

[OR-020-05-1330-01: G5-162]

**Intent To Prepare Environmental Impact Statement, Harney County, OR**

**AGENCY:** Burns District, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), DOI.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a Plan of Operations for a proposed geothermal electric generating plant and associated geothermal facilities and operations near Borax Lake in Pueblo Valley, southern Harney County.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and 43 CFR Part 3200, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will be directing a third party contractor in the preparation of an EIS on the impacts of a proposed geothermal electric generating plant and associated facilities and operations known as the Pueblo Valley Geothermal Project, which would be located on public land about 1-mile southwest of Borax Lake and 5 miles northeast of Fields, Oregon. Comments are being requested to help identify significant issues or concerns related to the proposed action, to determine the scope of the issues and alternatives that need to be analyzed, and to eliminate from detailed study those issues that are not significant. Supporting documentation should be included with comments recommending that the EIS address specific environmental issues.

**DATES:** Scoping meetings to encourage public participation will be held in Burns, Fields, Bend, and Portland. Once a third party contractor has been selected, the exact dates and locations will be published in the Burns Times-Herald, Bend Bulletin, and the Oregonian.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be addressed to the Bureau of Land Management, HC 74-12533 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738, Attn: Pueblo Valley Geothermal Project Manager.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Craig (Cody) M. Hansen (503) 573-4400.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Anadarko Petroleum Corporation submitted a Plan of Development, Utilization, Production, Injection, and Disposal for a project to drill and test production and injection wells and to supply, build, and operate a 22.9 MW (net) air-cooled binary geothermal electric power plant and supporting facilities in the Alvord Known Geothermal Resource Area (KGRA) in Pueblo Valley. The development would be located within portions of Sections 21, 22, 23, and 27,

Township 37 South, Range 33 East of the Willamette Meridian. Geothermal fluid (hot water) would be pumped from an underground reservoir and produced initially from 6 to 10 geothermal production wells. The hot water would be transported via surface pipelines to a proposed binary power plant where it would be used to heat a second fluid system, which in turn would run turbines to generate electricity. After heat extraction, the cooled geothermal water would be pumped via surface pipelines to six to eight injection wells to be returned to the subsurface geothermal reservoir. The plant would use a closed production loop with no release of geothermal liquid or gases to the surface environment. Well spacing would be approximately one well per 25 acres and well pads would occupy between 1.2 and 2.2 acres. The production facility would occupy 12.6 acres. The proposed plan includes monitoring of Borax Lake and the collection of seismic data in the area as well as a suite of mitigation measures to reduce adverse impacts. The estimated viable life of the project is expected to be 30 years.

This EIS will address potential impacts to nearby Borax Lake as well as to geology, minerals, geothermal resources, groundwater, soil, vegetation, grazing management, wildlife, recreation, visual resources, air quality, cultural and paleontological resources, land use, access, and social and economic values related to development of the project.

Federal, State, and local agencies and other individuals or organizations who may be interested in or affected by the BLM's decision are invited to participate in the scoping process. The Authorized Officer will respond to public input and comment as part of the final EIS through the third party contractor. The decision regarding the proposal will be recorded as a Record of Decision, which is subject to appeal under 43 CFR Part 4.

Date: July 5, 1995.

**Jerome A. Petzold,**

*Assistant District Manager for Operations.*

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[NV-930-1430-01; N-59254]

**Notice of Realty Action: Non-Competitive Sale of Public Lands**

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

**ACTION:** Non-Competitive Sale of Public Lands in Clark County, Nevada.

**SUMMARY:** The following described public land in Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada has been examined and found suitable for sale utilizing non-competitive procedures, at not less than the fair market value. Authority for the sale is Section 203 and Section 209 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA).

**Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada**

T. 22 S., R. 60 E.,

Sec. 22: N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Containing 1.250 acres, more or less.

This parcel of land, situated in Clark County is being offered as a direct sale to Ernest A. Becker, Jr.

This land is not required for any federal purposes. The sale is consistent with current Bureau planning for this area and would be in the public interest.

In the event of a sale, conveyance of the available mineral interests will occur simultaneously with the sale of the land. The mineral interests being offered for conveyance have no known mineral value. Acceptance of a direct sale offer will constitute an application for conveyance of those mineral interests. The applicant will be required to pay a \$50.00 nonreturnable filing fee for conveyance of the available mineral interests.

The patent, when issued, will contain the following reservations to the United States:

1. A right-of-way thereon for ditches and canals constructed by the authority of the United States, Act of August 30, 1890 (43 U.S.C. 945).

2. Oil, gas, sodium, potassium and saleable minerals and will be subject to an easement for roads, public utilities and flood control purposes in accordance with the Transportation plan for Clark County.

1. Those rights for highway purposes which have been granted to Nevada Department of Transportation by Permit No. NEV-062275 under the Act of August 27, 1958 (23 USC317(A)).

2. Those rights for public road purposes which have been granted to Clark County by Permit No. N-58939 under the Act of October 21, 1976 (43USC1761). Upon publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, the above described land will be segregated from all other forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the general mining laws, except for sales and disposals under the mineral disposal laws. This segregation will terminate upon issuance of a patent or 270 days from the date of this publication, whichever occurs first.

For a period of 45 days from the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, interested parties may