

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

[LLWY922000–L13200000–EL0000,  
WYW181234]

**Notice of Invitation to Participate; Coal  
Exploration License Application  
WYW181234, WY**

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended by the Federal Coal Leasing Amendments Act of 1976, and to Bureau of Land Management (BLM) regulations, all interested parties are hereby invited to participate with Black Butte Coal Company on a pro rata cost-sharing basis, in its program for the exploration of coal deposits owned by the United States of America in Sweetwater County, Wyoming.

**DATES:** This notice of invitation will be published in the *Rock Springs Rocket Miner* once each week for 2 consecutive weeks beginning the week of March 4, 2013, and in the **Federal Register**. Any party electing to participate in this exploration program must send written notice to both the BLM and Black Butte Coal Company, as provided in the **ADDRESSES** section below, no later than April 3, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the exploration plan are available for review during normal business hours in the following offices (serialized under number WYW181234): BLM, Wyoming State Office, 5353 Yellowstone Road, P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, WY 82003; and, BLM, Rock Springs Field Office, 280 Highway 191 North, Rock Springs, WY 82901. The written notice should be sent to the following addresses: Black Butte Coal Company, c/o AE Coal, LLC, Attn: Jason Russell, 170 South Main Street, Suite 700, Salt Lake City, UT 84101, and BLM, Wyoming State Office, Branch of Solid Minerals, Attn: Mavis Love, P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, WY 82003.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mavis Love, Land Law Examiner, at 307–775–6258. 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:** Black Butte Coal Company has applied to the BLM for a coal exploration license on public land near the existing Leucite Hills Coal Mine located near Point of Rocks, Wyoming. The purpose of the exploration program is to obtain structural and quality information of the coal. The BLM regulations at 43 CFR 3410 require the publication of an invitation to participate in the coal exploration in the **Federal Register**. The Federal coal resources included in the exploration license application are located in the following-described lands in Wyoming:

**Sixth Principal Meridian**

- T. 19 N., R. 100 W.,  
Sec. 2, lots 5 to 8, inclusive, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ , and S $\frac{1}{2}$ .
- T. 20 N., R. 100 W.,  
Sec. 6, lots 5 to 10, inclusive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Sec. 8, W $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
Sec. 18, lots 5 to 8, inclusive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ , and E $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
Secs. 20 and 34.
- T. 21 N., R. 100 W.,  
Sec. 30, lots 5 to 8, inclusive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ , and E $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
Sec. 32, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, N $\frac{1}{2}$ , and N $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ .
- T. 20 N., R. 101 W.,  
Sec. 2, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, and S $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
Sec. 4, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, and S $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
Sec. 26, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$  and E $\frac{1}{2}$ .
- T. 21 N., R. 101 W.,  
Secs. 20 and 28;  
Sec. 30, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ , and E $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
Sec. 34, N $\frac{1}{2}$  and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ .

The areas described aggregate 8,270.32 acres.

The proposed exploration program is fully described and will be conducted pursuant to an exploration plan to be approved by the BLM.

**Authority:** 43 CFR 3410.2–1(c)(1)

**Donald A. Simpson,**

*State Director.*

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**BILLING CODE 4310–22–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Ocean Energy Management**

**Gulf of Mexico (GOM), Outer  
Continental Shelf (OCS), Eastern  
Planning Area (EPA) Lease Sale 225  
and 226, Oil and Gas Lease Sales**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability (NOA) of the draft environmental impact statement (EIS) and public meetings.

**Authority:** This NOA is published pursuant to the regulations (40 CFR part 1503) implementing the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 432).

**SUMMARY:** BOEM has prepared a Draft EIS on oil and gas lease sales tentatively scheduled in 2014 and 2016 in the EPA offshore the States of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida. Under the *Proposed Final Outer Continental Shelf Oil & Gas Leasing Program: 2012–2017* (Five-Year Program), two annual lease sales are scheduled for the EPA. The proposed EPA lease sales are Lease Sales 225 and 226.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Draft EIS provides information on the baseline conditions and potential environmental effects of oil and natural gas leasing, exploration, development, and production in this area of the EPA. The Draft EIS incorporates by reference the *Gulf of Mexico OCS Oil and Gas Lease Sales: 2012–2017; Western Planning Area Lease Sales 229, 233, 238, 246, and 248; Central Planning Area Lease Sales 227, 231, 235, 241, and 247, Final Environmental Impact Statement (2012–2017 WPA/CPA Multisale EIS; OCS EIS/EA BOEM 2012–019)*. The Draft EIS tiers from the *Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program: 2012–2017 Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement*. Subject-matter experts surveyed scientific journals and available scientific data, gathered information, and interviewed personnel from academic institutions and Federal, State, and local agencies. BOEM also conducted an extensive search for new information in consideration of the *Deepwater Horizon* explosion, oil spill, and cleanup. BOEM has examined the potential impacts of routine activities and accidental events associated with the proposed lease sales, and the incremental contribution of the proposed lease sales to the cumulative impacts on environmental and socioeconomic resources. The Draft EIS also includes an analysis of a low-probability catastrophic spill in Appendix B. The oil and gas resource estimates and scenario information for this Draft EIS are presented as a range that would encompass the resources and activities estimated for an EPA proposed lease sale.

**Draft EIS Availability:** BOEM has printed and will be distributing a limited number of paper copies. In keeping with the Department of the Interior's mission to protect natural resources and to limit costs while ensuring availability of the document to the public, BOEM will primarily