

eligibility for certain programs and services. CDIBs do not establish membership in an Indian tribe. A CDIB is not an enrollment document. The collection of this information is voluntary. Response is required to obtain or retain a benefit.

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

*Respondents:* Individuals.

*Number of Respondents:* 154,980 per year, on average.

*Number of Responses:* 154,980 per year, on average.

*Frequency of Response:* Once.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 1.5 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden:* 232,470 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Non-Hour Dollar Cost:* \$6,199,200.

Dated: October 10, 2014.

**Phillip L. Brinkley,**

Senior Advisor for Information Resources—  
Indian Affairs (Interim).

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BILLING CODE 4310-4J-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[LLNV920000 L13300000 EP0000; MO  
4500067809]

#### Call for Expressions of Competitive Interest; Possible Sale of Federal Minerals, Esmeralda County, NV

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Nevada State Office is seeking expressions of interest for a possible competitive mineral materials sale of three stockpiles containing potassium and sodium salts, constructed by the layering of salt mechanically scraped from the evaporative ponds belonging to Rockwood Lithium (Rockwood), formerly doing business as Chemetall Foote Corporation/Cyprus Foote Mineral Company. The stockpiles are a byproduct of lithium carbonate processing of Rockwood's lithium brine operations and are stockpiled on approximately 340 acres of private land owned by Rockwood Lithium in Clayton Valley, Esmeralda County, Nevada at Silver Peak.

**DATES:** Parties interested in participating in a competitive sale for the materials described in this notice should notify BLM at the address below by December 19, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** Submissions expressing interest in participating in a competitive sale for the Federal Mineral Salt Stockpiles should be sent to the Bureau of Land Management, Nevada State Office, Attention: Gary Johnson, Deputy State Director, Minerals Management, 1340 Financial Blvd., Reno, NV 89502.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** T. Scott Murrellwright, by telephone at 775-881-6581; or by email at [tmurrell@blm.gov](mailto:tmurrell@blm.gov). Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-775-861-6511 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 3 stockpiles are located approximately 50 miles southwest of Tonopah, Nevada. The nearest major roads accessing the Rockwood operations area are U.S. 95 S. and Silver Peak Road. The stockpiles are located on the north and south side of Silver Peak Road approximately 2 miles west of Silver Peak. The subject stockpiles are located on Rockwood private lands and a portion of BLM lands described approximately as:

#### Mount Diablo Meridian

##### 45 Pond Pile Located on Rockwood Private Lands & BLM Land

T. 2 S., R. 39 E.,  
Sec. 13, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ .  
Sec. 13, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$  (BLM land)

##### 10 Pond Pile Located on Rockwood Private Lands

T. 2 S., R. 40 E.,  
Sec. 18, lots 10, 11 and 12, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Sec. 19, lots 5 and 8, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ .

##### R3 Pond Pile Located on Rockwood Private Lands

T. 2 S., R. 39 E.,  
Sec. 24, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ .  
T. 2 S., R. 40 E.,  
Sec. 18, lot 12;  
Sec. 19, lots 5 and 6.

The combined volume of the 3 stockpiles is approximately 5,500,000 metric tons.

Map Location Link: [https://maps.google.com/maps?q=silver+peak+nevada&ie=UTF-8&hq=&hnear=0x80be998255daf4bb:0xf5564b360df52de,Silver+Peak,+NV+89047&gl=us&ei=DOqNU6q\\_HMylogTC7YDgCA&sqi=2&ved=0CI8BEPIBMA4](https://maps.google.com/maps?q=silver+peak+nevada&ie=UTF-8&hq=&hnear=0x80be998255daf4bb:0xf5564b360df52de,Silver+Peak,+NV+89047&gl=us&ei=DOqNU6q_HMylogTC7YDgCA&sqi=2&ved=0CI8BEPIBMA4).

Map Stockpiles Link: [http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/minerals/saleable\\_minerals.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/minerals/saleable_minerals.html).

The material in these stockpiles is composed of semi-crystalline

heterogeneous salt, composed of approximately 70 percent Sodium Chloride (NaCl) and 19 percent Potassium Chloride (KCl). The NaCl and KCl may be marketable, but in its present form, the salt(s) cannot be used. The salts must first be processed to a higher percentage of sodium and/or potassium in order to be marketable.

The stockpiles also contain lithium (Li) at approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  percent of the total volume. The lithium in the stockpiles is the property of Rockwood (see 1991 Settlement Agreement below).

Rockwood or its predecessor-in-interest has been operating a lithium brine solution mining operation on lands in Clayton Valley, Esmeralda County, Nevada near the town of Silver Peak since the 1970's, first on Federal public domain lands, and then on private lands after the Federal lands were patented to Rockwood's predecessor, Chemetall Foote Corporation, subject to a reservation of Mineral Leasing Act minerals within the patented lands. The lithium solution mine pumps lithium-containing brine from ancient aquifers into large solar evaporative ponds for the purpose of precipitating and concentrating salts before they are processed into lithium carbonate for use in lithium ion batteries and other industrial applications. As part of this process, Rockwood has created stockpiles over the years when harvesting lithium that contain lithium, potassium and sodium salts. These salts are being stockpiled on Rockwood's patented land within the operational boundary of the solution mine.

A 1991 Settlement Agreement to resolve litigation between the United States and Rockwood's predecessor allows for shared rights to the minerals in these stockpiles. The settlement agreement provides that Rockwood maintains first rights to any remaining lithium in the salt stockpiles. It further provides that the United States maintains the rights to the potassium and sodium in the stockpiles, but may not dispose of those minerals until the stockpiles no longer contain lithium in economic quantities. A copy of the June 1991 Settlement Agreement between the Cyprus Foote Mineral Company and the United States of America/Department of Justice can be accessed at, [http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/minerals/saleable\\_minerals.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/minerals/saleable_minerals.html).

The settlement agreement provides that special terms would need to be negotiated with Rockwood before any third party could gain access to the stockpiles. Any negotiated access agreement would need to ensure that the activities of such third party would

have no adverse effect on Rockwood's current or reasonably anticipated operations and would need to resolve the issue of Rockwood's ownership of any economic quantities of lithium remaining in the stockpiles. We encourage potentially interested parties to carefully review the terms of the settlement agreement before initiating a notice of interest to the BLM.

If the BLM determines there is competitive interest in the stockpiles, and that a competitive sale is warranted, Rockwood would first need to waive a provision in the settlement agreement that currently prevents BLM from disposing of the potassium and sodium salts in the stockpiles so long as the stockpiles contain marketable lithium. Subsequently, the BLM and Rockwood would need to agree on stipulations to ensure that Rockwood's operations would not be adversely impacted by a third party sale. The BLM would include notice of these stipulations in any sale notice for these materials. In addition, these stipulations would be attached to any contract with a third party.

Parties expressing interest in participating in a competitive sale of the stockpiles must be authorized to transact business in Nevada. Interested parties should submit a letter of interest to the addressee in the **ADDRESSES** section.

The BLM will review submissions from interested parties in response to this notice seeking expressions of competitive interest and determine whether competitive interest exists in the Federal Mineral Salt Stockpiles described above. If the BLM determines sufficient competitive interest exists, and issues related to the settlement agreement are resolved, the BLM may use a competitive-bidding process, consistent with the regulations, to conduct the competitive sale.

This notice is a request for expressions of interest only. Even if competitive interest is expressed, it is possible that no competitive sale will take place due to the need for a waiver and for negotiated stipulations, discussed above.

If a competitive sale takes place, it will be conducted in accordance with the Materials Act of 1947 (30 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) and the regulations at 43 CFR part 3600, in accordance with the nature of the stockpiled materials, which were removed from the ground and stockpiled on the surface for future use.

**Authority:** 43 CFR 3602.40.

**Marci L. Todd,**

*Associate State Director.*

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**BILLING CODE 4310-HC-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

**[LLES 930 000 L13200000.EL0000; WVES 50556, WVES 50560]**

#### Notice of Competitive Coal Lease Sale, WVES 50556 and WVES 50560, Wayne County, WV

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that certain coal resources in Wayne County, West Virginia, known as East Lynn Lake (ELL) Argus (WVES 50556) and ELL Rockspring (WVES 50560) described below will be offered for competitive lease by sealed bid in accordance with the provisions of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended.

**DATES:** The lease sale will be held at 1 p.m. on December 4, 2014. Sealed bids must be received on or before 10 a.m. on December 4, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** The lease sale will be held at the Bureau of Land Management office, 20 M Street SE., Washington, DC 20003, 2nd floor Conference Room. Sealed bids must be mailed or delivered to: BLM Eastern States Office, 20 M Street SE., Washington, DC 20003 Attn: Davida Carnahan, WS 9204. Each bid should be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope that it is a sealed bid and clearly identify the LBA serial number (WVES 50560 or WVES 50556) for which it is intended.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michael W Glasson, Solid Minerals Program Lead, at 202-912-7723; email [mglasson@blm.gov](mailto:mglasson@blm.gov). 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 Mr. Glasson during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question for Mr. Glasson. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This coal lease sale is being held in response to two leases by application (LBAs) received by the BLM Eastern States Office.

The coal resources in the ELL Argus tract, Serial Number WVES 50556, are being offered in response to the LBA

filed by Argus Energy WV, LLC, and consist of all reserves recoverable by underground room and pillar mining methods, with first extraction only, in lands located in southeastern Wayne County, West Virginia. These lands lie approximately 1 mile south of East Lynn, West Virginia, on United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE)-administered surface with BLM-administered minerals. The sub-tracts listed below (A, B and C) are so named by the USACE, in dividing the lands following their acquisition:

Sub-tract A: 177M-1, 177M-14, 177M-11, 1717M, 1813M, 2321M,

containing 838.80 acres

Sub-tract B: 177M-1, 745M, 746M, 808, 840M, 843M, 846M, 1140M, 1140, 1301, 1313M, 1330M, 1718M, 1810M, 1811M, 1813M, 2020M, 2737,

containing 5,372.20 acres

Sub-tract C: 177M-12, 177M-1, 2321M, 2430M, 2431M, containing 1,430.63 acres

The areas described aggregate 7,641.63 acres.

The land in sub-tracts A, B, and C constitutes less than the entire tract acquired by the United States (of nearly 25,000 acres) and is described in accordance with 43 CFR 3471.1-1.

Further detailed definition of the tract can be found at: [http://www.blm.gov/es/st/en/prog/east\\_lynn\\_lake\\_coal/documents.html](http://www.blm.gov/es/st/en/prog/east_lynn_lake_coal/documents.html). It should be noted that prior to entering onto the lease tract for any reason, the successful bidder and/or eventual lessee will be responsible for a survey of the boundaries of this tract, to be used as the final legal boundary certificate for this tract. The ELL Argus tract (WVES 50556) has one minable coal bed known as Coalburg/Winifrede (C/W). The minable portions of the C/W coal bed in this area are from 3.0 feet up to 8.7 feet in thickness. First mining only will leave coal pillars, structural barriers and gas well barriers behind. The ELL Argus tract reserve contains 15 million tons of recoverable high-volatile A and B bituminous coal. The estimated average coal quality range in the bed on an "as received basis" is as follows:

12,500-13,200 Btu/lb.

7.00 Percent moisture \*

4.5-8.5 Percent ash

28.0-32.0 Percent volatile matter

50.0-53.0 Percent fixed carbon

0.4-0.9 Percent sulfur

\* Estimated as received moisture; also used for calculating as received from dry basis.

The resources in the ELL Rockspring tract, Serial Number WVES 50560, are being offered in response to the LBA filed by Rockspring Development, Inc.,