United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Winnemucca Field Office
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MAY 15 2002

In Reply Refer To:
1330 (NV-020)

Dear Interested Public:

In May 2001, the President adopted a National Energy Policy to respond to our Nation's increasing energy needs. In response to this policy, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) developed an implementation strategy to streamline energy development on public lands.

BLM, Nevada has received numerous applications to lease public lands for geothermal resources. A large number of these applications are located within the administrative boundary of the Winnemucca Field Office. In order to expedite processing of pending lease applications and to meet the intent of the National Energy Policy, the Winnemucca Field Office is preparing a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) to comply with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The EA will provide a broad scope analysis, addressing cumulative impacts of reasonably foreseeable geothermal development and exploration scenarios. The EA will assist BLM in developing lease stipulations and conditions of approval for all new geothermal leases within the assessment area. The public scoping period will end at the close of business June 14, 2002.

We have scheduled two public scoping meetings to present the proposed action. We have opted to use an informal, open house format. You are cordially invited to meet with us to present your ideas or concerns.

Date	*Location*	*Time*
May 29, 2002	BLM Winnemucca Field Office 5100 East Winnemucca Blvd. Winnemucca, Nevada	7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
May 30, 2002	Lovelock Community Center 830 6th Street Lovelock, Nevada	7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

We expect our Programmatic EA to be released to the public on or about August 8, 2002 and will provide a 14-day public comment period.

For more information, and/or to submit your comments electronically, please visit our web site at: www.nv.blm.gov/winnemucca/geed. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Jeff Johnson, Planning and Environmental Coordinator at (775) 623-1500.

Sincerely,

Terry A. Reed

Terry A. Reed
Field Manager