
DECISION OF RECORD

DECISION: It is my decision to authorize the Roswell Field Office October 2001 Draft Lease Sale. Therefore a total of twelve (12) parcels in their entirety and three (3) modified parcels shall be set forth for inclusion in the competitive lease sale:

1) 200110097 - 1,560.000 acres	13) 200110100 - Modified 281.720 acres
2) 200110098 - 640.000 acres	14) 200110113 - Modified 640.000 acres
3) 200110099 - 960.000 acres	15) 200110069 - Modified <u>720.000 acres</u>
4) 200110104 - 1,216.160 acres	1,641.720 acres
5) 200110105 - 360.000 acres	
6) 200110110 - 1,316.960 acres	
7) 200110111 - 1,303.170 acres	
8) 200110112 - 1,280.000 acres	
9) 200110116 - 400.800 acres	
10) 200110117 - 80.000 acres	
11) 200110118 - 665.760 acres	
12) 200110132 - <u>160.000 acres</u>	
9,942.850 acres	

Totals: 9,942.850 + 1,641.720 = 11,584.570 leaseable acres

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT: This action is addressed in the Roswell Resource Area Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement, January 1997. I have reviewed the NEPA analysis described in the **OPTIONAL PLAN CONFORMANCE/NEPA COMPLIANCE RECORD**, including the explanation and resolution of any potentially significant environment impacts resulting from the lease sale. In accordance with the finding of no significant impacts, I have decided that an EIS is not required on this action. I have determined that the lease sale will not have any significant impacts on the human environment.

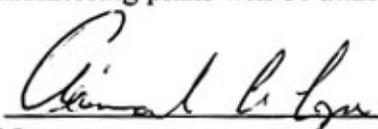
Mitigation Measures/Remarks:

I am certain that the lease sale will not adversely affect the federal mineral lands involved, as long as the specific lease sale stipulations are attached to the lease parcels and the surface protection requirements are attached to all subsequent actions resulting from this lease sale.

The Roswell Field Office; Surface Use and Occupancy Requirements, Conditions Of Approval, and the Roswell Field Office's Special Leasing Stipulations which are in place at the New Mexico State Office, will provide adequate mitigation for the lease sale parcels. The Roswell Field Office surface protection requirements, as well as the mitigation measures required for oil and gas operations on federal leases, shall be attached to all subsequent applications resulting from this lease sale.

RATIONAL FOR DECISION: The decision to proceed with the lease sale will not result in any undue or unnecessary environmental degradation of federal mineral lands. The lease sale is in conformance with the Roswell RMP, approved on October 1997.

COMPLIANCE and MONITORING: A compliance and monitoring plan is not necessary for this action at this time. However, compliance and monitoring plans will be attached, implemented, and executed, upon approval of subsequent actions.

Authorized Official Signature:  Date: 8/3/2001
Larry D. Bray, Assistant Field Manager,
Lands and Minerals



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Roswell Field Office
2909 West Second Street
Roswell, New Mexico 88201

Review of October Oil and Gas Draft Lease Sale Notice

The October 2001 Oil and Gas Draft Lease Sale Notice was reviewed by the Roswell Field Office specialist(s) and no significant impacts to critical elements or affected resources are anticipated as a result of this action. However, the critical elements and affected resources would be evaluated for subsequent proposed actions. Evaluations would be made on a case-by-case basis for the following critical elements and affected resources:

Critical Elements

Air Quality
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC's)
Cultural Resources
Farmlands, Prime/Unique
Floodplains
Native American Religious Concerns
Minority/Low-Income Populations/Community
Threatened or Endangered Species (T&E Plants & Animals)
Wastes, Hazardous/Solid
Water Quality (Drinking/Ground)
Wetlands and Riparian Zones
Wild & Scenic Rivers
Wilderness

Affected Resources

Access/Transportation
Cave/Karst Resources
Lands/Reality/ROW
Livestock Grazing
Mineral Material
Mining Claims
Outdoor Recreation
Soils and Watershed
Vegetation
Visual Resources
Wildlife Habitat

RFO Resource Specialists Signature

Archeologist: Pat Flanary Date: 8/02/01
Environmental Protection Specialist: Richard Hall Date: 8/3/01
Geologist: [Signature] Date: 08/02/01
Hydrologist: [Signature] Date: 8/2/01
Range Specialist: [Signature] Date: 8/02/01
Reality Specialist: [Signature] Date: 8-2-01
Recreation Specialist: [Signature] Date: 8/2/01
Wildlife Specialist: [Signature] Date: 8/2/01



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Roswell Field Office
2909 West Second Street
Roswell, New Mexico 88201

IN REPLY REFER TO:
3100 (060)

Memorandum

To: RFO Field Office Manager
From: Assistant Field Manager, Lands and Minerals
Subject: Review of October 2001 Oil and Gas Draft Lease Sale Notice

The twenty (20) lease parcels proposed for inclusion in the October 2001 Competitive Oil and Gas Draft Lease Sale were reviewed and have been analyzed for potential impacts on resources. The following break down of the proposed lease parcels has occurred:

A. The twelve (12) parcels in their entirety have been approved for the October 2001 competitive oil and gas lease sale:

1)	200110097	-	1,560.000 acres	W/Stipulation SENM-S-22
2)	200110098	-	640.000 acres	W/Stipulation SENM-S-22
3)	200110099	-	960.000 acres	W/Stipulation SENM-S-22
4)	200110104	-	1,216.160 acres	W/Stipulation SENM-S-22
5)	200110105	-	360.000 acres	W/Stipulation SENM-S-22
6)	200110110	-	1,316.960 acres	
7)	200110111	-	1,303.170 acres	
8)	200110112	-	1,280.000 acres	
9)	200110116	-	400.800 acres	
10)	200110117	-	80.000 acres	
11)	200110118	-	665.760 acres	
12)	200110132	-	<u>160.000 acres</u>	
			9,942.850 acres	

Twelve parcels totaling 9,942.850 acres are approved for the lease sale.

B. Until further notice, two (2) parcels in their entirety are pulled and one (1) parcel was modified, from the lease sale to protect the Lesser Prairie Chicken WHA. The Lesser Prairie Chicken status is currently warranted for listing as threatened or endangered, but precluded by other higher priority species. The following parcels shall be excluded from future lease sales until further notice:

Modified 1)	200110113	-	1,280.000 acres = Sec 25 - 640.000 leaseable acres
			Sec. 26 - 640.000 acres pulled
2)	200110114	-	320.000 acres
3)	200110115	-	<u>320.000 acres</u>
			1,280.000 acres

Until further notice, a total of 1,280.000 acres are pulled from future lease sales.

Modified - Parcel 200110113 - Sec 25 - 640.000 leaseable acres.

C. One (1) parcel was pulled in its entirety from further consideration to lease the minerals for the following reason; the parcel is pulled indefinitely from future lease sales because it is in the no lease areas of the Pecos River Floodplain as per RMP Decision Of Record.

1) 2001- Add On - 40.000 acres

A total of 40 acres are pulled indefinitely from future lease sales.

D. Until further notice, two (2) parcels in their entirety are pulled from the lease sale, due to the proposed listing of the Mountain Plover as threatened by the USFWS. Until a decision is made by the USFWS on the Mountain Plover, the following parcels are pulled from further leasing consideration.

1) 200110067 - 1,806.960 acres

2) 200110068 - 1,253.500 acres
3,060.460 acres

Until further notice, a total of 3,060.460 acres are pulled from future lease sales.

E. One (1) parcel was modified to protect the Pecos River Slope Breaks. The following parcel was modified to exclude a certain section and subdivision permanently from future lease sales;

1) 200110069 - 800.000 acres

Pull permanently from future lease sales: 80.000 acres

Section 35; N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$

Leaseable Minerals: 720.000 acres

Section 33; E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$

Section 34; W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$

E. One (1) parcel was modified to protect the Crockett Draw drainage. The following parcel was modified to exclude certain sections and subdivisions permanently from future lease sales;

1) 200110100 - 531.030 acres

Pull permanently from future lease sales: 249.310 acres

Section 5; Lots: 1, 2, 3, 4

Section 6; Lots: 1, 2

Leaseable Minerals: 281.720 acres

Section 4; Lot: 4

Section 9; W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$

Section 15; NW $\frac{1}{4}$

SUMMARY:

12 parcels totaling 9,942.850 acres are approved for the lease sale.

3 parcel were modified;

***Leaseable Minerals: 1,641.720 acres**

***Pulled permanently from future lease sales: 329.310 acres**

4 parcels totaling 4,340.460 acres were pulled from future lease sales until further notice.

1 parcel totaling 40 acres was pulled indefinitely from future lease sales

20 Parcels proposed = 16,294.340 acres - 4,709.770 pulled acres = 11,584.570 leaseable acres



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Roswell Field Office
2909 West Second Street
Roswell, New Mexico 88201

OPTIONAL PLAN CONFORMANCE/NEPA COMPLIANCE RECORD OCTOBER 2001 COMPETITIVE OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE EA NUMBER: NM-060-01-133

BLM Office: Roswell Field Office

Proposed Action Title/Type: October 2001 Draft Lease Sale

Location of Proposed action: Roswell, New Mexico

Existing EA/EIS Review:

The proposed action is addressed in the Roswell Resource Area Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement, January 1997.

This EA/EIS has been reviewed against the following criteria to determine if it covers the proposed action:

1. The proposed action is a feature of, or essentially the same as, the alternative selected and analyzed in the existing document.
2. A reasonable range of alternatives was analyzed in the existing document.
3. The methodology/analytical approach previously used is appropriate for the proposed action.
4. The direct and indirect impacts of the proposed action are not significantly different than those identified in the existing document.
5. Public involvement in the previous analysis provides appropriate coverage for the proposed action.

Other related documents:

The proposed action does not conflict with any known state or local planning, ordinance, or zoning and is consistent with bureau policy, regulations, and existing planning documents.

Need for Proposed Action:

The Bureau of Land Management is required by law, regulation, and policy to lease minerals unless the proposed lease would not be in the public interest because it would be incompatible with current uses or other values which are worthy of being preserved. There is no known opposition to the proposed action that would preclude the competitive lease sale

Description of Proposed Action:

The Bureau of Land Management, New Mexico State Office proposes to offer for lease certain federal mineral lands that are managed by the Roswell Field Office. The manner the lease sale would be conducted is by competitive sale of federal mineral lands that would be used for the development of oil and gas resources.

Affected Environment:

The affected environment is discussed in the Roswell Resource Area Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement, BLM-NM-PT-97-003-1610.

Description of Impacts on Critical/Other Elements of the Affected Environment:

There are no known environmental impacts that would cause an irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources. There are no prevailing impacts that would affect this action at this time. However, the lease sale parcels were not evaluated for specific projects and the impacts that could result from successive actions. Utilizing the Roswell Approved Resource Management Plan, the lease sale parcels were reviewed for potential impacts that were minimized by the screening criteria used for the appraisal of the lands involved. Until specific land use projects (e.g., oil and gas operations and other related activities) are proposed, the following thirteen (13) critical elements and eleven (11) affected resources would be assessed for each individual action:

CRITICAL ELEMENTS

Air Quality
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC's)
Cultural Resources
Farmlands, Prime/Unique
Floodplains
Native American Religious Concerns
Minority/Low-Income Populations/Community
Threatened or Endangered Species (Plants & Animals)
Wastes, Hazardous/Solid
Water Quality (Drinking/Ground)
Wetlands and Riparian Zones
Wild & Scenic Rivers
Wilderness

AFFECTED RESOURCES

Access/Transportation
Cave/Karst Resources
Lands/Reality/ROW
Livestock Grazing
Mineral Material
Mining Claims
Outdoor Recreation
Soils and Watershed
Vegetation
Visual Resources
Wildlife Habitat

Description of Mitigating Measures and Residual Impacts:

The lease sale will be mitigated by attaching the Oil and Gas Leasing Stipulation(s) to the lease parcel(s). The Roswell Field Office, Surface Use and Occupancy Requirements, Conditions Of Approval, and the Roswell Field Office's Special Leasing Stipulations, which are in place at the New Mexico State Office, will provide adequate mitigation for all lease applications.

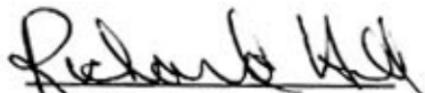
Direct, indirect, cumulative and residual impacts of leasing and lease development are generally described in the Roswell RMP/FEIS. An environmental analysis will be prepared on a case-by-case basis upon receipt of future actions.

Remarks:

20 Parcels proposed = 16,294.340 acres - 5,989.770 pulled acres = 10,304.570 leaseable acres

Persons/Agencies Consulted: None

Preparer: RICHARD G. HILL
Environmental Protection Specialist


Signature

Date: 8/3/01