

DATES: Submit comments on or before February 7, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments can be sent to William Sinclair, Office of Self-Governance, 1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 2542 MIB, Washington, DC 20240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William Sinclair, (202) 219-0240.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Self-Governance program was authorized by the Tribal Self-Governance Act of 1994, Pub. L. 103-413 as amended. Tribal Self-Governance is a voluntary program that is currently active and operating without promulgated regulations. [See § 407(d) of the Act which says that lack of promulgated regulations shall not limit the effect of this title.] Previously, an information collection request was cleared by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget of the Act. That clearance expires on February 29, 2000. Tribes interested in entering into Self-Governance must submit certain information to support their admission into Self-Governance. In addition, those tribes and tribal consortia who have entered into self-governance compacts must submit certain information to justify budget requests on their behalf and to comport with section 405 of the Act that calls for the Secretary to submit an annual report to the Congress. Information is also required of tribes to ensure that the trust responsibilities of the Secretary of the Interior are safeguarded and that imminent jeopardy to trust assets is avoided. (See section 403(d) of the Act.)

You are advised that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information that does not display a valid OMB clearance number. For example, this collection is listed by OMB as 1076-0143, and it expires February 29, 2000. The response is voluntary or to obtain or retain a benefit, depending upon the parts of the program being addressed.

We are requesting comments about the proposed collection to evaluate:

(a) The accuracy of the burden hours, including the validity of the methodology used and assumptions made,

(b) The necessity of the information for proper performance of the bureau functions, including its practical utility,

(c) The quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected, and

(d) Suggestions to reduce the burden including use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Please submit your comments to the person listed in the **ADDRESSES** section.

Please note that comments, names and addresses of commentators, are open for public review during regular business hours. If you wish your name and address withheld, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. We will honor your request to the extent allowable by law.

Type of review: Renewal.

Title: Tribal Self-Governance Program.

Affected Entities: Tribes and tribal consortiums currently in Self-Governance or wishing to enter into a self-governance compact.

Size of Respondent Pool: 85.

Number of Annual Responses: 257.

Hours per response: 42 hours.

Total burden hours: 10,766 hours.

BIA Information Collection Clearance Officer: Ruth Bajema, 202-208-2574.

Dated: December 1, 1999.

Kevin Gover,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-690-00-5101-01-B109; CACA-CACA-40467]

Proposed Cadiz Groundwater Storage Dry-Year Supply Program, Pipeline Right of Way and Plan Amendment

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, Needles Field Office, Desert District, California.

ACTION: Notice of availability of draft environmental impact statement for proposed cadiz groundwater storage and dry-year supply program pipeline right-of-way and plan amendment.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Land Management has prepared a joint draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Environmental Impact Record (EIR) in conjunction with the Metropolitan Water District (MWD). The draft EIR/EIS evaluates a range of alternatives for conveying water between the Colorado River Aqueduct and the aquifer underlying the Cadiz and Fenner Valleys across a proposed right-of-way for a pipeline. A plan amendment to the California Desert Conservation Area Plan (1980) is also proposed to allow for the proposed right-of-way.

The aim of the Cadiz Project is to ensure the reliability of Metropolitan's existing water supply in the Colorado River Aqueduct. The project achieves

this goal by storing Colorado River water in the Cadiz/Fenner aquifer and withdrawing the stored indigenous groundwater during dry years. Proposed facilities reviewed in the Draft EIR/EIS are a pipeline or canal for conveying water between the Colorado River Aqueduct and the Cadiz/Fenner area, a pumping plant, spreading basins for percolation of Colorado River water into the groundwater basin in the Cadiz/Fenner area, a well field for extracting stored and indigenous groundwater from the Cadiz/Fenner groundwater basin, and associated power poles and lines along the conveyance pipeline and in the well field. The project area is located in the eastern Mojave Desert region of San Bernardino County in the Cadiz and Fenner valleys. The proposed action includes an amendment of the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan, because the proposed right-of-way across federal lands is outside an utility corridor.

The Draft EIR/EIS addresses existing environmental conditions, potential impacts, and proposed mitigation measures. The Draft EIR/EIS indicates the possibility of some significant adverse effects, even after the implementation of the mitigation measures for the parameters of paleontological resources, air quality, and hazardous materials.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Copies of the draft EIR/EIS and supporting technical reports will be available for 90-day public review from November 26, 1999 through February 22, 2000 at the following locations:

Needles Branch Library, 1111 Bailey Avenue, Needles, California 92363
Twentynine Palms Branch Library, 6078 Adobe Road, Twentynine Palms, California 92277

Barstow Branch Library, 304 East Buena Vista, Barstow, California 92311
San Bernardino County Public Library, 104 West 4th Street, San Bernardino, California 92415

Bureau of Land Management, Riverside Office, 6221 Box Spring Road, Riverside, California 92507

Bureau of Land Management, Needles Office, 101 West Spike's Road, Needles, California 92363

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, 700 North Alameda Street, Los Angeles, California 90012

There will be three public hearings as follows:

Wednesday, December 15, 1999, at 11 am

Cadiz Ranch, 96-726 Highway 66, Cadiz, California 92319

Wednesday, December 15, 1999, at 7 pm
Twentynine Palms City Hall, 6136