



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Billings Field Office  
5001 Southgate Drive  
Billings, Montana 59101-4669  
[www.blm.gov/mt](http://www.blm.gov/mt)

In Reply Refer To:  
3100 (010.CD)

**MARCH 16, 2015**

Dear Reader:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received an Expression of Interest (nomination) to sell a Federal oil and gas lease on one parcel of Federal minerals in an October 20, 2015 lease sale. The parcel is located within Yellowstone County in the Billings Field Office. Based upon the location of the nominated parcel, the Billings Field Office has decided to defer consideration of the parcel until the draft Billings Resource Management Plan (RMP) is complete. The basis for the deferral is that the available stipulations, associated with the parcel in question, are subject to change upon the completion of the Billings RMP.

The BLM makes mineral resources available for use to meet national, regional, and local needs. Under the Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Leasing Reform Act of 1987, the BLM conducts oil and gas lease sales quarterly in each state whenever eligible lands are available for leasing. Prior to offering nominated parcels for lease at a sale, BLM will complete an environmental assessment (EA) to disclose the potential impacts from issuing Federal oil and gas leases and identify stipulations that would be included with each lease. Given that the nominated parcel is being deferred, an environmental assessment will not be completed at this time.

If you have any comments or issues that we should consider, please provide them using one of the following methods:


Email: [MT\\_BillingsFO\\_Lease\\_EA@blm.gov](mailto:MT_BillingsFO_Lease_EA@blm.gov)

Mail: Bureau of Land Management  
Billings Field Office  
Attention: Craig Drake  
5001 Southgate Drive  
Billings, MT 59101

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised 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 from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Please contact Craig Drake, Assistant Field Manager, at (406) 896-5349 with questions. We appreciate your attention to this review and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

  
James M. Sparks  
Field Manager