

various buildings. County Road (CR) X will be upgraded to serve as the mine access road from SH 139. The railroad spur will be located on BLM and private lands, with the railroad connecting to the existing Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) near Mack, Colorado. The proposed railroad will traverse approximately 9.5 miles of BLM administered public land and approximately 5 miles of private land. A water diversion will be constructed in Mack Wash and the water pipeline will follow the proposed railroad spur. The railroad spur would serve only the Red Cliff Mine for the purpose of transporting coal to market. CAM will own the railroad spur, but the trains using the spur will be operated by the UPRR or other railroad companies. The draft EIS discusses BLM's analysis and proposed conclusion that CAM will not operate a common carrier railroad.

Electric power will be needed at the mine to run the underground mining machinery, the conveyor system, and other mine support facilities. The local utility, Grand Valley Power (GVP), has applied to BLM for a ROW to supply the necessary electric power. GVP will need to construct a new 69-kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the Uintah Substation to the mine to supply this power. The transmission line will be approximately 14 miles long, with approximately 7 miles on federally managed lands and 7 miles on private land, depending on which alternative route is chosen. This ROW application is analyzed in the EIS as a connected action as is the LBA filed by CAM (COC-070538) for approximately 11,660 acres adjacent to CAM's existing leases. BLM determined that, if this coal is to be leased, it would be by a competitive bid process. BLM has modified the proposed LBA area to include 14,466 acres.

The EIS analysis area includes a total future lease area of about 23,000 acres which corresponds to the estimated life of the mine.

CAM proposes to conduct underground mining 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, and 365 days per year by room and pillar and longwall mining techniques. CAM's production from the Red Cliff Mine would be up to 8 million tons per year of clean coal depending on market conditions, with an estimated mine life of 30 years.

A mine permit application has been filed for CAM's existing leases in accordance with the OSM and the CDRMS regulations. This EIS will meet the NEPA requirements for the mine permit for the existing Federal coal leases, and is intended to provide necessary information to facilitate the

USACE, Colorado Public Utility Commission, and Garfield and Mesa Counties' permitting decisions regarding the project. There will be additional opportunities for public involvement as the mine permit application is processed.

The DEIS analyzes the potential impacts of the proposed action and connected actions and a No-Action alternative. Alternatives to individual project components were considered that were consistent with the purpose and need, which is to mine and transport coal for sale at competitive prices to help supply the energy needs of the United States. Alternatives to project components were included for detailed analysis if they were found to be practical, feasible, reduced environmental impacts, and/or addressed public and agency concerns. A wide range and variety of alternatives were examined, resulting in the following alternative project components that are analyzed in detail: Grade separated railroad crossing at Mesa County Road (CR) M.8; noiseless grade crossings at CR M.8 and CR 10; construction of an electric transmission line along CR 16 crossing BLM and private lands north of the Highline Canal; construction of an electric transmission line along CR 16 to the Highline Canal and then along section lines to avoid as many private land parcels as possible; and construction of an electric transmission line along CR 14 to just north of the Highline Canal and then northwesterly and north to join the proposed railroad alignment east of SH 139.

Required consultations are in progress or have been completed, including consultations with tribal governments and the State Historic Preservation Officer, as required by the National Historic Preservation Act; consultations with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service as required by the Endangered Species Act; and consultations with the USACE as required by the Clean Water Act.

Raul Morales,

Grand Junction Associate Field Manager.
[FR Doc. E9-1006 Filed 1-15-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-070-1430-ET; MTM 73404]

Notice of Proposed Withdrawal Extension and Opportunity for Public Meeting; Montana

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) proposes to extend the duration of Public Land Order (PLO) No. 6912 for an additional 20-year term. The PLO withdrew approximately 490 acres of reserved public minerals from location or entry under the United States mining laws for the BLM to protect the archaeological, historical, educational, interpretive, and recreational integrity of the Mount Haggin Prehistoric Quarry Site in Deer Lodge County. This notice also gives an opportunity to comment on the proposed action and to request a public meeting.

DATES: Comments and requests for a public meeting must be received by April 16, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Comments and meeting requests should be sent to the BLM Butte Field Manager, 106 North Parkmont, Butte, Montana 59701.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary Figarelle, BLM, Butte Field Office, (406) 533-7671, or at the above address, or Sandra Ward, BLM, Montana State Office, (406) 896-5052, or at 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, Montana 59101-4669.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The withdrawal created by PLO No. 6912 (56 FR 60928 (1991)) will expire November 28, 2011, unless extended. The BLM has filed an application to extend PLO No. 6912 for an additional 20-year period. The withdrawal was made to protect the Mount Haggin Prehistoric Quarry Site on the reserved minerals described as follows:

Principal Meridian, Montana

T. 3 N., R. 11 W.,

Sec. 20, those portions lying east of Highway 274;

Sec. 29, lots 2, 4, 5, 7, and 8, and that portion of lot 6 lying east of Highway 274.

The area described contains approximately 490 acres in Deer Lodge County.

The purpose of the proposed extension is to continue the withdrawal created by PLO No. 6912 for an additional 20-year term to protect the

archaeological, historical, educational, interpretive, and recreational integrity of the Mount Haggin Prehistoric Quarry Site.

As extended, the withdrawal would not alter the applicability of those public land laws governing the use of lands under lease, license, or permit or governing the disposal of the mineral or vegetative resources other than under the mining laws.

The use of a right-of-way or interagency or cooperative agreement would not adequately protect the paleontological resources and capital improvements in these areas.

There are no suitable alternative sites available. Significant cultural resources are located at the quarry site.

Water will not be needed to fulfill the purposes of the withdrawal.

For a period of 90 days from the date of publication of this notice, all persons who wish to submit comments, suggestions, or objections in connection with the proposed withdrawal extension may present their views in writing to the BLM Butte Field Office at the address noted above.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the BLM Butte Field Office at the address noted above during regular business hours 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, be advised that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your 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.

Notice is hereby given that an opportunity for a public meeting is afforded in connection with the proposed withdrawal extension. All interested persons who desire a public meeting for the purpose of being heard on the proposed withdrawal extension

must submit a written request to the BLM Butte Field Manager within 90 days from the date of publication of this notice. If the authorized officer determines that a public meeting will be held, a notice of the time and place will be published in the **Federal Register** at least 30 days before the scheduled date of the meeting. This withdrawal extension proposal will be processed in accordance with the applicable regulations set forth in 43 CFR 2310.4.

Authority: 43 CFR 2310.3–1.

Dated: January 8, 2009.

Theresa M. Hanley,

Deputy State Director, Division of Resources.

[FR Doc. E9–949 Filed 1–15–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–SS–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AK–963–1430–ET; F–14988]

Public Land Order No. 7727; Extension of Public Land Order No. 6706, Alaska

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Public Land Order.

SUMMARY: This order extends a withdrawal created by Public Land Order No. 6706 for an additional 20-year period. This extension is necessary to continue protection of the United States Air Force Indian Mountain Research Site in Alaska.

DATES: *Effective Date:* January 11, 2009.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Terrie D. Evarts, Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office, 222 West Seventh Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513–7504; or 907–271–5630.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The withdrawal extended by this order will expire on January 10, 2029, unless, as a result of a review conducted prior to the expiration date pursuant to Section 204(f) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. (2000), the Secretary determines that the withdrawal shall be further extended.

Order

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior by Section 204 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714 (2000), it is ordered as follows:

Public Land Order No. 6706 (54 FR 979 (1989)), which withdrew 4,606.70 acres of public lands from settlement, sale, location and entry under the general land laws, including the mining and mineral leasing laws, to protect the integrity of the information being

monitored by seismic equipment at the United States Air Force Indian Mountain Research Site, is hereby extended for an additional 20-year period until January 10, 2029.

Dated: January 7, 2009.

C. Stephen Allred,

Assistant Secretary—Land and Minerals Management.

[FR Doc. E9–1071 Filed 1–15–09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLIDT03000–L14300000.EU0000; IDI–36364]

Notice of Realty Action; Proposed Sale of Public Land, Idaho

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of realty action.

SUMMARY: Two parcels of public land totaling 19.44 acres in Blaine County, Idaho, are being considered for direct sale, under the provisions of the Federal Land Policy Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), at no less than the appraised fair market value.

DATES: In order to ensure consideration in the environmental analysis of the proposed sale, comments must be received by March 2, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Address all comments concerning this Notice to Tara Hagen, Realty Specialist, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Shoshone Field Office, 400 West F Street, Shoshone, Idaho 83352.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tara Hagen, Realty Specialist, at the above address or phone at (208) 732–7205.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following described public land in Blaine County, Idaho, is being considered for sale under the authority of Sections 203 and 209 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (90 Stat. 2750, 43 U.S.C. 1713):

Boise Meridian

T. 4 N., R. 18 E.,

Sec. 25, Lots 19–21, and 23–24.

The area described contains 19.44 acres in Blaine County.

The 1981 BLM Sun Valley Framework Management Plan, as amended, by the Amendments to Shoshone Field Office Land Use Plans for Land Tenure Adjustment and Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (2003) identifies this parcel of land to be within the adjustment area of land tenure Zone 5. The general management