

**Authority**

This notice is published in accordance with Section 1503.1 of the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508), implementing the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), and the Department of the Interior Manual (516 DM 1–6), and is in the exercise of authority delegated to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8.1.

Dated: December 18, 2006.

**Michael D. Olsen,**

*Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

[FR Doc. E6–22142 Filed 12–26–06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310–W7–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Indian Affairs**

**Notice of Deadline for Submitting Completed Applications to Begin Participation in the Tribal Self-Governance Program in Fiscal Year 2008 or Calendar Year 2008**

**AGENCY:** Office of Self-Governance, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of application deadline.

**SUMMARY:** In this notice, the Office of Self-Governance (OSG) establishes a March 1, 2007, deadline for tribes/consortia to submit completed applications to begin participation in the tribal self-governance program in fiscal year 2008 or calendar year 2008.

**DATES:** Completed application packages must be received by the Director, Office of Self-Governance, by March 1, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Application packages for inclusion in the applicant pool should be sent to Dr. Kenneth Reinfeld, Acting Director, Office of Self-Governance, Department of the Interior, Mail Stop 355-G-SIB, 1951 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20240.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Kenneth D. Reinfeld, Office of Self-Governance, Telephone 202–208–5734.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the Tribal Self-Governance Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103–413), as amended by the Fiscal Year 1997 Omnibus Appropriations Bill (Pub. L. 104–208), the Director, Office of Self-Governance may select up to 50 additional participating tribes/consortia per year for the tribal self-governance program, and negotiate and enter into a written funding agreement with each participating tribe. The Act mandates

that the Secretary submit copies of the funding agreements at least 90 days before the proposed effective date to the appropriate committees of the Congress and to each tribe that is served by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) agency that is serving the tribe that is a party to the funding agreement. Initial negotiations with a tribe/consortium located in a region and/or agency which has not previously been involved with self-governance negotiations, will take approximately 2 months from start to finish. Agreements for an October 1 to September 30 funding year need to be signed and submitted by July 1. Agreements for a January 1 to December 31 funding year need to be signed and submitted by October 1.

**Purpose of Notice**

25 CFR Parts 1000.10 to 1000.31 will be used to govern the application and selection process for tribes/consortia to begin their participation in the tribal self-governance program in fiscal year 2008 and calendar year 2008. Applicants should be guided by the requirements in these subparts in preparing their applications. Copies of these subparts may be obtained from the information contact person identified in this notice.

Tribes/consortia wishing to be considered for participation in the tribal self-governance program in fiscal year 2008 or calendar year 2008 must respond to this notice, except for those which are: (1) Currently involved in negotiations with the Department; (2) one of the 94 tribal entities with signed agreements; or (3) one of the tribal entities already included in the applicant pool as of the date of this notice.

Dated: December 12, 2006.

**Michael D. Olsen,**

*Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

[FR Doc. E6–22175 Filed 12–26–06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310–W8–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Land Management**

[WY–920–1320–EL, WYW173720]

**Notice of Invitation for Coal Exploration License Application, Wyoming**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Invitation for Coal Exploration License Application, Ark Land Company, WYW173720, Wyoming.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 2(b) of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended by section 4 of the Federal Coal Leasing Amendments Act of 1976, 90 Stat. 1083, 30 U.S.C. 201 (b), and to the regulations adopted as 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 3410, all interested parties are hereby invited to participate with Ark Land Company on a pro rata cost sharing basis in its program for the exploration of coal deposits owned by the United States of America in the following-described lands in Campbell County, WY:

T. 43 N., R. 71 W., 6th P.M., Wyoming  
 Sec. 20: Lots 5 through 16;  
 Sec. 21: Lots 1, 2, 5 through 16;  
 Sec. 22: Lots 1 through 16;  
 Sec. 27: Lots 1 through 16;  
 Sec. 28: Lots 1 through 16;  
 Sec. 34: Lots 1 through 16.

Containing 3,671.09 acres, more or less.

**DATES:** Any party electing to participate in this exploration program must send written notice to both the Bureau of Land Management and Ark Land Company, as provided in the **ADDRESSES** section below, no later than thirty days after publication of this invitation in the **Federal Register**.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the exploration plan are available for review during normal business hours in the following offices (serialized under number WYW173720): Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming State Office, 5353 Yellowstone Road, P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, WY 82003; and, Bureau of Land Management, Casper Field Office, 2987 Prospector Drive, Casper, WY 82604. The written notice should be sent to the following addresses: Ark Land Company, Attn: Mike Lincoln, P.O. Box 460, Hanna, WY 82327, and the Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming State Office, Branch of Solid Minerals, Attn: Mavis Love, P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, WY 82003.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** All of the coal in the above-described land consists of unleased Federal coal within the Powder River Basin Known Coal Leasing Area. The purpose of the exploration program is to gain additional geologic knowledge of the coal underlying the exploration area for the purpose of assessing the reserves contained in a potential lease. This notice of invitation will be published in The News-Record of Gillette, WY, once each week for two consecutive weeks beginning the week of December 18, 2006, and in the **Federal Register**.

The foregoing is published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to 43 CFR 3410.2–1(c)(1).