

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT South Dakota Field Office 310 Roundup Street Belle Fourche, South Dakota 57717-1698 http://www.blm.gov/mt



July 15, 2014 Comp Sale RWP

December 16, 2013

Dear Reader:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received Expressions of Interest (nominations) to sell Federal oil and gas leases for the July 15, 2014 lease sale. Fifteen of these parcels fall within the South Dakota Field Office area. The preliminary parcel list with recommended stipulations is posted on our website for a 15-day scoping period for your review.

To access the preliminary parcel list with recommended stipulations please refer to the Montana/Dakotas BLM website at www.blm.gov/mt. On the home page, locate the heading titled "Frequently Requested," on the center right of the page, then click on the "Sales" portion of "Oil & Gas Info | Sales" link. If your office plans to utilize GIS applications in your review, this data is also located on our web site.

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.

If you have any comments or know of any issues that should be addressed in our analysis of the parcels, please provide comments using one of the following methods:

Email: BLM MT South DakotaFO Lease EA@blm.gov

Mail: South Dakota Field Office

Attention: Oil and Gas EA

310 Roundup Street

Belle Fourche, South Dakota 57717

Contact: Jennifer Frazer (605) 892-7010

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 January 6, 2014.

We plan to have the EA available for a 30-day review on February 10, 2014 on the website described above. Within the EA document locate Appendix A to view the listing of parcel numbers, legal descriptions, and lease stipulations.

In addition to the parcels proposed for competitive bid, the EA will include a reinstatement of a terminated lease. The leassee filed a Class II Reinstatement of terminated lease SDM 98206. Procedures for this action are outlined in Washington Office Instruction Memorandum No. 2013-177, dated August 13, 2013. This lease can be found in Harding County at:

T. 22 N, R. 2 E, BHM, SD SEC. 13 E2; SEC. 24 N2; SEC. 25 SWNE, NWSE; 720.00 AC

Upon updating the EA, parcels recommended for leasing will be listed on a competitive oil and gas lease sale scheduled for July 15, 2014. The lease sale notice will be posted on the website April 16, 2014. If you have any questions regarding the lease sale notices, please contact Teri Bakken at (406) 896-5091.

Sincerely,

Marian M. Atkins, Field Manager

South Dakota Field Office