

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Indian Affairs**

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AOA501010.999900253G]

**Indian Gaming; Tribal-State Class III Gaming Compact Taking Effect in the State of Connecticut**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The notice announces that the Tribal-State Class III Gaming Compact Amendment entered into between the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut and the State of Connecticut is taking effect.

**DATES:** This compact takes effect on June 1, 2018.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Paula L. Hart, Director, Office of Indian Gaming, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary—Policy and Economic Development, Washington, DC 20240, (202) 219-4066.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under section 11 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) Public Law 100-497, 25 U.S.C. 2701 *et seq.*, the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) shall publish in the **Federal Register** notice of approved Tribal-State compacts for the purpose of engaging in Class III gaming activities on Indian lands. The Secretary took no action on the Amendment to the compact between the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut and the State of Connecticut within 45 days of its submission. Therefore, the Amendment is considered to have been approved, but only to the extent the Amendment is consistent with IGRA. *See* 25 U.S.C. 2710(d)(8)(C).

Dated: May 25, 2018.

**John Tahsuda,**

*Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, Exercising the Authority of the Acting Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Land Management**

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**Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and a Notice of Segregation for the Proposed Yellow Pine Solar Project, Clark County, NV**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** As requested by Yellow Pine Solar, LLC, and in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), the BLM Las Vegas Field Office will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a proposed solar project located approximately 10 miles southeast of Pahrump, Nevada, and approximately 32 miles west of Las Vegas, Nevada. Publication of this Notice initiates the scoping process and opens a 90-day public comment period. Publication of this Notice also serves to segregate the public lands from appropriation under the public land laws, including location and entry under the Mining Law, but not disposal under the Mineral Leasing Act or the Materials Act, subject to valid existing rights. This Notice initiates the public scoping process and the segregation.

**DATES:** Comments on issues may be submitted in writing until August 30, 2018. The date(s) and location(s) of any scoping meetings will be announced at least 15 days in advance through local news media and the BLM website at: <https://goo.gl/gNbjnz>. Comments must be received prior to the close of the scoping period or 15 days after the last public meeting, whichever is later, to be included in the Draft EIS. The BLM will provide additional opportunities for public participation upon publication of the Draft EIS.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments related to the project by any of the following methods:

- *Email:* [blm\\_nv\\_snd0\\_yellowpine@blm.gov](mailto:blm_nv_snd0_yellowpine@blm.gov)
- *Fax:* (702) 515-5073, attention Nicollee Gaddis
- *Mail:* BLM, Las Vegas Field Office, Attn: Nicollee Gaddis, 4701 North Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89130-2301

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information and/or to have your name added to the mailing list, send requests to: Nicollee Gaddis, Renewable

Energy Project Manager, at telephone (702) 515-5136; or address 4701 North Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89130-2301; or email [blm\\_nv\\_snd0\\_yellowpine@blm.gov](mailto:blm_nv_snd0_yellowpine@blm.gov). Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FRS 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:** In 2016, Yellow Pine Solar, LLC requested an amended right-of-way (ROW) authorization for the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of a 250-megawatt (MW) photovoltaic (PV) power plant that would provide renewable energy to Nevada's electrical transmission grid. In 2011, the original ROW application was filed by Boulevard Associates, LLC, a subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources, LLC, and the project is thus not subject to the decisions adopted by the 2012 Western Solar Plan, the BLM's Record of Decision (ROD) for Solar Energy Development in Six Southwestern States (BLM 2012).

The proposed project includes 9,290 acres of lands managed by the BLM. The project is located in Clark County at the intersection of Nevada State Route 160 and Tecopa Road, approximately 10 miles southeast of Pahrump, Nevada and approximately 32 miles west of Las Vegas.

The purpose of the public scoping process is to determine relevant issues that will influence the scope of the environmental analysis, including alternatives, and guide the process for developing the EIS. At present, the BLM has identified the following preliminary issues: Threatened and endangered species, cultural resources, visual resources, surface water, recreation, socioeconomic effects, and cumulative impacts. The congressionally designated Old Spanish National Historic Trail crosses the area. Habitat for the federally listed desert tortoise is in this proposal area.

The BLM will consult with Native American tribes on a government-to-government basis in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, Executive Order 13175, and other policies. Tribal concerns will be given due consideration, including any impacts on Indian Trust assets. Federal, State, and local agencies, along with other stakeholders that may be interested or affected by the BLM's decision on this project, are invited to participate in the