Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project, 1004–0153, Washington, D.C. 20503.

[60 FR 12711, Mar. 8, 1995]

§ 2720.1 Application to purchase federally-owned mineral interests.

§ 2720.1–1 Filing of application.

(a) Any existing or prospective record owner of the surface of land in which mineral interests are reserved or otherwise owned by the United States may file an application to purchase such mineral interests if—

(1) He has reason to believe that there are no known mineral values in the land, or

(2) The reservation of ownership of the mineral interests in the United States interferes with or precludes appropriate non-mineral development of the land and such development would be a more beneficial use of the land than its mineral development.

(b) Publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER of a notice of the filing of an application under this part shall segregate the mineral interests owned by the United States in the public lands covered by the application to the extent that they will not be subject to appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws. The segregative effect of the application shall terminate either upon issuance of a patent or other document of conveyance to such mineral interests, upon final rejection of the application or 2 years from the date of filing of the application which ever occurs first.

[44 FR 1342, Jan. 4, 1979, as amended at 51 FR 9657, Mar. 20, 1986]

§ 2720.1–2 Form of application.

(a) An application shall be filed with the proper BLM Office as listed in § 1821.2–1(d) of this title.

(b) No specific form is required.

(c) A non-refundable fee of $50 shall accompany the application.

(d) Each application shall include:

(1) The name, legal mailing address, and telephone number of the existing or prospective record owner of the land included in the application;

(2) Proof of ownership of the land included in the application, and in the case of a prospective record owner, a copy of the contract of conveyance or a statement describing the method by which he will become the owner of record;

(3) In the case of non-Federal ownership of the surface, a certified copy of any patent or other instrument conveying the land included in the application and a showing of ownership in the applicant, with supporting survey evidence acceptable to the authorized officer, which may consist of a metes and bounds survey prepared and certified by a civil engineer or land surveyor licensed under the laws of the State in which the lands are located; and

(4) As complete a statement as possible concerning (i) the nature of federally-reserved or owned mineral values in the land, including explanatory information, (ii) the existing and proposed uses of the land, (iii) why the reservation of the mineral interests in the United States is interfering with or precluding appropriate non-mineral development of the land covered by the application (iv) how and why such development would be a more beneficial use of the land than its mineral development, and (v) a showing that the proposed use complies or will comply with State and local zoning and/or planning requirements.

[44 FR 1342, Jan. 4, 1979, as amended at 51 FR 9658, Mar. 20, 1986]

§ 2720.1–3 Action on application.

(a) Within 90 days of receipt of an application to purchase federally-owned mineral interests, the authorized officer shall, if the application meets the requirements for further processing, determine the amount of deposit required and so inform the applicant.

(b) No application filed under this subpart shall be processed until the applicant has either—

(1) Deposited with the authorized officer an amount of money that the authorized officer estimates is needed to cover administrative costs of processing, including, but not limited to, costs of conducting an exploratory program, if one is required, to determine the character of the mineral deposits in the land, evaluating the existing data [or the data obtained under an approved exploratory program] to aid in determining the fair market value of