

withhold from the administrative record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. We will not, however, consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

We will evaluate whether the extension of the section 10(a)(1)(B) ITP complies with section 7 of the Act by reviewing our previously prepared intra-Service section 7 consultation. The results of the biological opinion, in combination with the above findings, will be used in the final analysis to determine whether or not to issue an extension of this ITP.

Dated: August 30, 2007.

**Cynthia K. Dohner,**

*Acting Regional Director, Southeast Region.*  
[FR Doc. E7-19402 Filed 10-1-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[MT-040-5101-ER-EO42]

#### Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the GCC Dacotah Cement Dewey Conveyor Project

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent (NOI) to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Initiate Public Scoping for the GCC Dacotah Cement Dewey Conveyor Project.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 4332, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will direct the preparation of an EIS on a project proposed by GCC Dacotah, Inc., and conduct public scoping meetings to analyze (1) The application for right-of-way (ROW) on lands administered in part by the South Dakota Field Office of the BLM, and (2) an application for a special use permit within the Black Hills National Forest of the U.S. Forest Service. The proposed action is to construct, operate, maintain, and terminate approximately 7 miles of an enclosed above-ground conveyor belt to transfer crushed limestone from a quarry site to a rail loading facility near the town of Dewey in Custer County,

South Dakota. The proposed conveyor belt would cross about 1.5 miles of National Forest and about 1 mile of BLM-administered public lands. The BLM is the lead agency for this project, and the Forest Service is a cooperating agency with jurisdiction by law.

**DATES:** This notice initiates the public scoping process for the EIS. The public is invited to submit comments, resource information, and identify issues and concerns to be considered in the NEPA process. The BLM will accept written comments on the scope of the EIS within 60 days of the publication of this notice. Public scoping meetings to obtain comments on issues related to the EIS and the proposed action will be held in Custer and Edgemont, South Dakota, and Newcastle, Wyoming. Times and locations of the scoping meetings will be announced a minimum of 15 days prior to the meetings in the local news media.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified as "GCC Dacotah Cement Dewey Conveyor Project" by any of the following methods:

- *E-mail:* MT South Dakota FO@blm.gov—Include GCC Dacotah Cement Transportation Facility in the subject line of the message.
- *Fax:* 605-892-7015.
- *Mail:* South Dakota Field Office, 310 Roundup Street, Belle Fourche, SD 57717.
- *Hand Delivery/Courier:* South Dakota Field Office, 310 Roundup Street, Belle Fourche, SD 57717.

Documents pertinent to this proposal may be examined at the South Dakota Field Office in Belle Fourche during regular business hours from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Respondents' comments, including their names and street addresses, will also be available for public review, and may be published as part of the EIS.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information, including information on how to comment, you may contact Marian Atkins, BLM, at 605-892-7001, or [marian\\_atkins@blm.gov](mailto:marian_atkins@blm.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The EIS will assess the effects of the proposed action to permit a transportation facility on federal lands consisting of construction, operation, maintenance, and abandonment of a covered, above ground conveyor belt up to approximately 7 miles in length for the purpose of transporting crushed limestone from a quarry to a proposed rail load-out facility at Dewey, South Dakota. The analysis area includes BLM-administered public lands,

National Forest System lands administered by the Black Hills National Forest, and private lands along the proposed conveyor route in Custer County, South Dakota.

#### The EIS Process

NEPA requires the BLM to take into account the environmental impacts of its actions.

The EIS will be prepared in accordance with applicable Council on Environmental Quality regulations at 40 CFR parts 1500-1508, and applicable BLM and Forest Service regulations. The analysis will determine whether the proposed action is consistent with land use guidelines as set forth in the BLM RMP and the Forest Service's Revised Forest Plan for the Black Hills National Forest, as Amended, along with other state and federal laws and regulations.

The analysis in the EIS will serve the following two purposes: (1) Analyze the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of construction, operation, maintenance, and abandonment of the proposed covered conveyor belt transportation facility; and (2) Disclose the information used by the Responsible Officials in making their decisions on whether to approve or deny the application for a ROW grant.

#### Preliminary Issues and Alternatives

The following preliminary issues have been identified:

- Native American Concerns.
- Cultural Resources.
- Noise.
- Visual Quality.
- Public Safety.
- Land Use.
- Fish and Wildlife.
- Air Quality.
- Geology, Soils, and Minerals.
- Water Quality and Quantity.
- Vegetation.
- Social and Economic Values.

Alternatives will initially include the No Action Alternatives and the Proposed Action Alternative; however, other alternatives may be identified during the public scoping process.

#### Public Participation

Comments are being solicited so as to identify and define: (1) The scope of this analysis, (2) significant issues or concerns related to the proposed action, (3) reasonable alternatives to the proposed action, and (4) information having a bearing on the proposed action. Your response is important and will be considered in the EIS process.

The BLM and Forest Service will provide further information at the public scoping meetings regarding the locations of, and the areas that may be

affected by, the transportation facility application. The purpose of the public scoping process is to provide the public an opportunity to present comments or issues that should be addressed in the environmental analysis, the scope of the analysis and reasonable alternatives to the proposed action. You may submit comments in writing at any public scoping meeting, or you may submit them using one of the methods listed in the **ADDRESSES** section above.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. 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.

**Responsible Officials:** Marian Atkins, Field Manager, South Dakota Field Office, BLM, will be responsible for the analysis and documentation, and will decide whether to approve any actions on public lands administered by the BLM. Craig Bobzien, Forest Supervisor, Black Hills National Forest, representing the Forest Service as a cooperating agency, will decide whether to approve any actions on National Forest System lands in the project area.

Dated: September 24, 2007.

**Gene R. Terland,**

State Director, Montana State Office.

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**BILLING CODE 1430--SS-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Minerals Management Service

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Submitted for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Review; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of extension of an information collection (1010-0067).

**SUMMARY:** To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), we are notifying the public that we are submitting to OMB an information collection request (ICR) to renew approval of the paperwork

requirements in the regulations under 30 CFR 250, Subpart E, Oil and Gas Well-Completion Operations. This notice also provides the public a second opportunity to comment on the paperwork burden of these regulatory requirements.

**DATES:** Submit written comments by November 1, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments either by fax (202) 395-6566 or e-mail (*OIRA\_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov*) directly to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior (1010-0067). Mail or hand carry a copy of your comments to the Department of the Interior; Minerals Management Service; Attention: Cheryl Blundon; Mail Stop 4024; 381 Elden Street; Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817. If you wish to e-mail your comments to MMS, the address is: *rules.comments@mms.gov*. Reference Information Collection 1010-0067 in your subject line and mark your message for return receipt. Include your name and return address in your message text.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cheryl Blundon, Regulations and Standards Branch, (703) 787-1607. You may also contact Cheryl Blundon to obtain a copy, at no cost, of the regulations that require the subject collection of information.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** 30 CFR Part 250, Subpart E, Oil and Gas Well-Completion Operations.

**OMB Control Number:** 1010-0067.

**Abstract:** The Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act, 43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.* and 43 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*, requires the Secretary of the Interior to preserve, protect, and develop oil and gas resources in the OCS in a manner that is consistent with the need to make such resources available to meet the Nation's energy needs as rapidly as possible; balance orderly energy resources development with protection of the human, marine, and coastal environment; ensure the public a fair and equitable return on OCS resources; and preserve and maintain free enterprise competition. Section 1332(6) of the OCS Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1332) requires that "operations in the [O]uter Continental Shelf should be conducted in a safe manner by well-trained personnel using technology, precautions, and techniques sufficient to prevent or minimize the likelihood of blowouts, loss of well control, fires, spillages, physical obstruction to other users of the waters or subsoil and seabed, or other occurrences which may

cause damage to the environment or to property, or endanger life or health."

This authority and responsibility are among those delegated to the Minerals Management Service (MMS). To carry out these responsibilities, MMS issues regulations governing oil and gas and sulphur operations in the OCS. This information collection request (ICR) addresses 30 CFR Part 250, Subpart E, Oil and Gas Well-Completion Operations and the associated supplementary Notices to Lessees and Operators (NTL) intended to provide clarification, description, or explanation of these regulations.

The MMS District Managers analyze and evaluate the information and data collected under Subpart E to ensure that planned well-completion operations will protect personnel and natural resources. They use the analysis and evaluation results in the decision to approve, disapprove, or require modification to the proposed well-completion operations. Specifically, MMS uses the information to ensure: (a) Compliance with personnel safety training requirements; (b) crown block safety device is operating and can be expected to function to avoid accidents; (c) proposed operation of the annular preventer is technically correct and provides adequate protection for personnel, property, and natural resources; (d) well-completion operations are conducted on well casings that are structurally competent; and (e) sustained casing pressures are within acceptable limits.

Previously, the Gulf of Mexico Region (GOMR) met with the Offshore Operators Committee (OOC) several times to discuss conditions that required a variance from the requirements of § 250.517. The OOC recommended that sustained casing pressure (SCP) be divided into two broad categories: Production casing SCP that can be eliminated relatively easily and SCP on outer casings where no consistently successful solution has been developed. They also recommended criteria for classifying SCP. Since the initial meeting, MMS continues to work with OOC and API regularly to formulate new practices. As a result of these meetings, MMS issued an NTL to clarify and update the current GOMR procedures and requirements necessary to monitor and report SCP conditions. This NTL also gives guidance on the process for obtaining a departure to produce wells with SCP. MMS district and regional offices will use the information to determine whether production from wells with SCP continues to afford the greatest