

SUMMARY: As provided for under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received a petition for reinstatement of competitive oil and gas lease WYW-178369 from WPX Energy RM Company for land in Sweetwater County, Wyoming. The lessee filed the petition on time, along with all rentals due since the lease terminated under the law. No leases affecting this land were issued before the petition was filed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Christopher Hite, Branch Chief for Fluid Minerals Adjudication, Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming State Office, 5353 Yellowstone Road, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009; phone 307-775-6176; email chite@blm.gov. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact Christopher Hite during normal business hours. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. A reply will be sent during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Termination of a lease is automatic and statutorily imposed by Congress when rental fees are not paid in a timely manner. Lease reinstatement terms are also set by Congress. Oil and gas lease WYW-178369 in Sweetwater County, Wyoming, was terminated by operation of law effective December 1, 2016, for failure to pay rental timely. The lessee of record petitioned for reinstatement of the lease and met all filing requirements for a Class II reinstatement.

The lessee agreed to the amended lease terms for rentals of \$10 per acre, or fraction thereof, per year and royalty rates of 16⅓ percent. The lessee paid the required \$500 administrative fee and the \$159 cost of publishing this notice. The lessee meets the requirements for reinstatement of the leases per Sec. 31(d) and (e) of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. 188). Reinstatement of these leases conforms to the terms and conditions of all applicable land use plans, including the 2015 Approved Resource Management Plan Amendments for the Rocky Mountain Region, and other applicable National Environmental Policy Act documents.

The BLM proposes to reinstate the lease effective December 1, 2016, under the amended terms and conditions of the lease and the increased rental and royalty rates cited above. The lease will be reinstated 30 days after publication of this proposed reinstatement notice in the **Federal Register**.

(Authority: 30 U.S.C. 188(e)(4) and 43 CFR 3108.2-3(b)(2)(v))

Christopher Hite,

Chief, Branch of Fluid Minerals Adjudication.

[FR Doc. 2020-19758 Filed 9-4-20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[F-19525-A; F-19525-C; F-19525-A2; F-19525-B2;
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Alaska Native Claims Selection

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of decision approving lands for conveyance.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) hereby provides constructive notice that it will issue an appealable decision approving conveyance of the surface estate in certain lands to Council Native Corporation, for the Native village of Council, pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 (ANCSA). As provided by ANCSA, the BLM will convey the subsurface estate in the same lands to Bering Straits Native Corporation when the BLM conveys the surface estate to Council Native Corporation.

DATES: Any party claiming a property interest in the lands affected by the decision may appeal the decision in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR part 4 within the time limits set out in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section.

ADDRESSES: You may obtain a copy of the decision from the Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office, 222 West Seventh Avenue, #13, Anchorage, AK 99513-7504.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Eileen Ford, BLM Alaska State Office, 907-271-5715, or eford@blm.gov. The BLM Alaska State Office may also be contacted via Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) through the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339. The relay service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the BLM. The BLM will reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As required by 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that the BLM will issue an appealable decision to Council Native Corporation. The decision approves conveyance of the surface estate in certain lands pursuant to ANCSA (43

U.S.C. 1601, *et seq.*). As provided by ANCSA, the subsurface estate in the same lands will be conveyed to Bering Straits Native Corporation when the surface estate is conveyed to Council Native Corporation. The lands are located in the vicinity of Council, Alaska, and are described as:

Lot 1, U.S. Survey No. 9993, Alaska.
Containing 129.97 acres.

Kateel River Meridian, Alaska

T. 6 S., R. 24 W.,
Sec. 33.
Containing 640 acres.
T. 7 S., R. 24 W.,
Secs. 4, 22, 23, and 24.
Containing 2,559.68 acres.
T. 6 S., R. 25 W.,
Sec. 22;
Tracts D, E, and P;
Tracts Q, R, S, and T;
Tracts X, Y, Z, and B1.
Containing 4,628.70 acres.
Aggregating 7,958.35 acres.

The decision addresses public access easements, if any, to be reserved to the United States pursuant to Sec. 17(b) of ANCSA (43 U.S.C. 1616(b)), in the lands described above.

The BLM will also publish notice of the decision once a week for four consecutive weeks in the "Nome Nugget" newspaper.

Any party claiming a property interest in the lands affected by the decision may appeal the decision in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR part 4 within the following time limits:

1. Unknown parties, parties unable to be located after reasonable efforts have been expended to locate, parties who fail or refuse to sign their return receipt, and parties who receive a copy of the decision by regular mail which is not certified, return receipt requested, shall have until October 8, 2020 to file an appeal.

2. Parties receiving service of the decision by certified mail shall have 30 days from the date of receipt to file an appeal.

Parties who do not file an appeal in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR part 4 shall be deemed to have waived their rights. Notices of appeal transmitted by facsimile will not be accepted as timely filed.

Eileen Ford,

*Land Transfer Resolution Specialist,
Adjudication Section.*

[FR Doc. 2020-19781 Filed 9-4-20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JA-P