

Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, (970) 897-2730 ext. 224; pete_gober@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 19, 2012, we published a **Federal Register** notice (77 FR 75185) announcing the availability of the draft Agreement and EA for public review for 30 days, pursuant to the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). We are providing the public more time to review these documents by reopening the public comment period for another 30 days in response to requests from the American Farm Bureau Federation, U.S. Senators Max Baucus and Jon Tester from Montana, U.S. Senators Pat Roberts and Jerry Moran from Kansas, and Congressman Tim Huelskamp from Kansas. We agree with the requesters that the additional time is needed to review the documents due to the scope and complexity of the Agreement and because the holidays occurred during the first comment period.

For background and more information on the draft Agreement and EA, see our December 19, 2012, notice (77 FR 75185). For information on where to view the documents and how to submit comments, please see the **ADDRESSES** section above.

Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Authority

We provide this notice under section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 17.22) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

Dated: January 15, 2013.

Michael Thabault,

Acting Regional Director—Ecological Services, Mountain-Prairie Region, Denver, Colorado.

[FR Doc. 2013-01292 Filed 1-22-13; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Renewal of Agency Information Collection for Energy Resource Development Program Grants

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs is seeking comments on the renewal of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the collection of information for grants under the Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development Office's Energy and Mineral Development Program authorized by OMB Control Number 1076-0174. This information collection expires April 30, 2013.

DATES: Submit comments on or before March 25, 2013.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on the information collection to Catherine Freels, U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development, 800 S. Gay Street, Suite 800, Knoxville, Tennessee 37929; email: Catherine.Freels@bia.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Catherine Freels, (865) 545-4315, extension 23.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Energy Policy Act of 2005, 25 U.S.C. 3503 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to provide grants to Indian tribes as defined in 25 U.S.C. 3501(4)(A) and (B).

The Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development (IEED) administers and manages the energy resource development grant program under the Energy and Minerals Development Program (EMDP). Congress may appropriate funds to EMDP on a year-to-year basis. When funding is available, IEED may solicit proposals for energy resource development projects from Indian tribes for use on Indian lands as defined in 25 U.S.C. 3501. The projects may be in the areas of exploration, assessment, development, feasibility, or market studies. Indian tribes that would like to apply for an EMDP grant must submit an application that includes certain information, and must assist IEED by providing information in support of any National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analyses.

II. Request for Comments

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) requests your comments on this collection concerning: (a) The necessity of this information collection for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) The accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (hours and cost) of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Ways we could enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Ways we could minimize the burden of the collection of the information on the respondents.

Please note that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and an individual need not respond to, a collection of information unless it has a valid OMB Control Number.

It is our policy to make all comments available to the public for review at the location listed in the **ADDRESSES** section. Before including your address, phone number, email address or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 1076-0174.

Title: Energy and Mineral Development Program Grant Solicitation.

Brief Description of Collection: Indian tribes that would like to apply for an EMDP grant must submit an application that includes certain information. A complete application must contain a current, signed tribal resolution that provides sufficient information to authorize the project and comply with the terms of the grant; a proposal describing the planned activities and deliverable products; and a detailed budget estimate. The IEED requires this information to ensure that it provides funding only to those projects that meet the goals of the EMDP and purposes for which Congress provides the appropriation. Upon acceptance of an application, a tribe must then submit one—to two—page quarterly progress reports summarizing events, accomplishments, problems and/or results in executing the project. Response is required to obtain a benefit.

Type of Review: Extension without change of currently approved collection.

Respondents: Federally recognized Indian tribes with Indian land.

Number of Respondents: 55 applicants per year; 18 project participants each year.

Frequency of Response: Once per year for applications; 4 times per year for progress reports.

Estimated Time per Response: 40 hours per application; 1.5 hours per progress report.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 2,308 hours (2,200 for applications and 108 for progress reports).

Dated: January 15, 2013.

John Ashley,

Acting Assistant Director for Information Resources.

[FR Doc. 2013-01252 Filed 1-22-13; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Notice of Deadline for Submitting Completed Applications To Begin Participation in the Tribal Self-Governance Program in Fiscal Year 2014 or Calendar Year 2014

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of application deadline.

SUMMARY: In this notice, the Office of Self-Governance (OSG) establishes a March 1, 2013, deadline for Indian tribes/consortia to submit completed applications to begin participation in the tribal self-governance program in fiscal year 2014 or calendar year 2014.

DATES: Completed application packages must be received by the Director, Office of Self-Governance, by March 1, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Application packages for inclusion in the applicant pool should be sent to Sharee M. Freeman, Director, Office of Self-Governance, Department of the Interior, Mail Stop 355-G-SIB, 1951 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Kenneth D. Reinfeld, Office of Self-Governance, Telephone 202-208-5734.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Under the Tribal Self-Governance Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-413), as amended by the Fiscal Year 1997 Omnibus Appropriations Bill (Pub. L. 104-208), the Director, Office of Self-Governance may select up to 50 additional participating tribes/consortia per year for the tribal self-governance program, and negotiate and enter into a written funding agreement with each participating tribe. The Act mandates

that the Secretary submit copies of the funding agreements at least 90 days before the proposed effective date to the appropriate committees of the Congress and to each tribe that is served by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) agency that is serving the tribe that is a party to the funding agreement. Initial negotiations with a tribe/consortium located in a region and/or agency which has not previously been involved with self-governance negotiations, will take approximately 2 months from start to finish. Agreements for an October 1 to September 30 funding year need to be signed and submitted by July 1. Agreements for a January 1 to December 31 funding year need to be signed and submitted by October 1.

Purpose of Notice

The regulations at 25 CFR sections 1000.10 to 1000.31 will be used to govern the application and selection process for tribes/consortia to begin their participation in the tribal self-governance program in fiscal year 2014 and calendar year 2014. Applicants should be guided by the requirements in these subparts in preparing their applications. Copies of these subparts may be obtained from the information contact person identified in this notice.

Tribes/consortia wishing to be considered for participation in the tribal self-governance program in fiscal year 2014 or calendar year 2014 must respond to this notice, except for those tribes/consortia which are: (1) Currently involved in negotiations with the Department; or (2) one of the 107 tribal entities with signed agreements.

Information Collection

This information collection is authorized by OMB Control Number 1076-0143, Tribal Self-Governance Program.

Dated: January 14, 2013.

Kevin K. Washburn,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2013-01251 Filed 1-22-13; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLCA9300000; L14300000; EU0000; CACA 053961]

Notice of Intent To Amend the California Desert Conservation Area Plan and Prepare an Associated Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended (FLPMA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Needles Field Office, Needles, California intends to prepare an amendment to the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan with an associated Environmental Assessment (EA) to analyze the sale of approximately 133 acres of public land and by this notice is announcing the beginning of the scoping process to solicit public comments and identify issues.

DATES: This notice initiates the public scoping process for the CDCA Plan amendment with associated EA. Comments on issues may be submitted in writing until February 22, 2013. The BLM does not plan to hold any scoping meetings for this plan amendment. In order to be included in the analysis, all comments must be received prior to the close of the 30-day scoping period. We will provide additional opportunities for public participation as appropriate.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on issues and planning criteria related to the CDCA Plan amendment and associated EA by any of the following methods:

- *Email:* gmeckfessel@blm.gov.
- *Fax:* 760-326-7099.
- *Mail:* Raymond Lee, BLM Needles Field Manager, 1303 S. Highway 95, Needles, CA 92363.

Documents pertinent to this proposal may be examined at the Needles Field Office, 1303 S. U.S. Highway 95, Needles, CA 92363.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George R. Meckfessel, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, BLM Needles Field Office, telephone 760-326-7008; address 1303 S. U.S. Highway 95, Needles, CA 92363; email gmeckfessel@blm.gov. You may also request to have your name added to our mailing list. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The BLM is providing notice that the BLM Needles Field Office, Needles, California intends to prepare an amendment to the 1980 CDCA Plan with