

(Authority: 43 CFR 1610.2; 43 CFR 1610.5–1(b).)

William Groffy,

Acting Director, Bureau of Land Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[A2407–014–004–065516; #O2412–014–004–047181.1; LLES934000]

Leases for Sale, ALES–055797 Lease-by-Application and ALES–056519 Lease-by-Application, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of coal lease sale.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Federal coal resources in lands in Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, will be offered for competitive lease by sealed bid in accordance with the provisions of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended. The lease sale will cover tracts described in two Lease-by-Applications, and separate bids must be submitted for Lease-by-Application (LBA) ALES–055797 and/or ALES–056519 coal resources.

DATES: Sealed bids must be received by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Eastern States State Office Public Room on or before 9:30 a.m. Eastern Time (ET) on September 30, 2025. The lease sale will be held at 10:00 a.m. ET on September 30, 2025.

ADDRESSES: The lease sale will be held at the BLM Eastern States State Office, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041. Sealed bids must be submitted to the BLM Eastern States State Office, at this same address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stewart Boyd, Solids Mineral Lead, Eastern States State Office, by telephone at 859–880–2844, or by email at sboyd@blm.gov. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This sale is being held in response to two coal LBAs filed by Warrior Met Coal, for coal leases covering tracts in ALES–055797 and ALES–056519. Bidders may submit a bid for either one of the leases or both

leases. A separate bid is required for each lease. A single bid covering both leases will not be accepted. The Federal coal lease parcels to be offered, underlying privately-owned surface lands in Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, are contained in the tracts located on the following described lands:

ALES–055797 Lease Tract

Huntsville Meridian, Alabama

- T. 18 S., R. 8 W.,
 Sec. 17, NE¹/₄, SE¹/₄, SW¹/₄, E¹/₂NW¹/₄, and SW¹/₄NW¹/₄;
 Sec. 18, SE¹/₄, E¹/₂SW¹/₄, and SW¹/₄SW¹/₄;
 Sec. 28, W¹/₂SW¹/₄ and SE¹/₄NW¹/₄;
 Sec. 33, SW¹/₄NW¹/₄.
 T. 19 S., R. 8 W.,
 Sec. 4, SE¹/₄NW¹/₄;
 Sec. 11, E¹/₂NW¹/₄;
 Sec. 18, SW¹/₄ and W¹/₂NW¹/₄.
 T. 18 S., R. 9 W.,
 Sec. 21, NE¹/₄SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 22, SW¹/₄NE¹/₄, S¹/₂SE¹/₄, NW¹/₄SE¹/₄, SW¹/₄, and SE¹/₄NW¹/₄;
 Sec. 24, NE¹/₄, E¹/₂SE¹/₄, NW¹/₄SE¹/₄, SW¹/₄, E¹/₂NW¹/₄, and SW¹/₄NW¹/₄;
 Sec. 26, NE¹/₄, SE¹/₄, SW¹/₄, and E¹/₂NW¹/₄;
 Sec. 27, W¹/₂NE¹/₄, SE¹/₄, SW¹/₄, and NW¹/₄;
 Sec. 28, N¹/₂SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 33, E¹/₂NE¹/₄ and NE¹/₄SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 34, NE¹/₄, SE¹/₄, N¹/₂SW¹/₄, and NW¹/₄;
 Sec. 35, N¹/₂NE¹/₄, SE¹/₄NE¹/₄, E¹/₂SE¹/₄, SW¹/₄SE¹/₄, W¹/₂SW¹/₄, N¹/₂NW¹/₄ and SW¹/₄NW¹/₄.
 T. 19 S., R. 9 W.,
 Sec. 1, NE¹/₄ and E¹/₂NW¹/₄;
 Sec. 12, NE¹/₄, SE¹/₄, E¹/₂SW¹/₄, and E¹/₂NW¹/₄;
 Sec. 14, SE¹/₄ and NW¹/₄

The areas described for the ALES–055797 tract aggregate 5,704.52 acres, according to the official plats of the surveys of the said lands, on file with the BLM.

ALES–056519 Lease Tract

Huntsville Meridian, Alabama

- T. 17 S., R. 8 W.,
 Sec. 5, N¹/₂SW¹/₄;
 Sec. 6, S¹/₂NE¹/₄, N¹/₂SE¹/₄, and SE¹/₄SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 7, NE¹/₄NE¹/₄, and W¹/₂NW¹/₄;
 Sec. 8, NE¹/₄NE¹/₄, and SW¹/₄NE¹/₄.
 T. 17 S., R. 9 W.,
 Sec. 2, W¹/₂NW¹/₄, and NW¹/₄SW¹/₄;
 Sec. 3, W¹/₂SW¹/₄, and SW¹/₄SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 4, E¹/₂NE¹/₄, SW¹/₄NE¹/₄, and S¹/₂SW¹/₄;
 Sec. 5, SW¹/₄SW¹/₄, and E¹/₂SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 6, SE¹/₄NE¹/₄, and E¹/₂SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 7, NE¹/₄NE¹/₄, E¹/₂SW¹/₄, and SE¹/₄SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 8, SE¹/₄NE¹/₄, S¹/₂SW¹/₄, E¹/₂SE¹/₄, and SW¹/₄SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 9, NE¹/₄, SW¹/₄, and SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 10, NE¹/₄, W¹/₂NW¹/₄, SE¹/₄NW¹/₄, SW¹/₄, and NW¹/₄SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 11, W¹/₂NW¹/₄, and SE¹/₄SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 13, N¹/₂NE¹/₄, SW¹/₄NE¹/₄, and N¹/₂SW¹/₄;
 Sec. 14, E¹/₂NE¹/₄, E¹/₂NW¹/₄, E¹/₂SE¹/₄, and NW¹/₄SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 15, W¹/₂NE¹/₄, NW¹/₄, NW¹/₄SW¹/₄, and NW¹/₄SE¹/₄;

- Sec. 17, NE¹/₄, NW¹/₄, NE¹/₄SW¹/₄, and SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 18, E¹/₂NE¹/₄, NW¹/₄NE¹/₄, E¹/₂NW¹/₄, and W¹/₂SW¹/₄;
 Sec. 20, NW¹/₄NE¹/₄, and SW¹/₄NW¹/₄;
 Sec. 22, NE¹/₄NW¹/₄, and E¹/₂SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 23, S¹/₂NE¹/₄, and NE¹/₄SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 24, SW¹/₄NW¹/₄, and E¹/₂SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 25, NE¹/₄NE¹/₄, E¹/₂SW¹/₄, and NE¹/₄SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 26, NW¹/₄NW¹/₄;
 Sec. 27, NE¹/₄NE¹/₄, and NW¹/₄SW¹/₄;
 Sec. 30, E¹/₂SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 31, E¹/₂NE¹/₄, SW¹/₄NE¹/₄, and SE¹/₄/NW¹/₄;
 Sec. 32, NW¹/₄NW¹/₄, and W¹/₂SW¹/₄;
 Sec. 35, NE¹/₄;
 Sec. 36, NE¹/₄, NW¹/₄, E¹/₂SW¹/₄, and SE¹/₄.
 T. 17 S., R. 10 W.,
 Sec. 1, NW¹/₄SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 12, SE¹/₄SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 13, NE¹/₄NE¹/₄;
 Sec. 35, E¹/₂SW¹/₄;
 Sec. 36, SE¹/₄NE¹/₄, and N¹/₂SW¹/₄.
 T. 18 S., R. 8 W.,
 Sec. 5, N¹/₂NE¹/₄, N¹/₂NW¹/₄, and NW¹/₄SW¹/₄;
 Sec. 6, W¹/₂NE¹/₄, NW¹/₄, SW¹/₄, and W¹/₂SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 7, NE¹/₄NE¹/₄.
 T. 18 S., R. 9 W.,
 Sec. 1, E¹/₂NE¹/₄, and NW¹/₄NE¹/₄;
 Sec. 6, SW¹/₄NE¹/₄, E¹/₂NW¹/₄, SW¹/₄NW¹/₄, and W¹/₂SW¹/₄;
 Sec. 7, S¹/₂NE¹/₄, and N¹/₂NW¹/₄;
 Sec. 17, W¹/₂SW¹/₄;
 Sec. 18, SE¹/₄NW¹/₄, and N¹/₂SE¹/₄.
 T. 18 S., R. 10 W.,
 Sec. 1, NE¹/₄NW¹/₄, SE¹/₄SW¹/₄, N¹/₂SE¹/₄, and SW¹/₄SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 11, E¹/₂NE¹/₄;
 Sec. 12, NW¹/₄NE¹/₄, and SE¹/₄SW¹/₄;
 Sec. 13, NE¹/₄SW¹/₄, W¹/₂SE¹/₄, and SE¹/₄SE¹/₄.

The areas described for the ALES–056519 tract aggregate 8,346.015 acres, according to the official plats of the surveys of the said lands, on file with the BLM.

Per both the ALES–055797 and ALES–056519 LBAs, the coal proposed to be mined by underground mining methods is in the Black Warrior Coal Basin, Mary Lee Group, and the coal seams proposed to be mined are the Mary Lee and Blue Creek. Both coal seams are considered a metallurgical-grade coal product.

Per the ALES–055797 LBA, the total coal, including the Mary Lee and Blue Creek coal seams, varies between 29 and 79 inches. The average depth of the coal seam in the Federal lease area is approximately 1,600 feet. The ALES–056519 LBA tract contains approximately 16.9 million tons of Federal recoverable coal.

Per the ALES–056519 LBA, the total coal, including the Mary Lee and Blue Creek coal seams, varies between 24 and 78 inches. The average depth of the coal seam in the Federal lease area is approximately 1,220 feet. The ALES–056519 LBA tract contains

approximately 36.3 million tons of Federal recoverable coal.

The tracts will each be leased, separate leases for each LBA, to the qualified bidder of the highest cash amount, provided that the high bid for each tract meets or exceeds the BLM's estimate of the fair market value (FMV) of that tract. The minimum bid for each tract is \$100 per acre or fraction thereof per 43 CFR 3422.1(c)(2). This regulatory minimum bid is not intended to represent FMV. The authorized officer will determine if the bids meet FMV.

The sealed bids should be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, or be hand delivered to the Public Room, Eastern States State Office (see **ADDRESSES**), and clearly marked "Sealed Bid for ALES-055797 Coal Sale—Not to be opened before 10:00 a.m. ET on September 30, 2025" or "Sealed Bid for ALES-056519 Coal Sale—Not to be opened before 10:00 a.m. ET on September 30, 2025." The Public Room representative will issue a receipt for each hand-delivered bid. Bids received after 9:30 a.m. ET will not be considered. If identical high bids are received for either tract, the tying high bidders will be requested to submit follow-up sealed bids until a high bid is received. All tie-breaking sealed bids must be submitted within 15 minutes following the sale official's announcement at the sale that identical high bids have been received.

Prior to lease issuance, the high bidder, if other than the applicant, must pay the BLM the cost recovery fee, in addition to all processing costs incurred by the BLM after the date of this sale notice (43 CFR 3473.2(f)). As of August 4, 2025, the cost-recovery fee for each LBA is approximately \$120,000 and will increase up until issuance of the lease.

Leases issued because of this offering will require payment of an annual rental of \$3 per acre, or fraction thereof, and a royalty payable to the United States pursuant to Section 7(a) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 207(a)) as amended.

Bidding instructions for the tracts offered and the terms and conditions of the two proposed coal leases are included in the "Detailed Statement of Coal Lease Sale," with copies available at the Eastern States State Office (see **ADDRESSES**). Documents in the case files for the ALES-055797 and ALES-056519 LBAs are available for public inspection at the Eastern States State Office Public Room.

(Authority: 43 CFR 3422.3-2)

Christopher Hite,

Branch Chief, Solid Minerals. BLM Eastern States.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

[RR02015200, 25XR0680A1, RX.02148941.332WT00]

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report and Hold Public Scoping Meetings for North-to-South Water Transfers

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent; request for comments.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) will prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate a range of alternatives for potential one-year water transfer activities subject to proposal, review, and approval on an annual basis (the "Proposed Action"). Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) will prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on the same range of potential north-to-south water transfer activities (the "Project") concurrent with the EIS preparation. A joint EIS/EIR will be prepared to examine the effects of water transfers between willing buyers and sellers when circumstances allow. To afford an informational opportunity for comprehensive environmental review otherwise unavailable to the public, Reclamation's responsibilities are defined under Federal law and it is serving as the Lead Agency for the "Proposed Action" under NEPA and SLDMWA is the Lead Agency under CEQA for the "Project." Reclamation is requesting comments on alternatives and effects, as well as on relevant information, studies, or analyses with respect to the proposed action.

DATES: Submit written comments on the scope of the EIS/EIR on or before October 3, 2025.

Three public scoping meetings will be held by Reclamation and SLDMWA to inform interested parties about the proposed project alternatives and to solicit comments on the scope and

content of the EIS/EIR. The meetings will be held both virtually and in-person. The dates and locations of the meetings will be announced at least 15 days in advance through the local media, newspapers, and the project website listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments on the proposed content and scope of the EIS/EIR to Nicole Johnson, Bureau of Reclamation, California-Great Basin Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825; by email at njohnson@usbr.gov; or at the public scoping meetings using the link from the website listed below in this section. Oral comments received during the scoping meetings will be recorded. If you do not wish to be recorded, you may submit written comments by mail or email to the addresses listed above. All comments received during the public comment period will be considered and addressed in the EIS/EIR, as appropriate.

The dates and locations of the three public scoping meetings, along with links to attend virtually, will be posted to the project website at (<https://www.usbr.gov/mp/north-to-south-water-transfers-program.html>).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nicole Johnson, Bureau of Reclamation, California-Great Basin Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825; email njohnson@usbr.gov. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Project Background

Hydrologic conditions, climatic variability, and regulatory requirements that govern the operation of water projects commonly affect water supply availability in California. This variability can strain water availability in areas that are dependent on the delivery of Central Valley Project (CVP) supplies to meet most, if not all, of the water demand. Historically, water entities have implemented one-year water transfers to supplement decreased water supplies and meet existing demand. These transfers have become a common tool in water resource planning. Reclamation and SLDMWA jointly conduct a comprehensive environmental analysis of a range of