



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Montana/Dakotas State Office  
5001 Southgate Drive  
Billings, Montana 59101  
<http://www.blm.gov/montana-dakotas>

October 6, 2020

In Reply Refer To:  
March 23, 2021 Comp Sale (MT922.TW)

Dear Reader:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received Expressions of Interest to sell Federal oil and gas leases on 21 parcels of Federal minerals in a future lease sale. The parcels are located within the Billings Field Office, Miles City Field Office, North Dakota Field Office, and Dakota Prairie Grasslands (USFS) areas. The preliminary parcel list with recommended stipulations for the 21 parcels is posted on the BLM e-Planning website, for a 15-day scoping period for review starting on October 6, 2020. To be most useful, we should receive your comments before October 21, 2020.

In accordance with the August 5, 2020 Montana / Dakotas Instruction Memorandum No. MT-2020-018, the BLM completed a sage-grouse prioritization assessment consistent with 2015 Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plans and Montana District Court Order in Case 4:18-cv-00069-BMM (5/22/2020). Refer to the Lease Sale Prioritization Assessment and IM-MT-2020-018 available on the March 2021 Lease Sale project page on e-Planning for more information.

If you have any comments or know of any issues that should be addressed in our analysis of the parcels, please provide comments using one of the following methods:

Electronic: BLM e-Planning website – <https://eplanning.blm.gov>  
Advanced Search for NEPA # DOI-BLM-MT-0000-2021-0001-EA  
Click “Documents”  
Click “Comment on Document”

Mail: Bureau of Land Management  
Montana/Dakotas State Office  
Branch of Fluid Minerals  
Attn: Christine Cimiluca  
5001 Southgate Drive  
Billings, MT 59101

Contact: Christine Cimiluca (406) 896-5110  
[ccimiluc@blm.gov](mailto:ccimiluc@blm.gov)

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.

If analysis is warranted, an EA will be available for a 30-day review beginning on November 24, 2020 at the link listed above. Prior to issuance of any leases, the Decision Record and FONSI will be finalized and posted for public review on our BLM e-Planning website. Please refer to the BLM e-Planning website at

[https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa\\_register.do](https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa_register.do). Current and updated information about our EA, Lease Sale Notice, and corresponding information pertaining to this sale can be found at the link referenced above.

We appreciate your attention to this review and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Donato J. Judice", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Donato J. Judice  
Deputy State Director Division of Energy, Minerals, & Realty  
Bureau of Land Management – Interior Regions 8 & 9  
Montana/Dakotas State Office