

evaluate the environmental impacts of their proposals.

**DATES:** You must submit your comments to BLM at the address below on or before June 1, 2004. BLM will not necessarily consider any comments received after the above date.

**ADDRESSES:** You may mail comments to: Bureau of Land Management, (WO-630), Eastern States Office, 7450 Boston Blvd., Springfield, Virginia 22153.

You may send comments via Internet to: [WOCComment@blm.gov](mailto:WOCComment@blm.gov). Please include "Attn: 1004-0103" and your name and return address in your Internet message.

You may deliver comments to the Bureau of Land Management, Administrative Record, Room 401, 1620 L Street, NW., Washington, DC.

All comments will be available for public review at the L Street address during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.), Monday through Friday except Federal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** You may contact George Brown, on (202) 452-7765 (Commercial or FTS). Persons who use a telecommunication device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) on 1-800-877-8330, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to contact Mr. Brown.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** 5 CFR 1320.12(a) requires that we provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning a collection of information to solicit comments on:

(1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper functioning of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) The accuracy of our estimates of the information collection burden, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions we use;

(3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and

(4) Ways to minimize the information collection burden on those whose are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

The Mineral Materials Act of 1947, as amended (Act), 30 U.S.C. 601 and 602, provides for the disposal of mineral materials, such as sand, gravel, and petrified wood from public lands by sale or free use. BLM disposes such materials under the regulations at 43 CFR 3600 and 3610. BLM uses Form 3600-9 to collect information to:

(1) Determine if the sale of mineral materials is in the public interest;

(2) Mitigate the environmental impacts of mineral materials development;

(3) Get fair market value for materials sold; and

(4) Prevent trespass removal of the materials.

Applicants must submit a request in writing to BLM to purchase mineral materials. Specific information requirements are not stated in the regulations, but sale agreements are made on Form 3600-9 approved by BLM.

BLM estimates we process 4,400 contracts for mineral materials each year. We estimate it takes 30 minutes to complete and compile supporting documentation. The estimated total annual information collection burden is 2,200 hours.

BLM will summarize all responses to this notice and include them in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 29, 2004.

**Michael H. Schwartz,**

*Bureau of Land Management, Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 04-7467 Filed 4-1-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-84-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[AK-964-1410-HY-P; F-14838-A; CAA-9]

#### Alaska Native Claims Selection

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of decision approving lands for conveyance.

**SUMMARY:** As required by 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that an appealable decision approving lands for conveyance pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act will be issued to Bethel Native Corporation, for lands in Sec. 8, T. 8 N., R. 71 W., Seward Meridian, located in the vicinity of Bethel, Alaska, containing 2.07 acres. Notice of this decision will also be published four times in the *Tundra Drums*.

**DATES:** The time limits for filing an appeal are:

1. Any party claiming a property interest which is adversely affected by the decision, shall have until May 3, 2004 to file an appeal.

2. Parties receiving service by certified mail shall have until 30 days from the date of receipt to file an appeal.

Parties who do not file an appeal in accordance with the requirements of 43

CFR part 4, Subpart E, shall be deemed to have waived their rights.

**ADDRESSES:** A copy of the decision may be obtained from: Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office, 222 West Seventh Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Chris Sitbon at (907) 271-3226, or by e-mail at [Chris\\_Sitbon@ak.blm.gov](mailto:Chris_Sitbon@ak.blm.gov).

**Chris Sitbon,**

*Land Law Examiner, Branch of Adjudication II.*

[FR Doc. 04-7461 Filed 4-1-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310--\$-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[CA-930-5420-EU-B173; CACA 44409]

#### Disclaimer of Interest in Lands; California

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Santa Ynez Band of Mission Indians has applied for the United States to issue a recordable disclaimer of interest in certain lands which were held in trust. The interest proposed to be disclaimed is fee title and not a right-of-way filed under the auspices of RS 2477. The cumulative acreage of these lands is 1.34 acres.

**DATES:** Comments should be received by May 3, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments or objections should be sent to: Chief, Branch of Lands Management, 2800 Cottage Way, Rm. W-1834, Sacramento, California 95825.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nancy Alex, BLM California State Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825; 916-978-4674.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Tribe and the United States agree the following property is not held by the United States in trust for Indians. The lands are outside the surveyed boundary of the Santa Ynez Reservation.

Nonetheless, Santa Barbara County records still show it held in trust. The Tribe filed application requesting the United States to issue a recordable disclaimer of the United States' interest pursuant to section 315 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1745) for the following described lands:

That parcel delineated by courses 101 to 102 to 103 to 104 to 101B to 101A back to 101, and that parcel delineated

by courses 104 to 105 to 106 to 107 to 108 to 104B to 104A back to 104, as shown on the BLM Dependent Resurvey and Survey for the boundaries of the Santa Ynez Indian Reservation, T. 6 N., R. 31 W., San Bernardino Meridian, approved September 14, 1977.

The lands described above were used and occupied by certain Indian families outside the reservation. In 1903, the lands were deeded to the United States in trust for those particular Indians with a reverter. By 1940, the Tribe and the Solicitor for the Department of the Interior found that the lands described above reverted back to the grantor's successors in interest. Although disclaimers were executed at that time, they were never recorded with the County Recorder, causing the impression that the United States still holds the lands in trust. The United States proposes to issue a disclaimer of interest to remove this cloud on title.

For a period of 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, all persons who wish to submit comments, suggestions, or objections in connection with the proposed disclaimer may present their views in writing to the undersigned officer at the above address.

Dated: November 25, 2003.

**Howard K. Stark,**

*Chief, Branch of Lands Management.*

[FR Doc. 04-7463 Filed 4-1-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-40-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NV-060-1990-EX]

#### **Notice of Intent To Prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) To Analyze Homestake Mining Company's Proposed Modification to the Plan of Operations for Expansion of Its Ruby Hill Mine, Eureka County, NV**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to Prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), 40 CFR 1500-1508 Council on Environmental Quality Regulations, and 43 CFR Subpart 3809, the Bureau of Land Management's Battle Mountain Field Office will be directing the preparation of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to analyze a proposed expansion of an

open-pit mine and associated facilities in Eureka County, Nevada. Expansion of the Ruby Hill Mine, specifically development of the East Archimedes deposit, was defined in the EIS for the existing mine as a reasonably foreseeable future action. The project will involve public and private lands. The SEIS will be prepared by a third-party contractor directed by the BLM.

The BLM invites comments on the scope of the analysis. The purpose of the public scoping meetings is to identify issues to be addressed in the SEIS and potentially viable alternatives that address these issues. BLM personnel will be present to explain the NEPA process, mining regulations, and other requirements for processing the proposed Plan of Operations Amendment and the associated SEIS. **DATES:** This notice initiates the public scoping process. Comments on the scope of the SEIS can be submitted in writing to the address below and will be accepted throughout the writing of the Draft SEIS. Scoping meetings will be held in Eureka and in Battle Mountain, Nevada. All public meetings will be announced through the local news media, newsletters or flyers, and will be posted on the Battle Mountain BLM Web site, <http://www.nv.blm.gov/bmountain>, at least 15 days prior to each event. The minutes and list of attendees for each meeting will be available to the public and open for 30 days after the meeting to any participants who wish to clarify the views they expressed.

**ADDRESSES:** Written scoping comments should be sent to: Bureau of Land Management, Battle Mountain Field Office, 50 Bastian Rd., Battle Mountain, NV 89820, ATTN: Mary Craggett. Written comments may also be faxed to Mary Craggett at (775) 635-4034. Documents pertinent to this proposal as well as comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, may be examined at the Battle Mountain Field Office during regular business hours (7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except holidays). Comments may be published as part of the SEIS.

Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their

entirety. BLM will not consider anonymous comments.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Mary Craggett, Project Manager, Battle Mountain Field Office, 50 Bastian Road, Battle Mountain, NV 89820 (775-635-4060.)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** HMC has submitted a proposal to expand its existing Ruby Hill Mine located south of Highway 50, approximately 1 mile northwest of the town of Eureka, Nevada. The project (development of the East Archimedes deposit) would consist of extending the existing open pit, expansion of existing waste rock and heap leach facilities, construction of dewatering facilities, and the continued operation, reclamation, and closure of the existing Ruby Hill Mine, to include mine office and warehouse, truck shop, haul roads, ore stockpiles, access road, diversion ditches, power transmission lines, water wells and pipelines, process solution transmission pipelines and a landfill. The project area is unchanged from the existing Ruby Hill Mine approved Plan of Operations (N64-95-001P) and related Environmental Impact Statement (NV64-EIS96-33), and is within portions of Township 19 North, Range 53 East, MDM, sections 2 to 11, inclusive, 14 to 18, inclusive, and 20 to 23 inclusive and portions of Township 20 North, Range 53 East, sections 28 and 31 to 35, inclusive. Under the proposed action, an estimated additional disturbance of 665 acres would occur. This proposed disturbance includes approximately 484 acres of private land owned by HMC, and 181 acres of BLM-administered public land. Project access will continue to be via an improved gravel road from U.S. Highway 50.

Potentially significant direct, indirect, residual, and cumulative impacts from the proposed action will be analyzed in the SEIS. Significant issues to be addressed in the SEIS include dewatering activities and visual impacts. Additional issues to be addressed may arise during the scoping process. Federal, State, and local agencies, and other individuals or organizations that may be interested in or affected by the BLM's decision on this plan of operations amendment are invited to participate in the scoping process. The life of the project under this modification would increase approximately six years over the timeline outlined in the Ruby Hill Project Final EIS