

Bureau of Land Management, Interior

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local communities, and hazards to public health and safety; reclaim the surface; and meet other applicable laws and regulations. The applicant may submit other pertinent information that the applicant wishes to have considered by the authorized officer;

(vi) A statement which describes the intended use of the coal covered by the emergency application; and

(vii) Any other information which will show that the application meets the requirements of this subpart.

(c) The applicant may engage in casual use of the land in the application, but shall not undertake any exploration without prior authorization by exploration license, or undertake any mining operations until lease issuance.

(d) The authorized officer, after reviewing the preliminary data contained in an application, and at any time during an environmental assessment may request additional information from the applicant. Where the surface of the land is held by a qualified surface owner (§3400.0-5) and the mining method to be used is other than underground mining techniques, the authorized officer shall obtain documents necessary to show ownership of the surface. The applicant shall submit evidence of written consent from any qualified surface owner(s). (In accordance with subpart 3427 of this title).

[44 FR 42615, July 19, 1979, as amended at 47 FR 33141, July 30, 1982]

§ 3425.1-8 Rejection of applications.

(a) An application for a lease shall be rejected in total or in part if the authorized officer determines that: (1) The application is not consistent with the applicable regulations; (2) issuance of the lease would compromise the regional leasing process described in §3420.3 of this title; or (3) leasing of the lands covered by the application, for environmental or other sufficient reasons, would be contrary to the public interest.

(b) Any application subject to rejection under paragraph (a) of this section shall not be rejected until the applicant is given written notice of the opportunity to provide requested missing information and fails to do so within the time specified in the decision issued for that purpose.

(c) The authorized officer shall transmit reasonable notice of the rejection of an emergency lease application to the Governor of the affected State(s).

[44 FR 42615, July 19, 1979, as amended at 47 FR 33141, July 30, 1982; 48 FR 37655, Aug. 19, 1983]

§ 3425.1-9 Modification of application area.

The authorized officer may add or delete lands from an area covered by an application for any reason he/she determines to be in the public interest. If an environmental assessment of the modification is required, BLM will solicit and consider public comments on the modified application.

[47 FR 33141, July 30, 1982, as amended at 64 FR 52243, Sept. 28, 1999]

§ 3425.2 Land use plans.

No lease shall be offered for sale under this subpart unless the lands have been included in a comprehensive land use plan or a land use analysis, as required in §3420.1-4 of this title. The decision to hold a lease sale shall be consistent with the appropriate comprehensive land use plan or land use analysis.

[44 FR 42615, July 19, 1979, as amended at 47 FR 33141, July 30, 1982]

§ 3425.3 Environmental analysis.

(a) Before a lease sale may be held under this subpart, the authorized officer shall prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement of the proposed lease area in accordance with 40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508. BLM will publish a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER, and at least once per week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the area of the sale, announcing the availability of the environmental assessment or draft environmental impact statement and the hearing required by §3425.4(a)(1). BLM also will mail to the surface owner a notice of any lands to be offered for sale and to any person who has requested notice of sales in the area.

(b) For lease applications involving lands in the National Forest System, the authorized officer shall submit the lease application to the Secretary of

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Agriculture for consent, for completion or consideration of an environmental assessment and for the attachment of appropriate lease stipulations, and for the making of any other findings prerequisite to lease issuance. (43 CFR 3400.3, 3461.1(a))

[44 FR 42615, July 19, 1979, as amended at 47 FR 33141, July 30, 1982; 64 FR 52243, Sept. 28, 1999]

§ 3425.4 Consultation and sale procedures.

(a)(1) Prior to holding any lease sale in response to any application under this subpart, a public hearing shall be held on the environmental assessment or environmental impact statement, the proposed sale and the fair market value and maximum economic recovery on the proposed lease tract.

(2) Prior to holding any lease sale under this subpart, the Secretary shall consult with the entities and individuals listed in §§ 3420.4-2 through 3420.4-5 of this title.

(b) Subpart 3422 of this title applies in full to any sale to be held in response to an application filed under this subpart.

[47 FR 33142, July 30, 1982]

§ 3425.5 Lease terms.

The terms of a lease issued under this subpart shall be consistent with the terms established for all competitive coal leases (43 CFR part 3470).

Subpart 3427—Split Estate Leasing

§ 3427.0-1 Purpose.

The purpose of this subpart is to set out the protection that shall be afforded qualified surface owners of split estate lands (43 CFR 3400.0-5) and the requirements for submission of evidence of written surface owner consent from qualified surface owners of split estate lands.

[47 FR 33142, July 30, 1982]

§ 3427.0-3 Authority.

(a) These regulations are issued under the authority of the statutes cited in § 3400.0-3 of this title.

(b) These regulations primarily implement section 714 of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of

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1977 (30 U.S.C. 1304), as construed in Solicitor's Opinion M-36909, 86 I.D. 28 (1979).

§ 3427.0-7 Scope.

The surface owner consent provisions of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act do not apply:

(a) To preference right lease applications; and

(b) If the split estate coal is to be mined by underground mining techniques (43 CFR 3500.0-5).

§ 3427.1 Deposits subject to consent.

On split estate lands (43 CFR 3400.0-5(kk)) where the surface is owned by a qualified surface owner, coal deposits that will be mined by other than underground mining techniques shall not be included in a lease sale without evidence of written consent from the qualified surface owner (43 CFR 3400.0-5(gg)) allowing entry and commencement of surface mining operations.

[47 FR 33142, July 30, 1982]

§ 3427.2 Procedures.

(a)(1) Each written consent or evidence of written consent shall be filed with the appropriate Bureau of Land Management State office (43 CFR subpart 1821). For lands offered for lease sale pursuant to subpart 3420 of this title, consents or written evidence thereof shall be filed on or before a date prior to the lease sale specified in a notice published in the FEDERAL REGISTER. For lands offered for lease sale pursuant to subpart 3425 of this title, consents or written evidence thereof shall be filed prior to the posting of the lease sale notice.

(2) Statement of refusal to consent shall be filed with the appropriate Bureau of Land Management State Office, but such statement shall be accepted for filing only during activity planning.

(b) Written consent, evidence of written consent, or statement of refusal to consent may be filed by any private person or persons with a potential interest in the lease sale of split estate lands.

(c) Such filing shall, at a minimum, contain the present legal address of the qualified surface owner, and the name,