

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)
COMPLIANCE RECORD FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS (CX)**

PART I. – Issue a 10 year renewal for a sodium fringe lease to Morton International for 3.91 acres of U.S. Air Force (Federal) mineral estate under U.S. Air Force surface lands.

BLM Office: Hassayampa Field Office

NEPA No.: DOI-BLM-AZ-P010-2015-0012-CX

Case File No.: AZA-27328

Proposed Action Title/Type: Sodium fringe lease renewal

Applicant: Morton International

Location of Proposed Action: T. 2 N., R. 1 W., Sec. 2, N 130' W½SW¼

Description of Proposed Action: Issue a 10 year renewal for a sodium fringe lease to Morton International for 3.91 of U.S. Air Force (Federal) mineral estate under U.S. Air Force surface lands.

Part II. – PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW

This proposed action is subject to the following land use plan(s): Bradshaw Harquahala Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (April 2010)

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable land use plan because it is specifically provided for in the following land use plan decision(s):

The proposed action is in conformance with the land use plan, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following land use plan decision(s):

MI-10. If BLM manages the Federal mineral estate but the surface is not in Federal ownership, BLM will manage the lands as public lands under FLPMA.

MI-1. Open all public lands for mineral and geothermal leasing and exploration except lands with existing segregations or withdrawals, as shown on Map 10.

This proposed action has been reviewed for conformance with these plans (*43 CFR 1610.5-3, BLM Manual 1601.04.C.2*).

PART III. – NEPA COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION REVIEW

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National

Attachment 4-1
AZ-1790-1
August 2013

The action has been reviewed to determine if any of the extraordinary circumstances (43 CFR 46.215(a)-(l)) apply. The project would:

(a) Have significant impacts on public health or safety.

Yes	No	Rationale:
	X	
		Preparer's Initials <u>DLE</u>

(b) Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.

Yes	No	Rationale:
	X	
		Preparer's Initials <u>DLE</u>

(c) Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102 (2) (E)].

Yes	No	Rationale:
	X	
		Preparer's Initials <u>DLE</u>

(d) Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.

Yes	No	Rationale:
	X	
		Preparer's Initials <u>DLE</u>

(e) Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principal about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.

Yes	No	Rationale:
	X	
		Preparer's Initials <u>DLE</u>

(f) Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.

Yes	No	Rationale:
	X	
		Preparer's Initials <u>DLE</u>

The action has been reviewed to determine if any of the extraordinary circumstances (43 CFR 46.215(a)-(l)) apply. The project would:

(g) Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the bureau.

Yes	No	Rationale:
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	X	
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Preparer's Initials DLE

(h) Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.

Yes	No	Rationale:
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	X	
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Preparer's Initials DLE

(i) Violate a Federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.

Yes	No	Rationale:
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	X	
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Preparer's Initials DLE

(j) Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).

Yes	No	Rationale:
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	X	
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Preparer's Initials DLE

(k) Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).

Yes	No	Rationale:
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	X	
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Preparer's Initials DLE

(l) Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).

Yes	No	Rationale:
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	X	
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Preparer's Initials DLE

PART V. -COMPLIANCE REVIEW CONCLUSION

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 apply.

I have reviewed this plan conformance and NEPA compliance record, and have determined that the proposed project is in conformance with the approved land use plan and that no further environmental analysis is required.

MITIGATION MEASURES/OTHER REMARKS: Existing Special Stipulations for AZA-27328 attached.

AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL: D Remington Hawes DATE: 11/2/2015
NAME: Rem Hawes
TITLE: Field Manager

Note: The signed conclusion on this compliance record is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. A separate decision to implement the action should be prepared in accordance with program specific guidance.

ATTACHMENT A

SPECIAL STIPULATIONS

1. Scope of the Lease: This Lease is solely to grant lessee the right to extract salt from underneath the approximately 3.9 acres owned by the United States Air Force. It is specifically understood that this is not a license to store liquid natural gas or any other petroleum product in the resulting cavity, nor will any surface occupancy be allowed. It is further understood that it does not constitute permission to extract salt from under any other property belonging to the USAF which is adjacent to the lessee's property. Lessee will monitor its operations to insure that no such intrusion takes place. Violation of these conditions will result in the immediate termination of this lease.
2. Subsidence Prevention: As subsidence could cause significant damage to the Dysart Drainage Ditch on the surface of the leased premises, lessee agrees that it will insure that the extraction shall not be performed at a depth of less than 1,250 feet. Additionally, lessee agrees that it will at all times maintain positive pressure in the cavity by keeping it full of fluid.
3. Monitoring: Lessee shall provide the Bureau of Land Management and Luke Air Force Base copies of all monitoring reports required by the terms of the lessee's 1985 EPA permit.
4. EPA Permit: Lessee shall affirm the continuing validity of its 1985 permit and in the event that the EPA should propose to modify or terminate the permit, will promptly notify the BLM and Luke Air Force Base.
5. Damages: Lessee agrees to be responsible for any and all damages, including indirect and consequential damages, to the Dysart Drainage Ditch caused in any manner by its activities. Additionally, lessee agrees to promptly notify Luke Air Force Base in the event that any foreign materials are introduced into the Ditch and the lessee agrees that it will be responsible for all cleanup costs and any penalties or fines that are imposed as a result of such an incident.
6. Environmental Survey: The Bureau of Land Management shall perform, solely at its own expense, an environmental analysis required as a condition of this lease.
7. Closure: Closure of any wells used to extract salt pursuant to this lease agreement shall be performed promptly and in accordance with all applicable environmental statutes and regulations.

8. The lessee agrees that the salt cavern underlying this lease shall be designed in accordance with State of Arizona Administrative Code, Chapter 7, Article 1, Oil, Gas, and Helium, Section R12-7-181(1)(d)(iv), Supp. 93-1, 3/31/93. Specifically, the lessee agrees that the walls of the salt cavern which will underlie this lease and the walls of existing liquid and/or gaseous hydrocarbon storage caverns to the north of the lease will be separated by at least 200 feet, as measured in any direction.

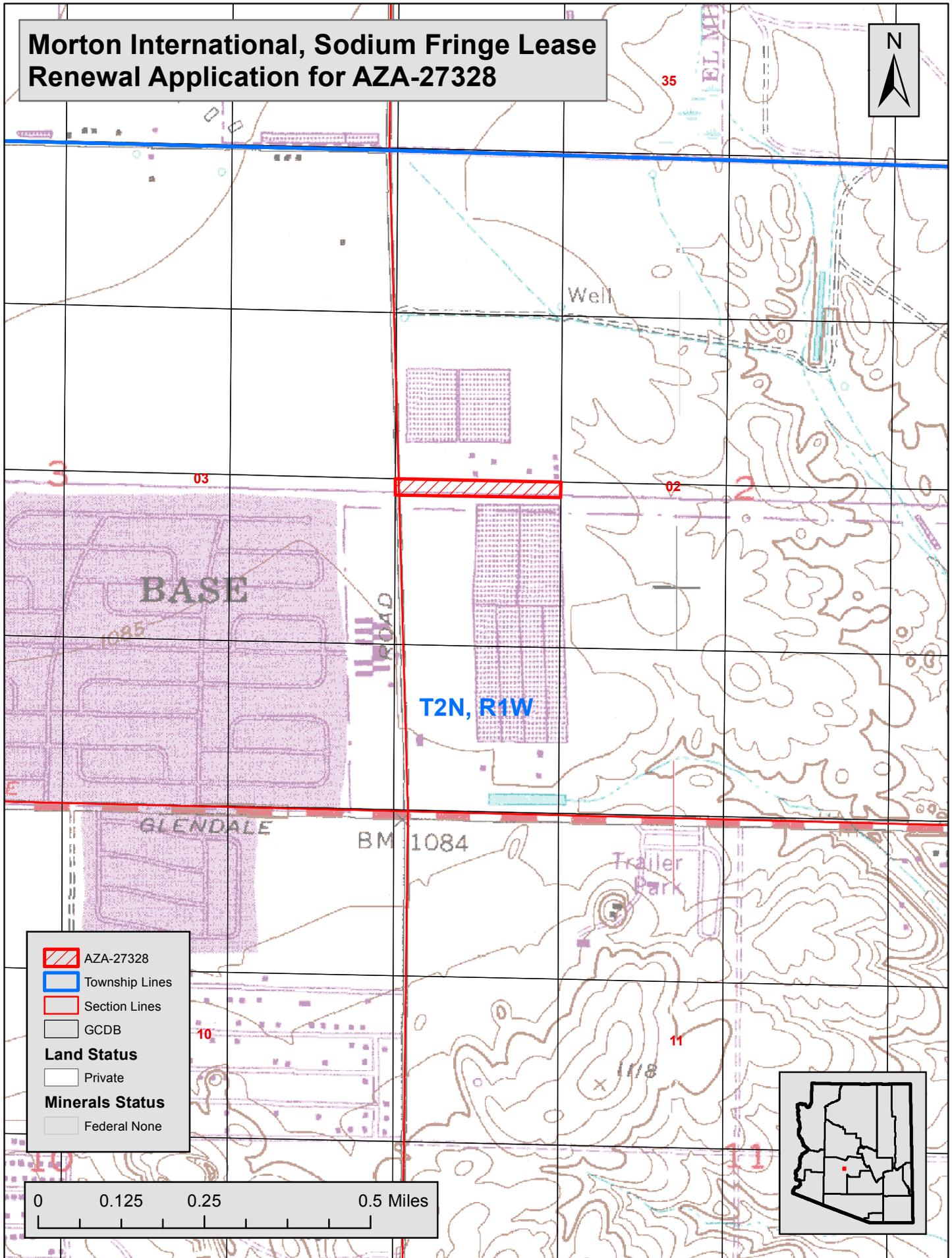
The salt cavern underlying this lease may extend to the lease boundaries, subject to the limitations identified above.

9. The lessee agrees to comply with Federal Regulations, Title 43, Part 3590 -- Solid Minerals (Other than Coal) exploration and Mining Operations. Prior to conducting any operations on the lease, a mining plan fulfilling the requirements of 43 CFR Part 3590 shall be submitted to the Bureau of Land Management, Arizona State Office, for approval.

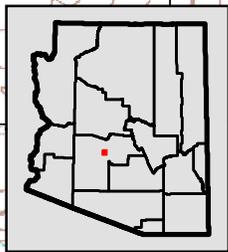
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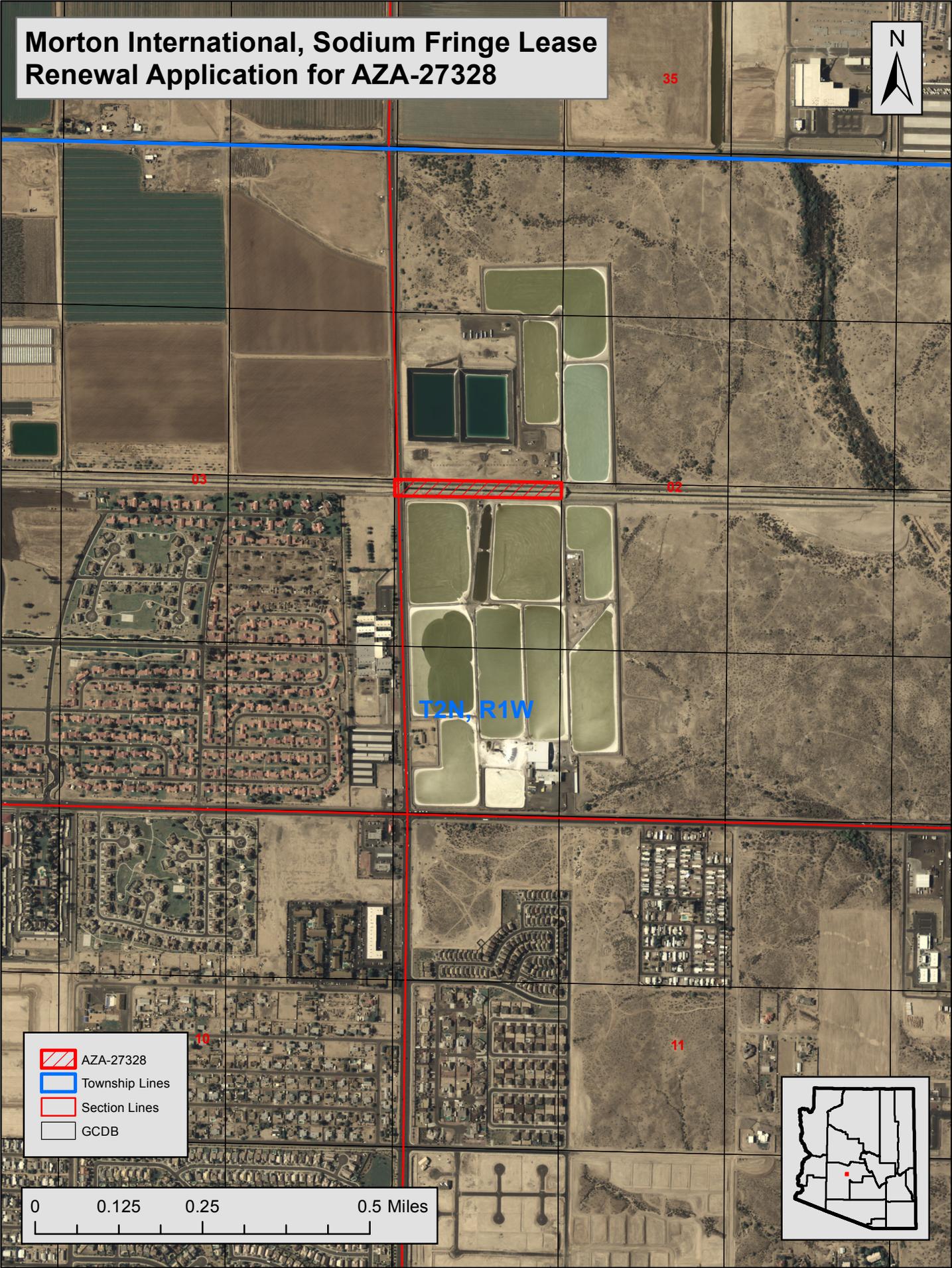
Morton International, Sodium Fringe Lease Renewal Application for AZA-27328



	AZA-27328
	Township Lines
	Section Lines
	GCDB
Land Status	
	Private
Minerals Status	
	Federal None



Morton International, Sodium Fringe Lease Renewal Application for AZA-27328



-  AZA-27328
-  Township Lines
-  Section Lines
-  GCDB

