

discussion of endangered or threatened species which may be affected by the Proposed Action. Formal consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was initiated for Colorado River fish species on November 10, 2005.

This DEIS assesses the effects of implementing the proposed action which is the leasing of the coal reserves in the LBA tract as a maintenance tract to the existing Black Butte Mine.

The Pit 14 Coal LBA DEIS analyzes two alternatives in detail:

1. Proposed Action. The alternative as proposed by BBCC analyses the impacts of leasing Federal coal and the impacts associated with surface mining.

2. No Action Alternative. This alternative would deny the coal lease as proposed.

Agency Preferred Alternative

BLM's preferred alternative is the Proposed Action. The Proposed Action is in conformance with the Green River Resource Management Plan.

The Black Butte Coal Mine started operations in the late 1970s and continues to operate today. Existing production is slowing because existing privately held and federally leased coal reserves are too deep to be economically recovered by conventional surface mining methods (draglines). As a result, additional mineable coal reserves are needed to meet production requirements of the company's customers including the Jim Bridger Power Plant to meet the growing regional demand for electricity.

How to Submit Comments

Comments must be submitted using one of the following methods:

1. Comments may be electronically mailed to rock_springs_wymail@blm.gov with "Attention: Pit 14 Coal Lease-by-Application" in the subject line, and avoiding the use of special characters or any form of encryption. If you do not receive a confirmation from our system that your comment has been received, please contact Teri Deakins, Project Manager, Rock Springs Field Office, (307) 352-0211;

2. Written comments may be mailed directly or delivered to the BLM at: Project Manager, Pit 14 Coal LBA, Bureau of Land Management Rock Springs Field Office, 280 Highway 191 North, Rock Springs, WY 82901;

3. Comments may be sent via telefax to the BLM, Attn: Teri Deakins, at (307) 352-0328.

4. Comments may be given at the public hearing to be held at 2 p.m. MST, on May 10, 2006, at the BLM, Rock Springs Field Office, 280 Highway 191 North, Rock Springs, Wyoming.

To be given consideration by BLM, all DEIS comments must include the commenter's name and street address.

BLM's practice is to make all comments, including the names and street addresses of each respondent, available for public review at the BLM office listed above during business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except for Federal holidays. Your comments may be published as part of the EIS process. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address or both from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. BLM will not consider anonymous comments. All submissions from organizations or businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Dated: January 13, 2006.

Robert A. Bennett,

State Director.

[FR Doc. 06-2599 Filed 3-23-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY-030-06-5101-ER-K087; WYW-166510]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Overland Pass Natural Gas Liquids Pipeline in Wyoming, Colorado, and Kansas

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and notice of public scoping meetings.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102 (2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and in response to a Right-of-Way (ROW) application filed by Williams Field Services Company (Williams), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Rawlins Field Office, announces its intention to prepare an EIS and conduct public scoping meetings. Williams proposes to construct an approximately 750-mile long, 20-inch diameter natural gas liquids (NGL) pipeline originating at existing facilities in Opal, Wyoming, and ending at existing NGL processing facilities in Conway, Kansas. Of the 750 miles, approximately 78 miles of the pipeline would not be located near existing pipelines.

DATES: This notice initiates the public scoping process. The BLM can best use public input if comments and resource information are submitted within 45 days of publication of this notice. To provide the public an opportunity to review the proposal and project information, the BLM expects to hold at least four meetings.

The meetings will be conducted in an "open house" format in the evening with the BLM and project proponents available to explain project details and gather information from interested individuals or groups. BLM is proposing to host open houses in the following communities: Cheyenne and Rock Springs, Wyoming; Greeley, Colorado; and Hays, Kansas. The BLM will announce the exact dates, times, and locations for these meetings at least 15 days prior to the event. Announcements will be made by news release to the media, individual letter mailings, and posting on the BLM's Web site listed below, if it is available.

ADDRESSES: Please submit written comments or resource information to the Bureau of Land Management, Montrose Field Office, Tom Hurshman, Overland Pass Pipeline Project Manager, Bureau of Land Management, 2465 South Townsend, Montrose, CO 81401. Comments or resource information may also be submitted by facsimile to (970) 240-5367. Electronic mail may be sent to: tom_hurshman@co.blm.gov. Please write "Overland Pass Pipeline Project" in the subject line.

Documents pertinent to the ROW application may be examined at:

- Bureau of Land Management, Rawlins Field Office, P.O. Box 2407, 1300 N. Third Street, Rawlins, Wyoming 82301. Telephone (307) 328-4200; or
- Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming State Office, Public Room, 5353 Yellowstone Road, Cheyenne, WY 82003. Telephone (307) 775-6256.

Your response is important and will be considered in the environmental analysis process. If you do respond, we will keep you informed of the decision resulting from this analysis. Please note that public comments and information submitted regarding this project, including the names, e-mail addresses, and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review and disclosure at the Montrose and Rawlins Field Offices during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday (except holidays). Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name, e-mail address, or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of

Information Act, you must state this plainly at the beginning of your written comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tom Hurshman, Bureau of Land Management Project Manager, 2465 South Townsend, Montrose, CO 81401. Mr. Hurshman may also be reached at (970) 240-5345, or by sending an electronic message to: tom_hurshman@co.blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Williams has submitted an application for ROW grants across Federal lands to locate a 20-inch diameter pipeline that would be used to transport natural gas liquids from an existing facility in Opal, Wyoming, to an existing processing facility in Conway, Kansas, a length of approximately 750 miles. This proposed Overland Pass Pipeline route would traverse approximately 143.3 miles of federally-administered land in Wyoming and Colorado. In Wyoming, approximately 101.7 miles of the proposed pipeline location would cross public lands administered by three BLM Field Offices: Kemmerer, Rock Springs, and Rawlins. In addition, the proposed pipeline location crosses the following two units of the National Forest System administered by the United States Forest Service, Department of Agriculture. The proposed pipeline location includes approximately 1.2 miles of the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area in Wyoming, and 39.7 miles of the Pawnee National Grassland north of Greeley, Colorado. No Federal lands in Kansas would be affected by this proposal.

The proposed route would generally follow the I-80 corridor through southern Wyoming, mainly along the Southern Star pipeline route. The proposed route proceeds in a southeasterly direction and enters Colorado in Weld County. From the Colorado border, the route would continue southeasterly into Kansas where it would continue eastward, paralleling the Southern Star Pipeline near Bushton, Kansas. Near Bushton, it would then parallel an existing BP Amoco pipeline to Williams' processing facilities in Mitchell and Conway, Kansas. At Conway, the transported natural gas liquids will be processed and distributed through the existing transportation infrastructure to

consumer markets in the Midwest and Texas Gulf Coast.

Through public scoping, the BLM expects to identify various issues, potential impacts and mitigation measures, and alternatives to the proposed action. At present, the BLM has identified the following issues and concerns: Impacts to threatened, endangered, and sensitive species and their habitat; adverse impacts to visual resources; potential impacts to big game and other wildlife; land use conflicts; effect of the project on local and regional socioeconomic conditions; increased potential for introduction and spread of noxious weeds; and the ability to efficiently reclaim lands disturbed by pipeline construction or location.

The BLM will analyze the proposed action and no action alternatives, as well as other possible alternatives to the proposed pipeline and access routes. Your comments concerning the pipeline project as proposed and feasible alternative locations, possible mitigation measures, and any other information relevant to proposed action are encouraged. Any persons wishing to be added to a mailing list of interested parties can call or write to BLM, as described in this notice. Additional informational meetings may be conducted throughout the process to keep the public informed of the progress of the EIS.

Robert A. Bennett,

State Director.

[FR Doc. E6-4245 Filed 3-23-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ES-960-1420-BJ-TRST] Group No. 185, Minnesota

Eastern States: Filing of Plat of Survey

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice Of Filing Of Plat Of Survey; Minnesota.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will file the plat of survey of the lands described below in the BLM-Eastern States, Springfield, Virginia, 30 calendar days from the date of publication in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bureau of Land Management, 7450 Boston Boulevard, Springfield, Virginia 22153. Attn: Cadastral Survey.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This survey was requested by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The lands we surveyed are:

Fifth Principal Meridian, Minnesota

T. 141 N., R. 39 W.

The plat of survey represents the dependent resurvey of the west boundary, and a portion of the subdivisional lines; and the survey of the subdivision of sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 30, Township 141 North, Range 39 West, of the 5th Principal Meridian, in the state of Minnesota, and was accepted September 22, 2005. We will place a copy of the plat we described in the open files. It will be available to the public as a matter of information.

If BLM receives a protest against this survey, as shown on the plat, prior to the date of the official filing, we will stay the filing pending our consideration of the protest. We will not officially file the plat until the day after we have accepted or dismissed all protests and they have become final, including decisions on appeals.

Dated: March 16, 2006.

Jerry L. Wahl,

Chief Cadastral Surveyor.

[FR Doc. E6-4282 Filed 3-23-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of extension of an information collection (1010-00143).

SUMMARY: To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), MMS is inviting comments on a collection of information that we will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. The information collection request (ICR) concerns the paperwork requirements in the regulations under 30 CFR 260, "Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing."

DATES: Submit written comments by May 23, 2006.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods listed below. Please use the Information Collection Number 1010-0143 as an identifier in your message.

- Public Connect on-line commenting system, <https://occonnect.mms.gov>. Follow the instructions on the Web site for submitting comments.

- E-mail MMS at rules.comments@mms.gov. Identify with Information Collection Number 1010-0143 in the subject line.