

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Land Management****[WO-350-1430-EU-24 1A]****Extension of Approved Information Collection, OMB Approval Number 1004-0153****AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is requesting the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to extend an existing approval to collect information from persons who seek to acquire the Federally-owned (reserved) mineral interests underlying their surface estate. BLM collects this information to verify that the applicant is the surface owner that overlies the Federally-owned minerals and that statutory requirements for their conveyance are met. The regulations under 43 CFR Part 2720 authorize BLM to collect information (no specific form is required) to convey Federally-owned mineral interests to surface owners if certain conditions are met.

**DATES:** You must submit your comments to BLM at the address below on or before August 9, 2004. BLM will not necessarily consider any comments received after the above date.

**ADDRESSES:** You may mail comments to: Bureau of Land Management, (WO-630), Eastern States Office, 7450 Boston Blvd., Springfield, Virginia 22153.

You may send comments via Internet to: [WOCComment@blm.gov](mailto:WOCComment@blm.gov). Please include "ATTN: 1004-0153" and your name and return address in your Internet message.

You may deliver comments to the Bureau of Land Management, Administrative Record, Room 401, 1620 L Street, NW., Washington, DC.

Comments will be available for public review at the L Street address during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.) Monday through Friday.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** You may contact Alzata L. Ransom, Realty Use Group, on (202) 452-7772 (Commercial or FTS). Persons who use a telecommunication device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) on 1-800-877-8330, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to contact Ms. Ransom.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** 5 CFR 1320.12(a) requires that we provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register**

concerning a collection of information to solicit comments on:

(a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper functioning of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(b) The accuracy of our estimates of the information collection burden, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions we use;

(c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and

(d) Ways to minimize the information collection burden on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Section 209 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and implementing regulations at 43 CFR 2720 establish procedures for BLM to convey Federally-owned (reserved) mineral interests to non-Federal surface ownership. The regulations authorize BLM to collect this information (no specific form is required) to determine if BLM may convey the Federally-owned mineral interests to surface owners who apply and meet the statutory requirements. We list in 43 CFR 2720.1-2 the specific information requirements you must submit when applying for a conveyance of Federally-owned mineral interests. Without this information, BLM would not be able to analyze and approve applications to convey Federally-owned mineral interests.

Based upon BLM experience administering the regulations, we estimate the public reporting information collection burden to be 10 hours per application. The respondents are surface owners in which the mineral interests are reserved or owned by the United States. The estimated number of responses per year is 30 and the total annual burden is 300 hours.

BLM will summarize all responses to this notice and include them in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: June 4, 2004.

**Michael H. Schwartz,**

*Bureau of Land Management, Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 4310-84-M**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Land Management****[AK-930-1310-DP-NEAM]****Proposed Amendment to the Integrated Activity Plan for the Northeast National Petroleum Reserve—Alaska****AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.**ACTION:** Notice of availability and announcement of public subsistence-related hearing schedule.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management announces the availability of the Draft Amendment to the Northeast National Petroleum Reserve—Alaska (NPR-A) Integrated Activity Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (IAP/EIS). The planning area is roughly bounded by the Beaufort Sea to the North, the Ikpikpuk River to the west and the Colville River to the east and south of the planning area (Map 1-3). In November 2000, Congress passed and the President signed the Energy Policy and Conservation Act Amendments of 2000 (EPCA), which directed the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretaries of Energy and Agriculture, to conduct an inventory of oil and natural gas resources beneath federal lands and to identify the extent and nature of any restrictions or impediments to the development of these resources. In 2002, the President's National Energy Policy Development Group recommended that the President direct the Secretary of the Interior to consider additional environmentally responsible oil and gas development, based on sound science and the best available technology, through further lease sales in the National Petroleum Reserve—Alaska and that such consideration should include areas not currently leased within the northeast corner of the National Petroleum Reserve—Alaska.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be sent to: NPR-A Planning Team, Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office (931), 222 West 7th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599. Comments can also be submitted at the project Web site <http://nenpra.ensr.com>. 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. BLM will not consider anonymous comments. All submissions from