



# United States Department of the Interior



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In Reply Refer To:  
N-93924  
3209/1792 (NV010.27)

18 September 2015

Dear Interested Public:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is seeking public input as it initiates an Environmental Assessment (EA) for Brady Power Partners, a wholly owned subsidiary of Ormat Technologies, Inc., for its proposed Poroelastic Tomography (PoroTomo) project. The Brady Hot Springs power generation facility is located approximately 18 miles northeast of Fernley in Churchill County, Nevada. Brady Power Partners has submitted a Notice of Intent to Conduct Geothermal Resource Exploration Operations (NOI) for the PoroTomo project on behalf of academic institutions who are researching the potential benefits of this new geophysical exploration technique.

The proposed project, as described in the NOI, includes the following:

- Permanently bury approximately 29,300 linear feet of fiber optic cable using a tractor-mounted plow or trenching tool;
- Temporarily install approximately 270 wireless, self-powered, seismometers;
- Utilize 215 vibroseis (truck-mounted shaker) locations accessed by existing roads and approximately 23,750 linear feet of overland travel; and
- Utilize 27 locations for vibrations created by a 45-kN eccentric mass shaker.

The proposed activities would result in a total of 5.04 acres of new disturbance (3.31 acres on private land and 1.73 acres on public land).

The public is invited to submit comments relative to the development of the EA within 30 days of the date of this letter, including comments related to historic preservation issues as prescribed in Title 54 United States Code (U.S.C.) 300301, et. seq., commonly known as the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended (NHPA), and Title 54 U.S.C. 306108, commonly known as

Section 106 of the NHPA. Please send written comments to Mr. Daniel Atkinson, project manager, at the above address, or e-mail wfoweb@blm.gov with Brady Hot Springs PoroTomo (Atkinson) in the subject line. This letter and a map are also available online at <http://1.usa.gov/1L4EPp8>. In addition, a copy of the PoroTomo NOI is available for review at the Winnemucca District during regular business hours.

Public comments submitted for this NOI, including names and addresses of commenters will be available for public review during regular business hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personally identifiable information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment, including personally identifiable information, may be made publicly available at any time. While individuals may request that the BLM withhold personally identifiable information from public review, the BLM cannot guarantee it will be able to do so. If you wish us to withhold your personal information, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses available for public disclosure in their entirety.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Daniel Atkinson at (775) 623-1500 or at the above address.

Sincerely,

\S\ Aron C. King

Aron C. King  
Field Manager  
Humboldt River Field Office