

ore and overburden material. The total mining rate for the existing open pits is 1,700,000 tons per month. Processing operations include milling of high grade ore and utilizing heap leach technology to retrieve gold from the lower grade ore. Waste rock is delivered to waste dumps, or backfilled into portions of the mined out pits. The total project boundary encompasses approximately 10,480 acres of public and private lands. Total approved disturbance under existing operations is approximately 1,349 acres, located on public and private lands.

The proposed action would be to expand existing mining facilities and to construct new facilities, increasing surface disturbances from 1,349 acres to 2,058 acres. Of the 710 acres of new disturbance proposed, approximately 254 acres would be disturbed on BLM-administered public land with 456 acres of disturbance on private lands. Upon approval of this expansion proposal, mining would continue through the year 2006 at approximately the current level of production of existing operations. The proposed expansion includes the following:

1. Construct two new pits and expand existing pits.
2. Construct one new waste dump and expand existing waste dumps.
3. Develop one new heap leach facility and expand existing heap leach facility, including new solution ponds.
4. Construct a new tailing dam facility.
5. Redirect two stream drainages by installing creek diversions.
6. Construct haul roads and miscellaneous access roads.
7. Construct associated ancillary facilities, including a utility corridor.
8. Amend operations boundary.

In addition to the above, the mine reclamation plan would be amended to include recontouring slopes, ripping compacted areas, where needed and covering with suitable plant growth medium, and seeding. Heap leach facilities would be detoxified by rinsing the pads with fresh water. Buildings, process structures, and other equipment would be removed from the site at the end of mining. Foundations would be buried in place prior to growth medium application and revegetation. Equipment, electrical and instrumentation, piping, miscellaneous fencing, and mobile trailers would also be removed from the site or returned to local vendors.

The main issues identified thus far in the project expansion are; sequential backfilling of pits, cumulative air quality effects, visual impacts due to the

proximity of Interstate 80, hydrology, and impacts to bat habitat.

Federal, state, and local agencies and other individuals or organizations who may be interested in or affected by the BLM's decision on the POO are invited to participate in the scoping process. The Authorized Officer will respond to public input and comment as part of the final EIS. The decision regarding the proposal will be recorded as a Record of Decision, which is subject to appeal under 43 CFR part 4.

Dated: August 13, 1998.

Colin P. Christensen,

Acting Field Office Manager, Winnemucca.
[FR Doc. 98-22517 Filed 8-20-98; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-HC-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY-921-41-5700; WYW128798]

Notice of Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease

Pursuant to the provisions of 30 U.S.C. 188 (d) and (e), and 43 CFR 3108.2-3(a) and (b)(1), a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas lease WYW128798 for lands in Sublette County, Wyoming, was timely filed and was accompanied by all the required rentals accruing from the date of termination.

The lessee has agreed to the amended lease terms for rentals and royalties at rates of \$5.00 per acre, or fraction thereof, per year and 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ percent, respectively.

The lessee has paid the required \$500 administrative fee and \$125 to reimburse the Department for the cost of this **Federal Register** notice. The lessee has met all the requirements for reinstatement of the lease as set out in Section 31 (d) and (e) of the Mineral Lands Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. 188), and the Bureau of Land Management is proposing to reinstate lease WYW128798 effective April 1, 1998, subject to the original terms and conditions of the lease and the increased rental and royalty rates cited above.

Theresa M. Stevens,

Acting Chief, Leasable Minerals Section.
[FR Doc. 98-22506 Filed 8-20-98; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-22-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-930-5700-01; N-62369]

Lander County, Nevada; Notice of Realty Action: Sale of Public Land in Lander County, Nevada, by Non-Competitive Sale Procedures

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management
ACTION: Non-competitive sale of public lands in Lander County, Nevada.

SUMMARY: The following described lands have been examined and found suitable for direct sale to Bullion Monarch Company at the appraised fair market value of \$95,000. Authority for the sale is in Sections 203 and 209 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701, 1713, 1719).

Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada

T. 19 N., R. 43 E.,
Sec. 13, lot 2, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$,
N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.
Totalling 94.21 acres.

The above-described lands are hereby classified for disposal in accordance with Executive Order 6910 and the Act of June 28, 1934, as amended.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before October 5, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Bureau of Land Management, Battle Mountain Field Office, 50 Bastian Road, Battle Mountain, Nevada 89820.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary Craggett, Realty Specialist, at the above address or at (702) 635-4168.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This parcel of land near Austin, Nevada, is being offered by direct sale to Bullion Monarch Company, owner of the milling operation on the parcel. The land is not required for Federal purposes and is identified as suitable for disposal in the Shoshone-Eureka Resource Management Plan.

Conveyance of the available mineral interests will occur simultaneously with the sale of the land. Acceptance of the sale offer will constitute an application for the available minerals and the purchaser will be charged a \$50.00 nonrefundable filing fee for the mineral interests.

The proponent will have 30 days from the date of receiving the sale offer to accept the offer and to submit a deposit of \$28,500 (30 percent of the purchase price), the \$50 mineral filing fee, and money for publication costs. The purchaser must submit the rest of the purchase price, \$66,500, within 90 days from the date the sale offer is received. Payments may be by certified check,