

JUL 25 2000



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Price Field Office
125 South 600 West
Price, Utah 84501

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS AND MINING

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UTU-78562
(UT-070)
JUL 21 2000

Dear Private Land Owners/Affected Interests:

Enclosed is a copy of a news release announcing the intent of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to write an environmental assessment (EA) for a coal lease application submitted by Andalex Resources, Inc., and Intermountain Power Agency (a 50/50 joint venture). The coal tract, named the Whitmore Canyon Tract, is adjacent to the West Ridge Mine property in the Book Cliffs north of East Carbon City, Carbon County, Utah. As possible surface owners and/or interested parties, we have sent this copy to you for your use/information. For further information or questions, a contact at the BLM is noted in the news release.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Manus
Field Manager

Enclosure
News Release

cc: SD, Utah (UT-921) (w/enclosure)



UTAH
BLM
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
UNITED STATES

FOR RELEASE Immediately
CONTACT Richard L. Manus, 636-3600
Field Manager *RLM*

News Release

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
1122.21
UT-070)

JUL 18 2000

The Bureau of Land Management is requesting public comment in conjunction with the preparation of an environmental assessment for a Federal coal lease application. This request, referred to as scoping, seeks public input as to any issues concerning this coal lease application. Andalex Resources, Inc. and Intermountain Power Agency (a 50/50 joint ownership) has made application to lease Federal coal on a tract of land so named the Whitmore Canyon Tract with serial number UTU-78562, located adjacent to the existing West Ridge Mine property north of East Carbon City in Carbon County, Utah.

The proposed lease tract contains 1,646.34 acres of unleased Federal coal, with much of the surface estate held by private ownership. The lands are described as follows:

- T. 13 S., R. 13 E., SLM, Utah
Sec. 35, SE, S2SW;

- T. 14 S., R. 13 E., SLM, Utah
Sec. 1, lots 2-7, S2NW, SW, W2SE, SWNE;
Sec. 12, lots 1-4, S2N2, SE, NESW;
Sec. 13, NENE;

- T. 14 S., R. 14 E., SLM, Utah
Sec. 6, lot 6;
Sec. 7, lots 3 and 4;
Sec. 18, lot 1, E2NW.

Andalex has applied for this lease tract to add coal reserves at the new West Ridge Mine. The tract lies back under the Book Cliffs northeast and adjacent to the existing mine property. There are no coal outcrops on the tract as the entire tract is under West Ridge of the Book Cliffs. Though all coal leases are leased competitively, the only logical access to these coal reserves is from the new mine workings of the West Ridge Mine. This lease tract was once a Federal coal lease owned by Sunnyside Coal Company, but was never mined and was relinquished. The Whitmore Canyon Tract will be mined by underground mining methods with no new surface facilities expected.

The BLM will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) of the proposed coal lease tract to address impacts prior to holding a lease sale. Any public comment or input for the EA will be taken by the BLM within 15 days and considered for use in the document. A copy of the lease application and pertinent maps are available for inspection at BLM Price Field Office at 125 South 600 West, Price, Utah, during business hours of 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Written comments should be mailed or delivered to the same address. For more information, you may contact Stephen Falk at the Price Field Office or phone 435-636-3600.

Field Office or phone 438-636-3600.
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