

In Reply Refer To: 3160 (MTC023)

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Miles City Field Office 111 Garryowen Road Miles City, Montana 59301-7000 www.blm.gov/mt



May 16, 2017

Dear Reader:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received Expressions of Interest to sell Federal oil and gas leases on 204 parcels of Federal minerals in a future lease sale. The parcels are located within the Miles City Field Office (MCFO) area. The preliminary parcel list with recommended stipulations for the 204 parcels is posted on the BLM e-Planning website, listed below, for a 15-day scoping period for review starting on May 16, 2017.

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, if analysis is warranted, the 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.

Please refer to the BLM e-Planning website for updated information and associated documents pertaining to this sale and NEPA document, DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2017-0051-EA, at http://tinyurl.com/l4ajhss.

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: BLM_MT_Miles_CityFO_Lease_EA@blm.gov

Mail: Miles City Field Office Attention: Irma Nansel 111 Garryowen Road Miles City, MT 59301-7000

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 May 30, 2017. All submissions from organizations, from businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives of organizations or businesses, will be available for public review.

If analysis is warranted, an EA will be available for a 30-day review beginning on July 11, 2017 at the link listed above. A letter requesting your assistance in providing comments to our EA will be sent to you at that time.

Please contact Irma Nansel, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, at (406) 233-3653 with questions. We appreciate your attention to this review and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Too space

Todd D. Yeager Field Manager