 60 E.,

Sec. 17, W¹/₂NE¹/₄NE¹/₄NE¹/₄;

Sec. 31, E¹/₂SW¹/₄SW¹/₄NE¹/₄.

T. 22 S., R. 60 E.,

Sec. 9, W¹/₂NE¹/₄NE¹/₄SE¹/₄;

Sec. 12, E¹/₂SW¹/₄SE¹/₄NE¹/₄,

SW¹/₄SE¹/₄SE¹/₄NE¹/₄;

Sec. 13, SW¹/₄SE¹/₄SW¹/₄NW¹/₄;

Sec. 15, W¹/₂NW¹/₄NW¹/₄NW¹/₄;

Sec. 18, SE¹/₄SW¹/₄SE¹/₄;

Sec. 21, NW¹/₄SE¹/₄SW¹/₄NW¹/₄,

NE¹/₄SE¹/₄SW¹/₄NW¹/₄,

NW¹/₄SW¹/₄SE¹/₄NW¹/₄,

NE¹/₄SW¹/₄SE¹/₄NW¹/₄;

Sec. 23, NW¹/₄SW¹/₄SE¹/₄NE¹/₄;

Sec. 24, SE¹/₄NW¹/₄NE¹/₄NE¹/₄,

NE¹/₄NE¹/₄SW¹/₄NE¹/₄,

SE¹/₄NE¹/₄SW¹/₄NE¹/₄,

NE¹/₄NW¹/₄SW¹/₄NE¹/₄,

NW¹/₄NW¹/₄SW¹/₄NE¹/₄,

SW¹/₄NW¹/₄SW¹/₄NE¹/₄,

NE¹/₄NW¹/₄SE¹/₄NE¹/₄,

S¹/₂NW¹/₄NE¹/₄NW¹/₄,

W¹/₂SW¹/₄NE¹/₄NW¹/₄,

SE¹/₄SW¹/₄NE¹/₄NW¹/₄,

SW¹/₄SE¹/₄NW¹/₄NW¹/₄,

E¹/₂SE¹/₄NW¹/₄NW¹/₄,

NE¹/₄NE¹/₄NE¹/₄SW¹/₄.

T. 22 S., R. 61 E.,

Sec. 14, E¹/₂SW¹/₄SW¹/₄SE¹/₄NE¹/₄,

W¹/₂SE¹/₄SW¹/₄SE¹/₄NE¹/₄,

4. All land parcels are subject to reservations for roads, public utilities and flood control purposes, both existing and proposed, in accordance with the local governing entities' Transportation Plans.

5. All purchasers/patentees, by accepting a patent, agree to indemnify, defend, and hold the United States harmless from any costs, damages, claims, causes of action, penalties, fines, liabilities, and judgements of any kind or nature arising from the past, present, and future acts or omissions of the patentee or their employees, agents, contractors, or lessees, or any third-party, arising out of or in connection with the patentee's use, occupancy, or operations on the patented real property. This indemnification and hold harmless agreement includes, but is not limited to, acts and omissions of the patentee and their employees, agents, contractors, or lessees, or any third party, arising out of or in connection with the use and/or occupancy of the patented real property which has already resulted or does hereafter result in: (1) Violations of federal, state, and local laws and regulations that are now or may in the future become, applicable to the real property; (2) Judgements, claims or demands of any kind assessed against the United States; (3) Costs, expenses, or damages of any kind incurred by the United States; (4) Other releases or threatened releases of solid or hazardous waste(s) and/or hazardous substances(s), as defined by federal or state environmental laws; off, on, into or under land, property and other interests of the United States; (5) Other activities by which solids or hazardous substances or wastes, as defined by federal and state environmental laws are generated, released, stored, used or otherwise disposed of on the patented real property, and any cleanup response, remedial action or other actions related in any manner to said solid or hazardous substances or wastes; or (6) Natural resource damages as defined by federal and state law. This covenant shall be construed as running with the patented real property and may be enforced by the United States in a court of competent jurisdiction.

Maps delineating the individual sale parcels will be available for public review at the BLM Las Vegas Field Office. Appraisals for each parcel will be available for public review at the Las Vegas Field Office on or about September 16, 2002.

Each parcel will be offered by sealed bid, and at oral auction. All sealed bids must be received at the BLM Las Vegas Field Office (LVFO), 4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89130, no

later than 4:15 p.m., PDT, November 13, 2002. Sealed bid envelopes must be marked on the lower front left corner with the parcel number and sale date. Bids must be for not less than the appraised FMV and a separate bid must be submitted for each parcel.

Each sealed bid shall be accompanied by a certified check, money order, bank draft, or cashier's check made payable to the Bureau of Land Management, for not less than 10 percent of the amount bid.

The highest qualified sealed bid for each parcel will become the starting bid for oral bidding. If no sealed bids are received, oral bidding will begin at the appraised FMV.

All parcels will be offered for competitive sale by oral auction beginning at 10 a.m., PDT, November 15, 2002, at the Clark County Commission Chambers, Clark County Government Center, 500 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada. Registration for oral bidding will begin at 8:30 a.m. the day of sale and will continue throughout the auction. All oral bidders are required to register.

The highest qualifying bid for any parcel, whether sealed or oral, will be declared the high bid. The apparent high bidder, if an oral bidder, must submit the required bid deposit immediately following the close of the sale in the form of cash, personal check, bank draft, cashier's check, money order or any combination thereof, made payable to the Bureau of Land Management, for not less than 20 percent of the amount bid.

The remainder of the full bid price, whether sealed or oral, must be paid within 180 calendar days of the sale date. Failure to pay the full price within the 180 days will disqualify the apparent high bidder and cause the entire bid deposit to be forfeited to the BLM. Unsold parcels may be offered on the Internet. Internet auction procedures will be available at www.auctionrnp.com. If unsold on the Internet, parcels may be offered at future auctions without additional legal notice. Upon publication of this notice and until the completion of the sale, the BLM is no longer accepting land use applications affecting any parcel being offered for sale, including parcels being offered for sale that have been published in a previous Notice of Realty Action. However, land use applications may be considered after the completion of the sale within parcels that are not sold through sealed, oral, or on-line Internet auction procedures.

Federal law requires bidders to be U.S. citizens 18 years of age or older; a corporation subject to the laws of any State or of the United States; a State,

State instrumentality, or political subdivision authorized to hold property; or an entity including, but not limited to, associations or partnerships capable of holding property or interests therein under the law of the State of Nevada. Certification of qualification, including citizenship or corporation or partnership, must accompany the bid deposit.

In order to determine the fair market value of the subject public lands through appraisal, certain assumptions have been made of the attributes and limitations of the lands and potential effects of local regulations and policies on potential future land uses. Through publication of this notice, the Bureau of Land Management gives notice that these assumptions may not be endorsed or approved by units of local government. Furthermore, no warranty of any kind shall be given or implied by the United States as to the potential uses of the lands offered for sale, and conveyance of the subject lands will not be on a contingency basis. It is the buyers' responsibility to be aware of all applicable local government policies and regulations that would affect the subject lands. It is also the buyers' responsibility to be aware of existing or projected use of nearby properties. When conveyed out of federal ownership, the lands will be subject to any applicable reviews and approvals by the respective unit of local government for proposed future uses, and any such reviews and approvals would be the responsibility of the buyer. Any land lacking access from a public road or highway will be conveyed as such, and future access acquisition will be the responsibility of the buyer.

Detailed information concerning the sale, including the reservations, sale procedures and conditions, planning and environmental documents is available for review at the Bureau of Land Management, Las Vegas Field Office, 4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89130, or by calling (702) 515-5114. Much of this information will also be available on the Internet at <http://propertydisposal.gsa.gov>. Click on NV for Nevada.

For a period of 45 days from the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, the general public and interested parties may submit comments to the Field Manager, Las Vegas Field Office, 4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89130. Any adverse comments will be reviewed by the State Director, who may sustain, vacate, or modify this realty action in whole or in part. In the absence of any adverse comments, this realty action will become the final determination of the

Department of Interior. The Bureau of Land Management may accept or reject any or all offers, or withdraw any land or interest in the land from sale, if, in the opinion of the authorized officer, consummation of the sale would not be fully consistent with FLPMA or other applicable laws or is determined to not be in the public interest. Any comments received during this process, as well as the commentator's name and address, will be available to the public in the administrative record and/or pursuant to a Freedom of Information Act request. You may indicate for the record that you do not wish your name and/or address be made available to the public. Any determination by the Bureau of Land Management to release or withhold the names and/or addresses of those who comment will be made on a case-by-case basis. A commentator's request to have their name and/or address withheld from public release will be honored to the extent permissible by law.

Lands will not be offered for sale until at least 60 days after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: August 12, 2002.

Angie Lara,

Assistant Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 02-22290 Filed 8-27-02; 4:06 pm]

BILLING CODE 4310-HC-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-050-5853-EU]

Notice of Realty Action: Direct Sale of Public Lands

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Direct sale of public lands in Clark County, Nevada.

SUMMARY: The following lands have been examined and found suitable for direct sale utilizing non-competitive procedures, at not less than the appraised fair market value. The lands have been designated for disposal and are being sold under the authority of Public Law 105-263, the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 (SNPLMA) (112 Stat. 2343) and Sections 203 and 209 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) (90 Stat. 2750, 43 U.S.C. 1713 and 1719).

Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada

T. 19 S., R. 61 E.,

Sec. 17, Lot 17;

Sec. 20, Lots 18 and 20.

The lands consist of 35.63 acres, more or less, located in Clark County, Nevada. These parcels of land, situated in North Las Vegas are being offered as a direct sale to North Valley Enterprises, LLC. This land is not required for any federal purposes. The sale is consistent with current Bureau planning for this area and would be in the public interest.

Conveyance of the available mineral interests will occur simultaneously with the sale of the land. The mineral interests being offered for conveyance have no known mineral value. Acceptance of a direct sale offer will constitute an application for conveyance of those mineral interests. The applicant will be required to pay a \$50.00 non-returnable filing fee for each parcel for conveyance of the available mineral interests. The patent, when issued, will contain the following reservations to the United States:

1. A right-of-way is reserved for ditches and canals constructed by the authority of the United States, Act of August 30, 1890 (43 U.S.C. 945).

2. All leaseable and saleable mineral deposits are reserved on land sold; permittees, licensees, and lessees retain the right to prospect for, mine, and remove the minerals owned by the United States under applicable law and any regulations that the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe, including all necessary access and exit rights.

3. Both parcels are subject to all valid existing rights.

4. Both parcels are subject to reservations for roads, public utilities and flood control purposes, both existing and proposed, in accordance with the local governing entities' Transportation Plans.

5. All purchasers/patentees, by accepting a patent, agree to indemnify, defend, and hold the United States harmless from any costs, damages, claims, causes of action, penalties, fines, liabilities, and judgments of any kind or nature arising from the past, present, and future acts or omissions of the patentee or their employees, agents, contractors, or lessees, or any third-party, arising out of or in connection with the use and/or occupancy of the patented real property which has already resulted or does hereafter result in: (1) Violations of federal, state, and local laws and regulations that are now or may in the future become, applicable to the real property; (2) Judgments, claims or demands of any kind assessed against the United States; (3) Costs, expenses, or damages of any kind incurred by the United States; (4) Other releases or threatened releases of solid or hazardous or hazardous waste(s) and/or hazardous substance(s), as defined by

federal or state environmental laws; off, on, into or under land, property and other interests of the United States; (5) Other activities by which solids or hazardous substances or wastes, as defined by federal and state environmental laws are generated, released, stored, used or otherwise disposed of on the patented real property, and any cleanup response, remedial action or other actions related in any manner to said solid or hazardous substances or wastes; or (6) Natural resource damages as defined by federal and state law. This covenant shall be construed as running with the patented real property and may be enforced by the United States in a court of competent jurisdiction.

Maps delineating the individual parcels will be available for public review at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Las Vegas Field Office. Appraisals for each parcel will be available for review when received at the same office. Upon publication of this notice and until completion of this sale, the BLM is no longer accepting land use applications affecting either of these parcels.

In order to determine the fair market value of the subject public lands through appraisal, certain assumptions have been made of the attributes and limitations of the lands and potential effects of local regulations and policies on potential future land uses. Through publication of this notice, the BLM gives notice that these assumptions may not be endorsed or approved by units of local government. Furthermore, no warranty of any kind shall be given or implied by the United States as to the potential uses of the lands offered for sale, and conveyance of the subject lands will not be on a contingency basis. It is the buyer's responsibility to be aware of all applicable local government policies and regulations that would affect the subject lands. It is also the buyer's responsibility to be aware of existing or projected use of nearby properties. When conveyed out of federal ownership, the lands will be subject to any applicable reviews and approvals by the respective unit of local government for proposed future uses, and any such reviews and approvals would be the responsibility of the buyer. Any land lacking access from a public road or highway will be conveyed as such, and future access acquisition will be the responsibility of the buyer.

Detailed information concerning this sale, including the reservations, sale procedures and conditions, planning and environmental documents is available for review at the Bureau of Land Management, Las Vegas Field