

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Indian Affairs****Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Spokane Tribe of Indians West Plains Casino and Mixed Use Project, City of Airway Heights, Spokane County, WA**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** This notice advises the public that the Bureau of Indian Affairs intends to file a draft environmental impact statement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the Spokane Tribe of Indians West Plains casino and mixed use project, City of Airway Heights, Spokane County, Washington. The draft statement is now available for public review and BIA will hold a public hearing to receive comments on the mixed use project.

**DATES:** Submit written comments by April 16, 2012. The public hearing will be held on March 26, 2012, starting at 6 p.m. and will run until the last public comment is received.

**ADDRESSES:** You may mail or hand deliver written comments to Mr. Stanley Speaks, Northwest Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Northwest Region, 911 Northeast 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232.

The public hearing will be held at the Sunset Elementary School Gymnasium, 12824 West 12th Avenue, Airway Heights, Washington 99001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. B.J. Howerton, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Northwest Region, 911 Northeast 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232; fax (503) 231-2275; phone (503) 231-6749.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Public review of the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) is part of the administrative process for evaluating tribal applications seeking a two-part determination from the Secretary of the Interior under Section 20 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2719(b)(1)(B)). Under Council on Environmental Quality National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations (40 CFR 1506.10), the publication of this notice of availability in the **Federal Register** initiates a 45-day public comment period.

**Background**

The Spokane Tribe of Indians (Tribe) has requested that the Secretary of the Interior issue a two-part determination under Section 20 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act for Class III gaming on 145 acres held in Federal trust for the

Tribe near the City of Airway Heights, Washington. The 145-acre project is located immediately west of the city limits of Airway Heights in the unincorporated West Plains area of Spokane County, Washington.

The proposed project consists of the following components: (1) Issuance of a two-part determination by the Secretary of the Interior; and (2) development of a casino-resort facility, parking structure, site retail, commercial building, tribal cultural center, and police/fire station within the project site. At full build-out, the proposed casino-resort facility would have approximately 98,442 square feet of gaming floor and a 300-room hotel.

The following alternatives are considered in the DEIS: (1) Proposed casino and mixed-use development; (2) reduced casino and mixed-use development; (3) non-gaming mixed-use development; and (4) no action/no development. Environmental issues addressed in the DEIS include geology and soils, water resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural and paleontological resources, socioeconomic conditions (including environmental justice), transportation and circulation, land use, public services, noise, hazardous materials, aesthetics, cumulative effects, and indirect and growth inducing effects.

BIA issues the DEIS as lead agency, with the Spokane Tribe of Indians, National Indian Gaming Commission, Washington State Department of Transportation, City of Airway Heights, Spokane County, Federal Aviation Administration, and U.S. Department of the Air Force serving as cooperating agencies. BIA held a public scoping meeting for the project on September 16, 2009, in the City of Airway Heights, Washington.

**Directions for Submitting Comments**

Please include your name, return address, and the caption: "DEIS Comments, Spokane Tribe of Indians West Plains Development Project," on the first page of your written comments.

**Locations Where the DEIS Is Available for Review**

The DEIS will be available for review at the Airway Heights Branch of the Spokane County Library District, located at 1213 South Lundstrom St. Airway Heights, Washington 99001 and the Spokane Public Library, located at 906 West Main Street, Spokane, Washington 99201. The DEIS is also available online at: <http://www.westplainseis.com>.

To obtain a compact disk copy of the DEIS, please provide your name and

address in writing or by voice mail to Dr. B.J. Howerton, whose contact information is listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice. Individual paper copies of the DEIS will be provided upon payment of printing expenses by the requestor for the number of copies requested.

**Public Comment Availability**

Comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the BIA mailing address shown in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice, during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Before including your address, telephone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware 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 your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**Authority:** This notice is published under § 1503.1 of the Council of Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508) and § 46.305 of the Department of the Interior Regulations (43 CFR part 46), implementing the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4371, *et seq.*), and is in the exercise of authority delegated to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8.

Dated: February 17, 2012.

**Larry Echo Hawk,**

*Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2012-4803 Filed 3-1-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-W7-P**

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

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LVRWA09A2590; AZA34666]

**Notice of Segregation of Public Lands in the State of Arizona Associated With the Proposed Quartzsite Solar Energy Project, La Paz County, AZ**

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is segregating public lands located in the State of Arizona from appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining law, but not the mineral leasing or material sales acts, for a period of 2

years. This segregation is being made in connection with the BLM's processing of a right-of-way (ROW) application for Quartzsite Solar Energy, LLC's Quartzsite Solar Energy Project (Proposed Project). This segregation covers approximately 2,013.76 acres of BLM-administered public lands located within the Proposed Project's ROW application area.

**DATES:** This segregation is effective on March 2, 2012.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Eddie Arreola, Supervisory Project Manager; Telephone: 602-417-9505; Address: One North Central Avenue, Suite 800, Phoenix, Arizona 85004-4427, or email: [earreola@blm.gov](mailto:earreola@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 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 BLM's Yuma Field Office, Yuma, Arizona, in connection with its consideration of a ROW application for the Proposed Project, is segregating the following described public lands located within the Proposed Project's ROW application area, subject to valid existing rights, from appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining law, but not the mineral leasing or the material sales acts:

**Gila and Salt River Meridian, Arizona**

T. 6 N., R. 18 W.,  
Sec. 30, lots 1 to 4, inclusive.  
T. 6 N., R. 19 W.,  
Sec. 23, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Sec. 24, S $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
Sec. 25;  
Sec. 26, E $\frac{1}{2}$ , E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , and  
NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Sec. 27, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Sec. 35, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Sec. 36, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$  and N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Containing 2,013.76 acres, more or less.

The area described contains approximately 2,013.76 acres located in La Paz County, Arizona. The Western Area Power Administration announced its intention to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and initiated a public scoping process for the Proposed Project on January 14, 2010 (75 FR 2133). The BLM is a cooperating agency for the EIS based on its consideration of a ROW application for the Proposed Project. On March 30, 2011, the BLM announced the beginning of a scoping process to solicit public comments and identify issues associated

with a proposed resource management plan (RMP) amendment being considered in conjunction with the ROW application for the Proposed Project (76 FR 17668).

The BLM is segregating the lands under the authority contained in 43 CFR 2091.3-1(e) and 43 CFR 2804.25(e) for a period of 2 years, subject to valid existing rights. This 2-year segregation period will commence on March 2, 2012. These public lands will be segregated from appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining law, but not the mineral leasing or material sales acts. This segregation will not affect valid existing rights. It has been determined that this segregation is necessary for the orderly administration of the public lands by maintaining the status quo while the BLM processes the ROW application for the Proposed Project.

The segregation period will terminate and the lands will automatically reopen to appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws, if one of the following events occurs: (1) Upon the issuance of a decision by the authorized officer granting, granting with modifications, or denying the application for a right-of-way; (2) Upon publication of a **Federal Register** notice of termination of the segregation; or (3) Without further administrative action at the end of the segregation provided for in this **Federal Register** notice initiating the segregation, whichever occurs first.

Any segregation made under this authority would be effective only for a period of up to 2 years. The lands to be segregated pursuant to the authority at 43 CFR 2091.3-1(e) and 2804.25(e) are identified in the legal description provided above.

**Raymond Suazo,**  
*State Director.*

**Authority:** 43 CFR 2091.3-1(e), 43 CFR 2804.25(e).

[FR Doc. 2012-5149 Filed 3-1-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-32-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Bureau of Land Management**

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LVRWA09A2310; AZA32315]

**Notice of Segregation of Public Lands in the State of Arizona Associated With the Proposed Mohave County Wind Farm Project, Mohave County, AZ**

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is segregating public lands located in the State of Arizona from appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining law, but not the mineral leasing or material sales acts, for a period of 2 years. This segregation is being made in connection with the BLM's processing of a right-of-way (ROW) application for British Petroleum Wind Energy North America's Mohave County Wind Farm Project (Proposed Project). This segregation covers approximately 38,016.60 acres of BLM-administered public lands located within the Proposed Project's ROW application area.

**DATES:** This segregation is effective on March 2, 2012.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Eddie Arreola, Supervisory Project Manager; Telephone: 602-417-9505; Address: One North Central Avenue, Suite 800, Phoenix, Arizona 85004-4427, or email: [earreola@blm.gov](mailto:earreola@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 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 BLM's Kingman Field Office, Kingman, Arizona, in connection with its consideration of a ROW application for the Proposed Project, is segregating the following described public lands located within the Proposed Project's ROW application area, subject to valid existing rights, from appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining law, but not the mineral leasing or the material sales acts:

**Gila and Salt River Meridian, Arizona**

T. 28 N., R. 19 W.,  
Sec. 6;  
Sec. 7, N $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
T. 29 N., R. 19 W.,  
Sec. 5, lot 4, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , and W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Secs. 6 and 7;  
Sec. 8, S $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
Sec. 9, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Sec. 16, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Secs. 17 to 20, inclusive;  
Secs. 30 and 31;  
Sec. 32, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ; W $\frac{1}{2}$ , and W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ .  
T. 28 N., R. 20 W.,  
Secs. 1 to 11, inclusive;  
Sec. 12, N $\frac{1}{2}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , and N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Sec. 14, N $\frac{1}{2}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , and N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Secs. 15 to 22, inclusive;  
Secs. 27 to 34, inclusive.  
T. 29 N., R. 20 W.,  
Secs. 1 and 2;