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January 27, 2020

GENERAL MEMORANDUM 20-003

BIA Self-Governance Application Deadline of March 1

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) published a notice in the January 24, 2020, FEDERAL REGISTER that the deadline for Indian tribes/consortia to submit completed applications to begin participation in the Self-Governance program in fiscal year 2021 or calendar year 2021 is March 1, 2020. The notice is attached.

Agreements for fiscal year 2021 need to be signed and submitted to the tribes who are party to the agreement and to Congress by July 1. Agreements for calendar year 2021 need to be signed and submitted by October 1.

Tribes/consortia that are currently involved in self-governance negotiations with the BIA or already have a signed agreement do not need to respond to the notice.

Please let us know if we may provide additional information or assistance regarding the BIA Self-Governance program.

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Inquiries may be directed to:
Geoff Strommer (gstrommer@hobbsstraus.com)

be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Authority

The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533(f).

Lori Nordstrom,

Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, Midwest Region.

[FR Doc. 2020-01201 Filed 1-23-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

[DR5B211A000716]

Deadline for Submitting Completed Applications To Begin Participation in the Tribal Self-Governance Program in Fiscal Year 2021 or Calendar Year 2021

AGENCY: Office of Self-Governance, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of application deadline.

SUMMARY: In this notice, the Office of Self-Governance (OSG) establishes a March 1, 2020, deadline for Indian Tribes/consortia to submit completed applications to begin participation in the Tribal self-governance program in fiscal year 2021 or calendar year 2021.

DATES: Completed application packages must be received by the Director, Office of Self-Governance, by March 1, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Application packages for inclusion in the applicant pool should be sent to Sharee M. Freeman, Director, Office of Self-Governance, Department of the Interior, Mail Stop 3624-MIB, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Kenneth D. Reinfeld, Office of Self-Governance, Telephone (703) 390-6551.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Tribal Self-Governance Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-413), as amended by the Fiscal Year 1997 Omnibus Appropriations Bill (Pub. L. 104-208), and section 1000.15(a) of Title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the OSG Director may select up to 50 additional participating Tribes/consortia per year for the Tribal self-governance program and negotiate and enter into a written funding agreement with each participating Tribe. The Act mandates that the Secretary of the Interior submit copies of the funding agreements at least 90 days before the proposed effective

date to the appropriate committees of the Congress and to each Tribe that is served by the Bureau of Indian Affairs' agency that is serving the Tribe that is a party to the funding agreement. Initial negotiations with a Tribe/consortium located in a region and/or agency which has not previously been involved with self-governance negotiations will take approximately 2 months from start to finish. Agreements for an October 1 to September 30 funding year need to be signed and submitted by July 1. Agreements for a January 1 to December 31 funding year need to be signed and submitted by October 1.

Purpose of Notice

The regulations at 25 CFR 1000.10 to 1000.31 will be used to govern the application and selection process for Tribes/consortia to begin their participation in the Tribal self-governance program in fiscal year 2021 and calendar year 2021. Applicants should be guided by the requirements in these subparts in preparing their applications. Copies of these subparts may be obtained from the information contact person identified in this notice.

Tribes/consortia wishing to be considered for participation in the Tribal self-governance program in fiscal year 2021 or calendar year 2021 must respond to this notice, except for those Tribes/consortia which are: (1) Currently involved in negotiations with the Department; or (2) one of the 129 Tribal entities with signed agreements.

Information Collection

This information collection is authorized by OMB Control Number 1076-0143, Tribal Self-Governance Program, which expires June 30, 2022.

Dated: December 18, 2019.

Tara Sweeney,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2020-01211 Filed 1-23-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[(LLCAD01000.L13400000.DO0000.20X) MO#4500140922]

Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Haiwee Geothermal Leasing Area, California, and the Proposed Amendment to the California Desert Conservation Area Plan

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended (FLPMA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Final Amendment to the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan and a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Haiwee Geothermal Leasing Area (HGLA), Inyo County, California, and by this notice is announcing its availability. The proposed action is to amend the CDCA Plan to allow for geothermal leasing within approximately 22,805 acres. The proposed action also responds to three geothermal lease applications for 4,460 acres of public lands within the HGLA.

DATES: BLM planning regulations state that any person who meets the conditions as described in the regulations may protest the BLM's Proposed Land Use Plan Amendment and Final EIS. A person who meets the conditions and files a protest must file the protest within 30 days of the date that the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: The Final EIS and Proposed Land Use Plan Amendment is available on the internet at <https://go.usa.gov/xEnvy>. Hard copies of the Final EIS and Proposed Land Use Plan Amendment are available for public inspection at the BLM-Ridgecrest Field Office at 300 South Richmond Road, Ridgecrest, CA 93555, and at the California Desert District Office, 22835 Calle San Juan De Los Lagos, Moreno Valley, CA 92553. Hard copies of the Final EIS and Proposed Land Use Plan Amendment have been sent to affected Federal, State, local, and tribal government agencies and to other stakeholders. All protests must be in writing and filed with the BLM Director, either as a hard copy or electronically via the BLM's ePlanning project website listed previously. To submit a protest electronically, go to the ePlanning project website and follow the protest instructions highlighted at the top of the home page. If submitting a protest in hard copy, it must be mailed to one of the following addresses:

Regular Mail: BLM Director (210), Attention: Protest Coordinator, P.O. Box 71383, Washington, DC 20024-1383.

Overnight Delivery: BLM Director (210), Attention: Protest Coordinator, 20 M Street SE, Room 2134LM, Washington, DC 20003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Greg Miller, Assistant District Manager—Resources, telephone: 951-697-5216; address: 22835 Calle San Juan De Los Lagos, Moreno Valley, CA 92553; email: