



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Wyoming State Office

P.O. Box 1828

Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003-1828

In Reply Refer to:
3100(921 Gamper)
February 2014 Protest

JAN 17 2014

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Whitlock
2668 Hwy 789
Lander, Wyoming 82520

DECISION

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PROTEST DENIED

On January 13, 2014, the Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming State Office, received a protest from Robert and Judy Whitlock to the offering of parcel WY-1402-152 at the February 2014 lease sale.

According to the February 2014 Competitive Lease Sale Notice¹, and accompanying News Release dated November 13, 2013, all protests to this lease sale must be received no later than 4:00 pm on December 13, 2013. As such, this protest was not timely submitted and is hereby denied.

Appeal Information

This Decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR, Part 4 and Form 1842-1 (copy attached).

If an appeal is taken, your notice of appeal must be filed in this office within 30 days from your receipt of this Decision. The protestor has the burden of showing that the Decision appealed from is in error.

¹ See pages viii and viii: We must receive a protest no later than 4:00 p.m. local time on December 13, 2013, the 60th calendar day prior to the date of the sale. If our office is not open on the 60th day prior to the date of the sale, a protest received on the next day our office is open to the public will be considered timely filed. The protest must also include any statement of reasons to support the protest. We will dismiss a late-filed protest or a protest filed without a statement of reasons.

If you wish to file a petition for a stay of the effectiveness of this Decision during the time that your appeal is being reviewed by the Board, the petition for a stay must accompany your notice of appeal. A petition for a stay is required to show sufficient justification based on the standards listed on the attached document. Copies of the notice of appeal and petition for a stay must be submitted to the Interior Board of Land Appeals and the appropriate Office of the Solicitor (see 43 CFR §4.413) at the same time the original documents are filed with this office. Copy of the notice of appeal and petition for a stay must also be submitted to each adversely affected party named in this decision at the same time the original documents are filed with this office. If you request a stay, you have the burden of proof to demonstrate that a stay should be granted.

Standards for Obtaining a Stay

Except as otherwise provided by law or other pertinent regulations, a petition for a stay of a decision pending appeal shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

- (1) The relative harm to parties if the stay is granted or denied,
- (2) The likelihood of the protesters' success on the merits,
- (3) The likelihood of the immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted, and
- (4) Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

You will find attached to this decision a "Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale Results" which contains a list of persons who have purchased the protested parcels at the August 2010 sale and are, therefore, adverse parties who must be served with any pleadings.

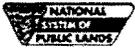


Larry Claypool
Deputy State Director,
Minerals and Lands

2 Attachments:

1 - Appeal Form (1842-1)

2 - Public Notice, February 2014 Lease sale, dated 11/13/13



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT NEWS RELEASE
Wyoming State Office**Release Date:** 11/13/13
Contacts: Beverly Gorny
307-775-6158

Proposed Parcels for February 2014 Oil and Gas Lease Sale Posted

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Wyoming State Office has posted its proposed list of parcels for the quarterly competitive oil and gas lease sale scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2014, at the Holiday Inn in Cheyenne, Wyo. Doors open at 7 a.m. with the auction beginning at 8 a.m.

The posted list, which identifies 167 proposed parcels totaling 153,933.89 acres, initiates a 30-day public protest period.

The parcels are located in Big Horn, Campbell, Converse, Crook, Fremont, Natrona, Niobrara, Park, Washakie and Weston counties in Wyoming and Sioux County in Nebraska.

Copies of the complete February 2014 competitive oil and gas lease sale notice will be available at the sale and may be purchased in advance for \$5 from the State Office at 5353 Yellowstone Road in Cheyenne, or by writing: BLM, Attn: Copy Work, P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, Wyo. 82003. Copies are also available for purchase from each BLM field office in Wyoming.

The complete February 2014 competitive oil and gas lease sale notice may be viewed and/or downloaded for free at:
http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/programs/energy/Oil_and_Gas/Leasing.html. Also available at this website are the oil and gas leasing environmental assessments, including public comments, for the February 2014 oil and gas lease sale.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In Fiscal Year 2012, activities on public lands generated \$4.6 billion in revenue, much of which was shared with the States where the activities occurred. In addition, public lands contributed more than \$112 billion to the U.S. economy and helped support more than 500,000 jobs.

--BLM--

Wyoming State Office 5353 Yellowstone Road Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009

Last updated: 11-13-2013

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