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**SCOPING REPORT  
RESTORATION DESIGN ENERGY PROJECT**

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## ***Appendix C***

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**MEDIA CLIPS**

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## APPENDIX C

### MEDIA CLIPS

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## Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Restoration Design Energy Project and Possible Land Use Plan Amendment

### Summary

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) [Arizona State](#) Office intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to support possible amendments to several BLM-Arizona Resource Management Plans (RMP) to identify sites and/or areas managed by the BLM that may be suitable for the development of renewable energy and to establish appropriate design criteria for such projects. By this notice, BLM-[Arizona State](#) Office is announcing the beginning of the scoping process to solicit public comments and identify issues.

### Details

Publication Date:

[Wednesday, January 13, 2010](#)

Federal Register Document Number:

2010-404

Publishing Agency:

[Department of the Interior](#)

Dates:

This notice initiates the public scoping process for the EIS and possible plan amendments. Comments on issues may be submitted in writing until March 1, 2010. The dates and locations of any scoping meetings will be announced at least 15 days in advance through local media, newspapers and the BLM Web site at: <http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en.html>. In order to be included in the Draft EIS, all comments must be received prior to the close of the scoping period or 15 days after the last public meeting, whichever is later. We will provide additional opportunities for public participation upon publication of the Draft EIS.

Comments Close:

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1807

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This notice initiates the public scoping process for the EIS and possible plan amendments. Comments on issues may be submitted in writing until March 1, 2010. The dates and locations of any scoping meetings will be announced at least 15 days in advance through local media, newspapers and the BLM Web site at: <http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en.html>. In order to be included in the Draft EIS, all comments must be received prior to the close of the scoping period or 15 days after the last public meeting, whichever is later. We will provide additional opportunities for public participation upon publication of the Draft EIS.

You may submit comments on issues and planning criteria related to the Restoration Design Energy Project by any of the following methods:

•*Web site:* [http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/energy/arra\\_solar.htm](http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/energy/arra_solar.htm);

•*E-mail:* Include your name, any organization you represent, and return address in the e-mail message to: [az\\_arra\\_rdep@blm.gov](mailto:az_arra_rdep@blm.gov);

•*Fax:* Attn: Teri Raml, (602) 417-9454; and

•*Mail or other delivery service:* Please be sure to include your name, any organization you represent, and a return address to: Restoration Design Energy Project, Attention: Teri Raml, BLM-Arizona State Office, One North Central Avenue, Suite 800, Phoenix, Arizona 85004-4427.

Documents pertinent to this proposal may be examined at the BLM-Arizona State Office, One North Central Avenue, Suite 800, Phoenix, Arizona 85004.

The purpose of the Restoration Design Energy Project is to foster environmentally responsible production of renewable energy by amending plans, as necessary, to identify sites or areas that are already disturbed or that may be in need of some level of remediation or restoration, and which may be suitable for siting of renewable energy projects, as well as allocate such sites or areas for this purpose. Possible plan amendments may also include decisions about acquisition, disposal, or retention of sites or areas. The BLM will establish management direction for lands acquired for the purposes of this Project or will extend the applicable land use plan decisions to these lands, provided there are no unresolved management issues associated with the newly acquired lands. The environmental analysis will address, at each site or area, both existing remediation needs and any potential for renewable energy generation,

<http://www.govpulse.us/entries/2010/01/13/2010-404/notice-of-intent-to-prepare-an-enviro...> 3/8/2010

and may also identify project design criteria to address environmental issues particular to the site or area identified. Implementation of the Project will help meet community energy needs, create economic opportunities, and provide good value to the taxpayer for the use of public lands. To accomplish this, some or all of the BLM's RMPs throughout Arizona may need to be amended. Plans that may be amended include the following: the Yuma Field Office RMP—2010; the Agua Fria and Bradshaw-Harquahala RMP—2010; the Arizona Strip Field Office RMP—2008; the Lake Havasu Field Office RMP—2007; the Kingman Resource Area RMP—1995; the Safford District RMP—1991; the Phoenix RMP—1988; the Lower Gila South RMP—1988 as amended 2005; and the Lower Gila North Management Framework Plan—1983 as amended 2005.

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Title II, Sec. 211) establishes a goal that at least 10,000 megawatts of renewable energy production capacity be approved on public lands by 2015. Additionally, Secretarial Order 3285 directs agencies within the Department of the Interior to encourage the development of environmentally responsible renewable energy generation. The Project is consistent with the Congressional direction, Department of the Interior policies, and is unique in that it offers an alternative process for site selection that includes the identification of lands in need of remediation that have renewable energy generation potential. At the initiation of the Project, the BLM-Arizona State Office requested individual field offices and members of the public to identify previously utilized sites that might be suitable for development of renewable energy for consideration for inclusion in the Project. Examples of submitted sites include gravel pits, mine sites, landfills, isolated parcels that have been disturbed, and abandoned unauthorized airstrips. Sites and/or areas proposed for the Project will be analyzed according to the BLM's planning regulations at 43 CFR part 1600, and proposed planning amendments will be analyzed in the EIS. This analysis will take into consideration: (1) 42 proposed sites covering approximately 26,000 acres; (2) knowledge of existing and proposed energy transmission options; (3) concentrations of existing and proposed energy generation; (4) technical factors; and (5) environmental factors. The sites submitted so far include BLM-administered, State, municipal, and private lands. While the BLM planning process will primarily address management of those lands and interests in lands administered by the BLM, the analysis in the EIS may be broader in scope. Additional restoration design concepts, which may be incorporated into the possible design criteria applicable to particular sites or areas, are expected to be developed through scoping. Suitable sites for application of this approach to reuse of land may also continue to be identified over time, and may be considered in this or subsequent planning initiatives, depending on when they are identified.

The purpose of the public scoping process is to determine relevant issues that will influence the scope of the environmental analysis, including alternatives, and guide the process for developing the EIS. At present, the BLM has identified the following preliminary issues: (1) Site or area suitability for renewable energy generation and scale of possible generation; (2) site or area proximity to the existing electrical transmission grid and the feasibility of integrating new electric generation projects with the grid; (3) site or area proximity to population and electric use (load) centers; (4) determining the appropriate renewable energy generation technologies for implementation on a site-by-site and/or area-by-area basis; and (5) the possible need for environmental remediation of project sites or areas based on previous uses and levels of disturbance and possible contamination of the sites or areas, as well as how addressing the possible need for remediation may be incorporated into design criteria that may be applicable to projects proposed for a particular site or area.

The EIS will use existing data for the analysis to support the planning decisions (*e.g.*, allocation, disposal, retention decisions) that may be made as a result of this initiative. When individual project proposals for renewable development are received, any site-specific analysis could be tiered to the EIS for this Project to avoid unnecessary duplication of analysis.

Authorization of the project may require amendment of some or all of the BLM RMPs throughout

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Arizona, as listed above. By this notice, the BLM is complying with requirements in [43 CFR 1610.2\(c\)](#) to notify the public of potential amendments to land use plans, predicated on the findings of the EIS. If land use plan amendments are necessary, the BLM will integrate the land use planning process with the NEPA process for this project.

The BLM will utilize and coordinate the NEPA commenting process to satisfy the public involvement process for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act ([16 U.S.C. 470f](#)) as provided for in [36 CFR 800.2\(d\)\(3\)](#). Native American Tribal consultations will be conducted and Tribal concerns, including impacts on Indian trust assets, will be given due consideration. Federal, State, and local agencies, along with other stakeholders that may be interested or affected by the BLM's decision on this project are invited to participate in the scoping process and, if eligible, may request or be requested by the BLM to participate as a cooperating agency. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail 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.

[40 CFR 1501.7](#) and [43 CFR 1610.2](#).

Helen Hankins,

BLM Associate State Director.

#### **References**

- Active
  - [http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/energy/arra\\_solar.htm](http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/energy/arra_solar.htm)
  - <http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en.html>

Turning Brownfields Green with Renewable Energy: Arizona Bureau of Land Managem... Page 1 of 1

From [YubaNet.com](http://YubaNet.com)

ENVIRO

**Turning Brownfields Green with Renewable Energy: Arizona Bureau of Land Management Initiates "Restoration Design Energy Project"**

Author: The Wilderness Society

Published on Jan 15, 2010 - 10:28:29 AM

Phoenix, AZ January 15 - Capitalizing on the opportunity to build clean, renewable energy while revitalizing damaged lands, the Arizona State Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has begun the second phase of an initiative it launched last summer. The Restoration Design Energy Project (Restoration Design), funded with stimulus money under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, aims to achieve the ultimate in guided renewable energy development – repowering already disturbed lands, also called brownfields. This week, BLM announced it will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the project, beginning a second round of public comments.

"Developing energy on brownfields is a fantastic way to utilize waste land by using our polluted past to get to our clean future," said Alex Daue, Renewable Energy Coordinator for The Wilderness Society. "Restoration Design supports President Obama and Secretary Salazar's dual goals of using public lands as part of our strategy for a new energy economy while protecting treasured landscapes. We look forward to continuing to work with BLM on this innovative project."

Restoration Design was a recipient of The Wilderness Society's annual Comparative Analysis of Particular Excellence (CAPE) awards, which recognize BLM's contribution to significant and meaningful protections for western lands.

Last fall, the Restoration Design Project reached out to the public, conservation groups, renewable energy developers and others to identify disturbed lands on public and private lands where, after site cleanup, renewable energy could be developed. BLM now plans to analyze 42 sites totaling 26,000 acres, including landfills, abandoned mine lands, gravel pits, hazardous material sites, former airfields, trash dumps, and other isolated BLM lands in urban areas. These brownfields often already have existing electrical and transmission capacity and are zoned for industrial uses - making them ideal sites for renewable energy projects.

"We are excited that BLM is moving forward in analyzing the potential sites that we and our conservation partners have identified, as well as site nominated by individuals, municipalities, government agencies, utilities, project developers and others," said John Shepard at the Sonoran Institute. "Prioritizing renewable energy development on disturbed lands helps keep our wildlands healthy and can improve community wellbeing by cleaning up brownfields, relieving local tax burdens, and encouraging clean energy development."

To see the BLM's website for Restoration Design, please visit: [http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/energy/arra\\_solar.html](http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/energy/arra_solar.html)

Federal Register notice: <http://frwebgate6.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/TEXTgate.cgi?WAISdocID=508277428985+0+1+0&WAIAction=retrieve>

The Wilderness Society's webpage on the Restoration Design: <http://wilderness.org/content/brownfields-greenfields>

The Wilderness Society is a national, non-profit organization dedicated to protecting America's public lands. Since 1935, TWS has led the conservation movement in wilderness protection, writing and passing the landmark Wilderness Act, and winning lasting protection for 107 million acres of Wilderness. TWS has more than 500,000 members and supporters. For more information, visit [www.wilderness.org](http://www.wilderness.org).

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## BLM hosts meetings on energy project

### RESTORATION DESIGN ENERGY PROJECT

#### Upcoming Public Scoping Meetings

PHOENIX – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Arizona is holding a series of public meetings statewide to get comments on its Restoration Design Energy Project.

The intent of the project is to identify disturbed or previously developed sites that could be made suitable for renewable energy projects. Among potential sites that could qualify:

- Brownfields or other areas that have been contaminated by hazardous materials
- Abandoned mines
- Former landfills
- Gravel pits
- Damaged areas with limited restoration potential

At the meetings, members of the public and representatives of government and tribal agencies will get information on the project. They will also have the chance to comment on what should be included in an environmental impact statement that will be prepared on the project. The EIS will address both existing remediation needs and the potential for renewable energy generation.

The Restoration Design Energy Project is funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The project will support the Secretary of the Interior’s goals to build America’s energy resources and to protect and restore treasured landscapes.

Here is the schedule of the public scoping meetings.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
Monday, February 8	2 to 5:30 p.m.	BLM Arizona State Office  One North Central Ave., Suite 800, Phoenix, AZ
Tuesday, February 9	2 to 4 p.m.	The Hotel Arizona  181 W. Broadway Blvd., Tucson, AZ
Wednesday, February 10	6 to 8 p.m.	Buena High School  5225 Buena School Blvd., Sierra Vista, AZ
Thursday, February 11	7 to 9 p.m.	Arizona Game & Fish Department, Quail Room  5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ
Wednesday, February 17	5 to 7 p.m.	Fredonia High School Gym  221 N. Hortic Street, Fredonia, AZ
Monday, February 22	5 to 7 p.m.	Pioneer Junior College Theater 1610 S. Main, Snowflake, AZ

<http://tucsoncitizen.com/hot-off-the-press-release/2010/02/03/blm-hosts-meetings-on-energ...> 3/8/2010

Tuesday, February 23	6:30 to 8:30 p.m.	Coconino High School Theater 2801 N. Izabel, Flagstaff, AZ
Wednesday, February 24	6 to 8 p.m.	La Senita Elementary Cafeteria 3175 Gordon Drive, Kingman, AZ
Thursday, February 25	6 to 8 p.m.	BLM Arizona Yuma Field Office 2555 E. Gila Ridge Road, Yuma, AZ

Comments also can be made prior to the close of the public comment period, **March 11**, by mail or by e-mail. Comments will become part of the official public record and may be included as part of the environmental impact statement.

Mail comments: Restoration Design Energy Project, Attention: Teri Raml, Project Manager, BLM Arizona State Office, One North Central Avenue, Suite 800, Phoenix, Arizona 85004. E-mail comments: [az\\_arra\\_rdep@blm.gov](mailto:az_arra_rdep@blm.gov).

For additional information, visit the project website at: <http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en.html> and click on Restoration Design Energy Project or contact Teri Raml, Project Manager for the Restoration Design Energy Project at (602) 417-9388 or [teri\\_raml@blm.gov](mailto:teri_raml@blm.gov).

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### BLM holding meetings on energy project

by Associated Press (February 4th, 2010 @ 4:39am)

PHOENIX - The Bureau of Land Management is holding a series of public meetings around Arizona this month to get comments on its restoration design energy project.

The intent of the project is to identify disturbed or previously developed sites that could be made suitable for renewable energy projects. Among potential sites that could qualify are brownfields or other areas that have been contaminated by hazardous materials, abandoned mines, former landfills, gravel pits and damaged areas with limited restoration potential.

At the meetings, members of the public will have the chance to comment on what should be included in an environmental impact statement being prepared on the project.

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February 8, 2010

Host: Ted Simons

BLM renewable energy land | Video

The Bureau of Land Management will be holding hearings this month to discuss land that could be restored to make it suitable for renewable energy projects. Jim Kenna, BLM State Director, explains the project.

Guests:

Jim Kenna - Director, Bureau of Land Management

Category: Sustainability

View Transcript

Glendale Casino | Video

A bill has been introduced that is designed to block a proposed casino in Glendale. State Representatives Rick Murphy and Chad Campbell discuss the pros and cons of the bill.

Guests:

Rick Murphy - State Representative  
Chad Campbell - State Representative

View Transcript

New Lawmakers | Video

Dennis Braswell was named to replace Pamela Gorman in the state senate. There will be other new lawmakers soon as other lawmakers have resigned recently, all to run for congress. Dennis Welch of the Arizona Guardian discusses the changes at the legislature.

Guests:

Dennis Welch - Arizona Guardian

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# Rim Country Gazette

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2010

## BLM renewable energy project meetings begin

PHOENIX - The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Arizona is holding a series of public meetings statewide to get comments on its Restoration Design Energy Project.



The intent of the project is to identify disturbed or previously developed sites that could be made suitable for renewable energy projects. Among potential sites that could qualify:

- Brownfields or other areas that have been contaminated by hazardous materials
- Abandoned mines
- Former landfills
- Gravel pits
- Damaged areas with limited restoration potential

At the meetings, members of the public and representatives of government and tribal agencies will get information on the project. They will also have the chance to comment on what should be included in an environmental impact statement that will be prepared on the project. The EIS will address both existing remediation needs and the potential for renewable energy generation.

The Restoration Design Energy Project is funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The project will support the Secretary of the Interior's goals to build America's energy resources and to protect and restore treasured landscapes.

The closest meetings:

Mon. Feb. 8, 5:30 p.m., BLM AZ state office, 1 N. Central, Suite 800, Phoenix.  
 Thurs., Feb. 11, 7-9 p.m., Arizona Game & Fish, Quail Room, 5000 W. Carefree Hwy., Phoenix.

### Labels

- BY THE PEOPLE (1)
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- PREGNANCY 101 by Mitzzi Brabb (2)
- RANT AND RAVE (12)

<http://rimcountrygazette.blogspot.com/2010/02/blm-renewable-energy-project-meetings.html> 3/8/2010

Mon., Feb. 22, 5-7 p.m., Pioneer Jr. College Theater, 1610 S. Main, Snowflake.  
Tues., Feb. 23, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Coconino High School Theater, 2801 N. Izabel, Flagstaff.

Comments also can be made prior to the close of the public comment period, March 11, by mail or by e-mail. Comments will become part of the official public record and may be included as part of the environmental impact statement.

• Mail comments: Restoration Design Energy Project, Attention: Teri Raml, Project Manager, BLM Arizona State Office, One North Central Avenue, Suite 800, Phoenix, Arizona 85004.

• E-mail comments: az\_arra\_rdep@blm.gov.

For additional information, visit the project website at: <http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en.html> and click on Restoration Design Energy Project or contact Teri Raml, Project Manager for the Restoration Design Energy Project at (602) 417-9388 or [teri\\_raml@blm.gov](mailto:teri_raml@blm.gov).

The BLM manages more land - 256 million acres - than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western States, including Alaska. The BLM, with a budget of about \$1 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The BLM accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

Posted by Jim Keyworth at 11:49 AM  
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### Potential Energy

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*Sunny and spacious, Arizona's unused public lands are providing researchers with great ways to turn wasted space into geothermal and solar treasures.*

Arizona is a hotspot for renewable energy because of the sunlight that bathes it almost year round. The bare bones of the land and vast open spaces present companies with an empty canvas onto which they can paint project plans for solar paneling and geothermal heat.

Members of the Bureau of Land Management have grasped at these opportunities and are leaping ahead of the global energy crisis by using abandoned public lands to create renewable energy, thanks to the Restoration Design Energy Project: Turning Brownfields Green with Renewable Energy. Last year, the Wilderness Society recognized the project with four Comparative Analysis of Particular Excellence awards.

Teri Raml, the project's former manager, says public acknowledgement helps make things happen. "I think getting recognition from the conservation community about our efforts is great," she says. "It shows us we've got some potential partners in this project."

Raml says the project emphasizes one of two ways renewable energy companies prefer to seek out project locations. By using brownfields — land previously used for industrial purposes — the BLM prevents pristine lands from being developed. The other route involves installing solar panels on rooftops.

"We thought, 'Why not use lands that aren't being used recreationally or as wildlife habitat?' It just makes sense," she adds.

Alex Daue, a member of the BLM action team that selected the award recipients, is the Wilderness Society's renewable energy coordinator and says society members "just love" the idea of building renewable energy on brownfields: "It's a win-win for everybody."

The brownfields pegged as possible sites include 2,800 acres outside the Sonoran Desert National Monument, off of Interstate 8, as well as 1,300 acres west of Phoenix, which are known as the Foothills Site. The BLM has identified 42 disturbed sites all over Arizona that, with a little TLC, can be sold to solar and geothermal companies. Lands categorized as disturbed can be anything from abandoned mines to old landfills.

To gain project support, the BLM opened the idea up to the public. John Shepard, senior advisor at the

<http://arizonahighways.wordpress.com/2010/02/12/potential-energy/>

3/8/2010

Sonoran Institute of Tucson, was on a team of people that suggested the BLM identify parcels of land it owns that are impractical and lack public value.

“We thought it was a really great example of the BLM playing a leadership role on an important land issue,” Shepard says.

Raml says project members are scoping out lands and drafting an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that should be released this summer. Clean-up projects should be underway after the final EIS is released by the summer of 2011. “We think this is a fantastic opportunity and we will be working with BLM on this [moving] forward.”

— Jodi Cisman, editorial intern

[1 Comment](#)

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**1 Comment**

- [john b. aimone-andrews \(aimone\)](#)  
[February 12, 2010 at 4:14 pm](#)

would like some of that land to do sustainable reacher and development for my ph d on renewable resources from hemp that can be used in poverty sricken areas, cochise county,az, mexico, africa, the list goes on.

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|  |  |  |

## BLM seeks public comments on county sites for renewable projects

By **JM SECKLER/The Daily News**  
 Published: Monday, February 22, 2010 11:12 PM MST

**KINGMAN** — A public meeting will be held in Kingman to identify sites in Mohave County for renewable energy projects.

The meeting is the second to the last of nine meetings held throughout the state by the Bureau of Land Management. BLM is seeking public input on sites in the county that could be abandoned mine sites or landfills, inactive mineral sites or gravel pits, hazardous material sites or other damaged sites.

The BLM's Restoration Design Energy Project would be funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act or the federal stimulus money approved by Congress in 2009. The sites located on public or private lands will be looked at to connect to existing transmission lines, its relationship to a source of demand and available water allocation.

More than 26,000 acres on 45 sites throughout the state have been nominated as possible sites. In Mohave County, one 50-acre site, the former Silver Creek land fill, has been nominated near Bullhead City. Two other sites in the Arizona Strip area, the 20-acre Snowflake mine and the 80-acre Mokaac gravel pit, have also been identified, BLM spokesman Dennis Godfrey said.

The BLM already held a meeting in December seeking public comments for an environmental impact statement on a project proposed by BP Wind Energy of North America to construct 335 wind turbine generators on 44,860 acres of public land and about 4,360 acres of private land in the White Hills area about 40 northwest of Kingman.

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## BLM seeks public comments on county sites for renewable projects

By JIM SECKLER/The Daily News

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