

# APPENDIX B

## IDENTIFICATION OF AREAS WITH COAL DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL

Identification of areas with coal development potential is the first of the four land use planning screens of federal coal (43 CFR 3420.1-4). In applying this screen, the BLM utilizes coal information collected by federal agencies in addition to data provided by industry, state and local governments, and the general public. A public call for coal resource information was made in conjunction with the Notice of Interest for the Initiation of a Planning Activity (Federal Register, Vol. 49, No. 245; Dec. 19, 1984).

The BLM Branch of Solid Minerals, MSO, evaluated federal coal in North Dakota to determine areas with development potential.

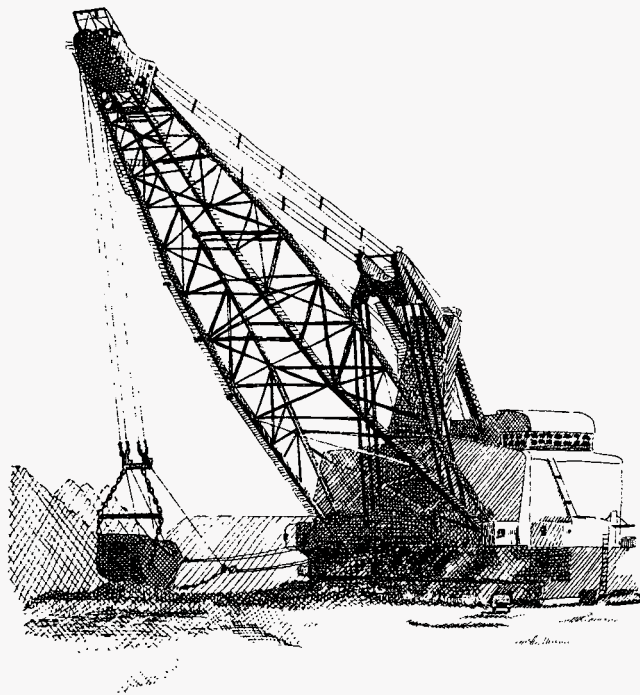
Criteria for determination are:

- 1) Maximum 20:1 stripping ratio,
- 2) Maximum 200 feet overburden, and
- 3) Coal at least five feet thick.

If an area met all three criteria it was classified as having development potential. These parameters were used for coal with over 5,000 Btu/lb.

For the purpose of the RMP screening, legal subdivisions were used to describe acreages rather than free-flowing, and somewhat smaller, actual boundaries of the known coal resources. Tonnage figures used in the RMP were estimated by multiplying the acres of known coal with development potential by the minable seam thickness and average tons per acre foot.

Table B-1 gives the estimated tonnages for each of the study areas as well as some of the coal characteristics for each area.



**TABLE B-1**  
**COAL CHARACTERISTICS OF COAL STUDY AREAS**

Coal Study Area	Tons of Coal With Development Potential (Millions)	Coal Beds in Descending Order	Bed Thickness (Feet)	Overburden/ Interburden to Bed Above (Feet)
Antelope	2,043	Beulah-Zap	15	0 - 200
Arnegard	348	Horse Creek HT Butte	2.0 - 7.0 2.5 - 17.9	0 - 200 67
Beulah-Zap	1,350	Beulah-Zap School House	11 8	0 - 200
Bowman-Gascoyne	5,960	Harmon Hansen	8 - 31 5 - 15	0 - 200 30
Center-Stanton	1,086	Stanton Berg Yeager Upper Hagel Lower Hagel	5 - 16 3 - 8 3 - 7 5 - 8 7 - 14	0 - 200    3 - 50
Dickinson	14,192	Dickinson Lehigh Heart River Fryburg	0 - 10 0 - 5 0 - 29 0 - 20	0 - 200 30 50 50
Divide	802	Noonan Unnamed	7 - 10 3 - 12	0 - 200 60
Dunn Center	5,126	C B A Dunn Center	1 - 10.5 2 - 10.5 0 - 8.5 7 - 26	0 - 180 6 - 72 31 - 113 2 - 124
Elgin-New Leipzig	721	Harmon Hansen	8 4	0 - 200 60
Elkhorn	258	Unnamed	5	0 - 200
Fortuna	674	Unnamed Unnamed	7 - 22 3 - 5	30 - 200 100
Garrison	1,852	Minter-Zone Garrison Creek Zone Coteau	1 - 15 1.5 - 24 17 - 19	0 - 100 53 - 104 30
Golden Valley	1,096	Harmon Hansen	3 - 37 1 - 15	0 - 200 15 - 122
Hanks	2,476	Hanks Grenora	2 - 18 2 - 10	0 - 200 20 - 80
Keene	1,633	Keene Williston	1.2 - 10.0 3.0 - 13.4	0 - 200 3 - 110
Mott	1,346	Heart River Fryburg HT Butte Coal Bank Creek Garner Creek (2 benches) Nomad Harmon Hansen	6.7 7.4 6 7 10 0 - 12 10 10	35 - 110 35 - 110 30 - 145 3 - 100 40 - 120 50 - 130 22 - 166 13 - 100
New England	4,947	Lehigh	6.7	0 - 200
Niobe	142	Bonus Niobe	5 - 11.5 3 - 8	36 - 103 36
Sand Creek	2,097	Williston Avoca	2 - 10 0 - 10	0 - 200 40
Tobacco Garden	650	Green Blue Yellow	3 - 6 4 - 12 4 - 10	0 - 200 80 - 140 50
Underwood, Washburn	345	Underwood	5 - 13	0 - 180
Velva	1,852	Coteau	16	0 - 200
Williston	2,777	Mormon Williston Avoca Pittsley	5.9 - 13.1 3.9 - 12.1 0 - 12.1 3.0 - 15.7	0 - 200 210 39 217