APPENDIX A

NOTICE OF INTENT

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original lease area by relinquishing aliquot parts of the lease, a part as small as 1/16 of a block.

We request respondents who wish to compete for limited leases for the areas identified in this Notice to submit a nomination identifying the block(s) in which you are interested, the resource(s) you want to assess (e.g., wind, current, wave) and the technology you want to test. Also, provide a general description of the type and number of installations or technologies you would use and a project schedule for the activities you propose. Your nomination of an area must be consistent with the type of alternative energy resource identified for that area (e.g., a nomination off of the coast of New Jersey must pertain to data collection activities relating to wind resources). A nomination that is not consistent with the resource identified for a specific area will not be considered. The block(s) you wish to nominate should be identified using the information on Official Protraction Diagrams available as described above. Also, if you submit such a nomination, please provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of an individual for the MMS to contact.

With this request MMS is inviting nominations from parties who have not previously submitted nominations for the areas identified in this Notice and are interested in acquiring leases only for one or more of the blocks listed above. Those who have already submitted nominations for these areas should not resubmit the same nomination. A nomination received in response to the November 6, 2007, **Federal Register** Notice will be considered active unless the original nominator notifies MMS in writing that the nominator is no longer interested in obtaining a lease for the area originally nominated. If an original nominator is interested in competing for a lease area identified in this Notice and it was not the original nominator of that site, it must submit a new nomination for that lease area as provided in this Notice. If you have not already submitted a nomination and wish to submit one for an area listed above, you must submit by the deadline stated above. Late submissions will not be considered.

MMS Analysis of Nominations. The MMS will consider the nominations received in response to this Notice along with the original nominations. We will determine that there is competitive interest for any proposed lease area that receives more than one nomination and that there is no competitive interest for any area that receives only one nomination. In instances where our analysis determines that there is competitive interest, we will contact the competing nominators to explore options for collaboration or refinements of proposals before considering options for proceeding with a competitive auction. If we receive a competing nomination that only partially overlaps a multiple-block original nomination, we may determine that there is no competition, because in such a case the proposed lease area subject to competition would comprise the entire multiple-block original nomination. However, based on the information we receive in response to this notice, MMS may decide to issue a subsequent public notice requesting expressions of interest in the partial area where the competing nominations overlap separate from the remainder of the multiple-block area proposed for lease.

In instances where our analysis concludes that there is no competitive interest in a previously nominated area, we will contact the nominators and proceed with noncompetitive lease issuances as time and resources allow. However, we may first choose to explore options for collaboration in the interest of optimizing efficiency. The MMS will publicly announce the results of its analyses to determine competitive interest and its intentions to proceed with the issuance of leases.

Coordination and Consultation

The MMS invites all interested and affected parties to submit comments and information pertaining to the nominated areas listed above. We believe such input would be useful as we consider these areas for limited leasing, and we especially welcome information concerning geographic characteristics and environmental resources, as this will assist us in our environmental review processes. We seek information on the nominated areas relating to other ocean and seabed uses, relationships to onshore energy markets of the nominated areas, and applicable State and local laws and policies. We also request comments and suggestions on how we may best coordinate and consult comprehensively and efficiently to comply with applicable Federal, State, and local laws and policies. Officials of MMS intend to contact Federal, State, and local government counterparts during the comment period to discuss the nominations and the process for issuing limited OCS alternative energy leases under the interim policy. Such discussions may explore methods to foster intergovernmental coordination, including whether to establish intergovernmental task forces with Federal, State, and local entities for this purpose.

Dated: April 2, 2008.

Randall B. Luthi,

Director, Minerals Management Service.

[FR Doc. E8–8387 Filed 4–17–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–MR–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

South Valley Facilities Expansion Project—Clark County, NV

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) and notice of scoping meetings.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), together with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the National Park Service (NPS) as cooperating agencies, is preparing an EIS pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act to evaluate the effects of the South Valley Facilities Expansion (SVFE) Project (Project), as proposed by the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA). The SNWA has applied for temporary and permanent rights-of-way to construct water treatment and conveyance facilities on public land administered by Reclamation, BLM, and NPS in Clark County, Nevada.

DATES: Public scoping meetings will be held from 4:30 to 8 p.m., with a half-hour presentation at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, May 5, 6, and 7, 2008, to receive oral and written input on the scope of issues to be addressed in the EIS such as alternatives, resources, and other concerns. Written comments on the scope of the EIS should be submitted by May 23, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Ms. Laureen Perry (LC–2631), Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region, PO Box 61470, Boulder City, NV 89006–1470, or to *svfe-eis@lc.usbr.gov,* or fax to 702–293–8418. The public scoping meetings will be held at the following locations:

- *Monday, May 5, 2008:* Valley View Recreation Center, 500 Harris Street, Henderson, NV 89015.
- *Tuesday, May 6, 2008:* Sun City MacDonald Ranch Community Center, 2020 West Horizon Ridge Parkway, Henderson, NV 89012.
- *Wednesday, May 7, 2008:* Wingate Hotel, 3041 St. Rose Parkway, Henderson, NV 89052.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Laureen Perry at 702–293–8020, or at the above address.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Evolving water use patterns in the southern area of the Las Vegas Valley and the need to increase the reliability and flexibility of the SNWA water supply system have resulted in the proposal to redistribute, treat, and convey existing water supplies to meet the water demand projections and use patterns in this area. The proposed SVFE Project would increase treatment and conveyance capacity to allow SNWA to redistribute existing water supplies to locations identified by the City of Henderson and the Las Vegas Valley Water District to meet projected water demands and to increase the flexibility and reliability of the SNWA system to meet seasonal and regional water needs. The Project consists of two major elements: (1) An expansion of raw water transmission and treatment facilities (the treatment element), and (2) construction of a new transmission system to convey treated water to the southern area of the Las Vegas Valley (the conveyance element).

The raw water transmission and treatment element of the Project includes upgrades and additional facilities to redistribute raw water from existing sources at Lake Mead to the River Mountains Water Treatment Facility (RMWTF); expansion of treatment capacity within the existing footprint of the RMWTF; and enhancement of existing pumping station capacity and water filtration rates.

The conveyance element would include construction of approximately 26 miles of underground pipeline (72- to 114-inch diameter) from the RMWTF to a location west of Interstate 15 in the vicinity of Cactus Avenue and Decatur Boulevard. Appurtenant facilities would include a 40-million gallon storage reservoir, rate-of-flow control stations, and a pumping station. Currently, the South Valley Lateral transmits water supplies to the southern Las Vegas Valley. The conveyance element of the SVFE Project would increase SNWA's management flexibility and system reliability by supplying water to locations identified by the City of Henderson and Las Vegas Valley Water District, and through a planned interconnection with the South Valley Lateral, would allow areas to be served from either lateral if needed as a result of maintenance, repair, or power outage.

Potential project alternatives include different pipeline alignments, different pipeline construction methods (trench excavation and tunneling), and different locations for pumping stations, storage reservoir, and appurtenant facilities. Alignments being considered for the treatment element of the Project include following the existing raw water pipeline from the vicinity of Lake Mead to the RMWTF, or a new route under the River Mountains. One alignment being considered for the conveyance element includes a southern route from the RMWTF that heads south and then west and generally parallels the southern corporate limits of the City of Henderson, the northern boundary of Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area, and north of the Henderson Executive Airport to Gillespie Street. The northern conveyance alignment heads west from the RMWTF to U.S. Highway 95 where the alignment may go either north or south around Black Mountain. The route continues west and generally parallels Interstate 215 to St. Rose Parkway and to Maryland Parkway where the route turns south and then west to Gillespie Street. At Gillespie Street both the northern and southern alignments head south to St. Rose Parkway and north to Silverado Ranch Boulevard to new distribution facilities, and west across Interstate 15 to the terminus in the vicinity of Cactus Avenue and Decatur Boulevard. Maps of the potential alternative alignments will be available for review at the public scoping meetings, may be requested from Ms. Laureen Perry (at the above address), or may be viewed at *http://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g2000/envdocs.html.*

Special Assistance for Public Scoping Meeting

If special assistance or other accommodation is needed, please notify Ms. Laureen Perry at 702–293–8020, or at *svfe-eis@lc.usbr.gov,* or by mail at the above address as far in advance as possible to secure the needed services. If a request cannot be honored, the requestor will be notified.

Public Disclosure

Before including your name, address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you may request in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, Reclamation cannot guarantee it will be able to do so.

Dated: March 20, 2008.

Jayne Harkins,

Deputy Regional Director, Lower Colorado Region.

[FR Doc. E8–8380 Filed 4–17–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–MN–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Meeting of the Yakima River Basin Conservation Advisory Group, Yakima River; Basin Water Enhancement Project, Yakima, WA

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: As required by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given that the Yakima River Basin Conservation Advisory Group, Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project, Yakima, Washington, established by the Secretary of the Interior, will hold a public meeting. The purpose of the Conservation Advisory Group is to provide technical advice and counsel to the Secretary of the Interior and Washington State on the structure, implementation, and oversight of the Yakima River Basin Water Conservation Program.

DATES: Tuesday, April 29, 2008, 1 p.m.–4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Bureau of Reclamation, Yakima Field Office, 1917 Marsh Road, Yakima, Washington.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Walt Larrick, Assistant Program Manager, Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project, 1917 Marsh Road, Yakima, Washington 98901; 509–575–5848, extension 209.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the meeting will be to review the option of using the acquired habitat lands to mitigate the impacts that occur from the planned conservation measures and develop recommendations. This meeting is open to the public.

Dated: March 25, 2008.

Walter Larrick,

Assistant Program Manager Pacific Northwest Region.

[FR Doc. E8–8236 Filed 4–17–08; 8:45 am]

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