

In Reply Refer To: July 14, 2015 Comp Sale 1600/3100 (MTC030.SZ) United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT North Dakota Field Office 99 23rd Avenue West – Suite A Dickinson, North Dakota 58601-2619 www.blm.gov/mt



December 15, 2014

Dear Reader:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received Expressions of Interest (nominations) to sell Federal oil and gas leases on 8 parcels of Federal minerals in a future lease sale. The parcels are located within the North Dakota Field Office (NDFO) area. The preliminary parcel list with recommended stipulations is posted on our website, listed below, for a 15-day scoping period for your review.

The BLM makes mineral resources available for use to meet national, regional, and local needs. Under the Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Leasing Reform Act of 1987, the BLM conducts oil and gas lease sales quarterly in each state whenever eligible lands are available for leasing. Prior to offering nominated parcels for lease at a sale, BLM will complete an environmental assessment (EA) to disclose the potential impacts from issuing Federal oil and gas leases and identify stipulations that would be included with each lease.

We have posted a preliminary parcel list with recommended stipulations on our website for your review. Please refer to the Montana/Dakotas BLM website at http://www.blm.gov/mt/st/en/prog/energy/oil_and_gas/leasing/leasesaleinfo.html. Current and updated information about our EAs, Lease Sale Notices, and corresponding information pertaining to this sale can be found at the link referenced above.

If you have any comments or issues that we should consider addressing in our analysis, please provide comments using one of the following methods:

- Email: <u>BLM_MT_North_DakotaFO_Lease_EA@blm.gov</u>
- Mail: North Dakota Field Office Attention: Oil and Gas EA 99 23rd Avenue West, Suite A Dickinson, North Dakota 58601

Contact: Paul Kelley (701) 227-7767

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, 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.

To be most useful, we should receive your comments before December 30, 2014. All submissions from organizations, from businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives of organizations or businesses, will be available for public review.

We plan to have the environmental assessment (EA) available for a 30-day review beginning on February 9, 2014. A letter requesting your assistance in providing comments to our EA will be sent to you at that time.

Please contact Paul Kelley, Natural Resource Specialist, at (701) 227-7767 or <u>pwkelley@blm.gov</u> with questions. We appreciate your attention to this review and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Rymerson Field Manager