

Top Pit and development of the Sage Flats Pit with corresponding waste rock dumps. The Horseshoe/Galaxy mine would involve construction and operation of a new mine with open pits, crushing facilities, waste dumps, conventional heap leaching facilities, and several ancillary facilities.

Dated: September 19, 1995.

Gene A. Kolkman,

*Ely District Manager.*

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[UT-920-05-1330-00]

### Classification Standards for Establishing Known Leasing Areas for Gilsonite

**SUMMARY:** The Secretary of the Interior, through Secretarial Orders 3071 and 3087, transferred the authority under 43 U.S.C. 21 to classify public lands for leasable minerals to the Director, Bureau of Land Management. On May 22, 1986, regulations were finalized at 43 CFR part 3500 which provided for prospecting permits for gilsonite on lands that were not known to contain valuable deposits of gilsonite. Lands with known gilsonite deposits will be subject to competitive leasing procedures only. On January 20, 1995, a notice was published in the Federal Register inviting comments on a proposed standard which would be used to determine whether lands will be subject to competitive leasing for gilsonite. A total of two comments were submitted on the proposed standard within the 60-day comment period identified in the notice. The first commenter suggested that the standard was too restrictive and should be broadened to include lands beyond the mappable surface exposure of a gilsonite vein. We recognize that some gilsonite veins continue to be minable at depth even though they are not exposed on the surface, but that is not always the case. Under the proposed standard, if a mappable gilsonite vein occurs in any part of a legal subdivision (generally a 40-acre tract), all of the lands within the tract will be considered as a known gilsonite area. This has the effect of extending the vein as much as 1,320 feet beyond any surface expression. The second commenter suggested that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) use a more restrictive standard which would require a vein to exhibit consistent surface exposures of at least 18 inches in width. This commenter further stated that application of the broad standard identified in the January 20, 1995,

Federal Register notice would eliminate prospecting permits for gilsonite because all prospective gilsonite areas have mappable gilsonite veins exposed at the surface. BLM has determined that the more restrictive standard suggested by this commenter places a more rigorous standard for determining whether lands should be leased competitively than the gilsonite industry places on itself before making a decision to open a mine. Furthermore, the regulations at 43 CFR part 3554 provide for an exploration license which enables interested parties to further explore unleased deposits of gilsonite. This allows a prospective lessee to obtain any necessary information about the deposit before obtaining a lease. Lands not known to contain gilsonite veins or extensions of existing veins where no gilsonite is mappable at the surface would still be available for prospecting through a prospecting permit. However, issuing prospecting permits on lands containing clearly defined veins of gilsonite imposes an unnecessary administrative burden on the BLM to process both a prospecting permit and a preference-right lease application when the existence of a gilsonite vein is known in advance. The public interest is best served by leasing such gilsonite deposits through a competitive process, ensuring a fair return for the public's resources.

The Director, Bureau of Land Management, has determined that the following standard will be used to define Known Gilsonite Leasing Areas: Lands will be defined as a Known Gilsonite Area and subject to competitive leasing if they contain a gilsonite vein that can be mapped as a continuous vein based on surface exposures and other indications of a continuous linear feature using generally accepted geologic mapping techniques. The Known Gilsonite Leasing Area shall be described by aliquot parts generally no smaller than a quarter-quarter section or, when appropriate, a lot. If any part of the lot or quarter-quarter section contains a portion of a mapped vein meeting the classification standard, that subdivision shall be included within the Known Gilsonite Leasing Area.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bureau of Land Management, Division of Mineral Resources, Attn: James Kohler, P.O. Box 45155, Salt Lake City, Utah 84145-0155.

Dated: August 14, 1995.

Mat Millenbach,

*Utah State Director.*

[FR Doc 95-24611 Filed 10-3-95; 8:45 am]

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[NV-930-1430-01; N-60040]

### 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 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 P.L. 94-579, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1719).

Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada

T. 25 S., R. 59 E.,

Sec. 11: SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Containing 20 acres, more or less.

This parcel of land, situated in Clark County, NV, is being offered as non-competitive sale to Consolidated Freightways Corporation.

The 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.

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. All minerals.

and will be subject to:

1. Those rights for a road granted to the Nevada Department of Transportation by right-of-way CC-020583 under the Act of 11-09-1921 (042 Stat. 0216).

2. Those rights for transmission line purposes granted to Nevada Power Company by right-of-way Nev-055383 under the Act of 10-21-1976 (090 Stat. 2776; 43 U.S.C. 1761).

Upon publication of this notice in the Federal Register, the above described land will be segregated from all forms of appropriation 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 submit comments to the District Manager, Las Vegas District, 4765 West Vegas Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89108. Any adverse comments will be reviewed by the State