

Public Input Requested

Comments should address issues to be considered, if the planning criteria are adequate for the issues, feasible and reasonable alternatives to examine, and relevant information having a bearing on the EIS-level plan amendment.

Dated: February 20, 1998.

John R. Christensen,

Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 98-5036 Filed 2-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-32-P

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

[NM-030-1110-00; NMNM 95104]

Notice of Intent To Prepare A Resource Management Plan (RMP) Amendment; Socorro Resource Area, New Mexico

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA)/RMP amendment and an invitation for public participation.

SUMMARY: The BLM will prepare an EA/RMP Amendment for the purpose of addressing impacts of implementing a proposed 20-year withdrawal of 5,607.52 acres of public land in Socorro County, New Mexico from settlement, sale, location and entry under the general land laws, including the mining laws. The public is invited to participate in this planning effort with the identification of additional issues and planning criteria. The purpose of the proposed withdrawal is protection of desert bighorn sheep habitat.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before March 30, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to the EA/RMP Amendment Team Leader, BLM, Socorro Resource Area Office, 198 Neel Ave., NW, Socorro, NM 87801.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lois Bell, BLM Socorro Resource Area at (505) 835-0412.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed action is to amend the existing Socorro RMP to allow for the withdrawal of 5,607.52 acres of public land in the vicinity of Devil's Backbone in Socorro County, New Mexico described as:

New Mexico Principal Meridian,

T. 5 S., R. 3 W.,

Sec. 16, lots 5 to 8, inclusive, N $\frac{1}{2}$ and N $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$;

Secs. 21, 28, 29 and 32.

T. 6 S., R. 3 W.,

Sec. 4, lots 3 and 4, inclusive, and SW $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 9, W $\frac{1}{2}$;

Sec. 15, W $\frac{1}{2}$;

Sec. 16;

Sec. 22, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$,

E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, and SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

T. 5 S., R. 4 W.,

Sec. 25, E $\frac{1}{2}$.

The areas described aggregate 5,607.52 acres in Socorro County, New Mexico.

Types of Issues Anticipated

1. Does the existing Socorro RMP provide adequate protection for desert bighorn sheep habitat in the Devil's Backbone area?

2. Is a withdrawal necessary to properly protect desert bighorn sheep habitat in the Devil's Backbone area?

Criteria to Guide Development of the Planning Action

The following planning criteria were identified to help guide the resolution of issues.

Non-Discretionary Criteria

1. The proposed action must comply with laws, executive orders and regulations.

2. The proposed action must be reasonable and achievable with available technology.

Discretionary Criteria

1. Identify areas and resource values critical to desert bighorn sheep habitat in the area of Devil's Backbone.

2. Determine how critical wildlife habitat values should best be managed in the Devil's Backbone area.

Disciplines To Be Represented on Interdisciplinary Team

The plan amendment will be prepared by an interdisciplinary team consisting of an archaeologist, environmental coordinator, geologist, range land management specialist, realty specialist, recreation planner, surface protection specialist and a wildlife biologist.

Kind and Extent of Public Participation To Be Provided

A copy of this notice will be published in a local newspaper. Public participation will be in the form of written comments submitted to the Socorro Resource Area Office.

Location and Availability of Documents Relative to the Planning Process

All pertinent information is available in the BLM Socorro Resource Area Office, 198 Neel Avenue, Socorro, New Mexico 87801 and is available for public review weekdays during regular office hours, from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Dated: February 20, 1998.

Linda S.C. Rundell,

District Manager.

[FR Doc. 98-5035 Filed 2-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-VC-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Minerals Management Service****Notice of Consultation Meeting**

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of consultation meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces that MMS will hold a meeting to consult with industry before setting up criteria to implement a disqualification provision in the proposed rule on Postlease Operations Safety, published on February 13, 1998 (63 FR 7335). A new regulation has been proposed to provide criteria that MMS will consider, individually or collectively, in evaluating whether to disqualify operators with repeat poor safety performance. MMS may also disapprove or revoke a company's status as a designated operator.

DATES: MMS will hold the meeting on March 24, 1998, from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon at the location listed in the **ADDRESSES** section. Preregistration will be held at 7:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: Sheraton Crown Hotel, 15700 JFK Blvd., Houston, Texas 77032, telephone: (713) 442-5100.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dough Slitor, Performance and Safety Branch at (703) 787-1591.

Dated: February 23, 1998.

E.P. Danenberger,

Chief, Engineering and Operations Division.

[FR Doc. 98-5087 Filed 2-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Reclamation****Proposed Rule Making for Offstream Storage of Colorado River Water and Interstate Redemption of Storage Credits in the Lower Division States**

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of draft programmatic environmental assessment (DPEA); extension of deadline for comments.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) published a notice of availability of a DPEA on December 31,

1997 (62 FR 68465). That notice specified how to obtain a copy of the DPEA and stated that comments on the DPEA will be accepted through March 2, 1998. Reclamation will extend the comment deadline an additional 32 days, until close of business on Friday, April 3, 1998.

DATES: Any comments must be received by Reclamation on or before April 3, 1998, in accordance with the criteria set forth in the December 31, 1997, notice of availability of the DPEA (62 FR 68465).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. James Green, telephone (702) 293-8519 or fax (702) 293-8146.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Reclamation received several requests for an extension of the deadline for comments on the DPEA. In the interest of encouraging public participation, Reclamation is extending the deadline for written comments. If you have already prepared written comments to meet the March 2, 1998, deadline, you may supplement or replace those comments with an additional written response.

Dated: February 20, 1998.

William E. Rinne,

Area Manager, Boulder Canyon Operations Office.

[FR Doc. 98-5031 Filed 2-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-94-P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Consent Decree Under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

Notice is hereby given that a consent decree in *United States v. Metech International, Inc.*, Civil Action No. 98-085T (D.R.I.) was lodged with the United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island on February 18, 1998.

In this action the United States sought injunctive relief and civil penalties under Sections 3008 (a) and (g) of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA"), 42 U.S.C. 6928 (a) and (g), against Metech International, Inc. ("Metech," formerly known as Boliden Metech, Inc.) The consent decree resolves these claims.

The consent decree requires Metech to: Comply with specified provisions of RCRA, including limits on the manner and duration of storage of hazardous waste and requirements to make certain waste determinations; make specified process changes in Metech's leaching department; apply for a variance from the definition of solid waste for certain

solid materials generated by Metech; and pay a civil penalty to the United States of up to \$300,000.

The Department of Justice will accept written comments relating to the proposed consent decree for thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this notice. Please address comments to the Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, P.O. Box 7611, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, D.C. 20044 and refer to *United States v. Metech International, Inc.* (D.R.I.), DJ # 90-7-1-840.

Copies of the proposed consent decree may be examined at the Office of the United States Attorney, 10 Dorrance Street, Tenth Floor, Providence, Rhode Island 02903; at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region I, One Congress Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02203; and at the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, N.W., 4th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20005, (202) 624-0892. A copy of the consent decree may also be obtained in person or by mail at the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, N.W., 4th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20005. When requesting a copy of the consent decree by mail, please enclose a check in the amount of \$24.25 for a copy including exhibits, or \$14.75 for a copy excluding exhibits (twenty-five cents per page reproduction costs) payable to the "Consent Decree Library."

Bruce S. Gelber,

Deputy Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division, U.S. Department of Justice.

[FR Doc. 98-5016 Filed 2-26-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993; Advanced Lead-Acid Battery Consortium

Notice is hereby given that, on January 15, 1998, pursuant to Section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* ("the Act"), the Advanced Lead-Acid Battery Consortium ("ALABC"), a program of International Lead Zinc Research Organization, Inc., filed written notification simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notification was filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of

antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, Bridgestone Corporation, Tokyo, JAPAN; Dowa Mining Co., Tokyo, JAPAN, FIAMM SpA, Montecchio, ITALY; Industrial Technical Research Institute, TAIWAN, R.O.C.; Matsushita, Osaka, JAPAN; Metaleurop Recherche, Fontenay-sous-Bois Cedex, FRANCE; Mitsubishi Materials Corp., Saitma, JAPAN; Nippon Mining & Metals, Tokyo, JAPAN; Shin Kobe Electric Machine, Tokyo, JAPAN; and Teledyne Continental Motors, Redlands, CA have withdrawn from the ALABC.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the Consortium. Membership in the Consortium remains open and ALABC intends to file additional written notification disclosing any future changes in membership.

On June 15, 1992, the ALABC filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on July 29, 1992, 57 FR 33522. The last notification was filed with the Department on July 24, 1997. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** on October 16, 1997, 62 FR 62074.

Constance K. Robinson,

Director of Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 98-5013 Filed 2-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993; Key Recovery Alliance ("KRA")

Notice is hereby given that, on October 20, 1997, pursuant to § 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* ("the Act"), the Key Recovery Alliance ("KRA") has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing (1) The identities of the parties and (2) the nature and objectives of the venture. The notifications were filed for the purpose of invoking the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Pursuant to § 6(b) of the Act, the identities of the parties are: Apple Computer, Inc., Cupertino, CA; Cylink Corporation, Sunnyvale, CA; Data Securities International, Inc., San Diego, CA; Digital Equipment Corporation, Nashua, NH; Golden Star Technology, Inc.,