

The BLM Battle Mountain District Office (BMDO) is revising the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the BMDO planning area. The BMDO RMP will provide detailed information about the current state of resources on public lands within the planning area, and set forth a plan of action for managing those resources for the next twenty or so years under the BLM's dual mandate of *multiple use* and *sustained yield*.

### Renewable Energy Coordination Office (RECO):

The Secretary of the Interior issued Order No. 3283 on January 16, 2009, to enhance renewable energy development on public lands, including the creation of Renewable Energy Coordination Offices (RECOs) to support the permitting of environmentally responsible wind, solar, biomass and geothermal operations and electrical transmission facilities on public lands. The Battle Mountain RECO was established in 2009 to support the Secretary's goal. The BMDO RECO is responsible for renewable energy within the district. There are currently three areas of renewable energy within the BMDO:

#### Solar:

There is one active project, Tonopah Solar Energy, Crescent Dunes Project, located in Nye County approximately ten miles northwest of Tonopah. When constructed it will produce 110 megawatts (MW) of power. On December 20, 2010, the Secretary of the Interior signed the record of decision.

A Programmatic Solar Environmental Impact Statement is being developed by the BLM Washington Office. There are two areas being evaluated in the Battle Mountain District; fifteen miles south of Goldfield; and ten miles north of Tonopah in Esmeralda County.

#### Wind:

There are four wind projects in the monitoring stage. Meteorological towers are located six miles west of Beatty in Nye County, northwest of Carvers in Nye County, twenty five miles west of Silver Peak in Esmeralda County, thirty miles east of Austin in Lander County.

#### Geothermal:

There are five active projects:

Ormat Technologies Inc., Jersey Valley Project is located in Pershing County. This project is located fifty miles North West of Battle Mountain. It is currently under construction and will produce up to thirty MW of power.

Ormat Technologies Inc., McGinness Hills Project is located in Lander County. This project is located thirty miles North East of Austin. It is currently under exploration and is in the process of preparing its documentation for development. It is anticipated producing 90 MW of power.



Ram Power's Clayton Valley Project is located in Esmeralda County. This project, located ten miles east of Silver Peak, is in the process of preparing its documentation and is anticipated to be in exploration this summer.

Sierra Geothermal Power's Alum Project is located in Esmeralda County. This project, located five miles north of Silver Peak, is in exploration.

Sierra Geothermal Power's Silver Peak Project is located in Esmeralda County. This project, located ten miles north of Silver Peak, is in exploration.

**Geothermal Leases:**

Lease sales are estimated to be conducted around every nine months. The next geothermal lease sale is scheduled for March 2011.

***The BLM wants your input...***

- ***How can BLM accommodate development of renewable energy resources such as solar power, wind energy, and geothermal energy?***
- ***What suitability criteria may be used for solar and wind generation locations?***

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**BMDO Planning Webpage:**  
[www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/battle\\_mountain\\_field/  
blm\\_information/rmp.com](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/battle_mountain_field/blm_information/rmp.com)

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