Bureau of Land Management, Interior

RIGHTS OF PURCHASERS AND PERMITTEES

§3601.20 Rights of parties.

§ 3601.21 What rights does a person have under a materials sales contract or use permit?

(a) Unless otherwise provided, if you are a purchaser under a sales contract or a free use permittee, you have the right to:

(1) Extract, remove, process, and stockpile the material until the contract or permit terminates, regardless of any rights others acquire later under the provisions of the general land laws; and

(2) Use and occupy the described lands to the extent necessary for ful-fillment of the contract or permit.

(b) Users of the lands covered by your materials sales contract or free use permit who acquire their rights later than the date BLM designated the tract for mineral materials disposal will be subject to your existing use authorization, as provided in §3602.12. This applies to uses due to any later settlement, location, lease, sale, or other appropriation under the general land laws, including the mineral leasing and mining laws.

§ 3601.22 What rights remain with the United States when BLM sells or issues a permit for mineral materials?

Your sale contract or use permit is subject to the continuing right of the United States to issue leases, permits, and licenses for the use and occupancy of the lands, if such use would not endanger or materially interfere with the production or removal of materials under contract or permit.

PRE-APPLICATION SAMPLING AND TESTING

§ 3601.30 Pre-application activities how and when may I sample and test mineral materials?

(a) BLM may authorize you in writing to sample and test mineral materials. The authorization letter expires after 90 days, but BLM may extend it for an additional 90 days if you show us that an extension is necessary. BLM may authorize these activities before issuing a sales contract or free use permit.

(b) You must submit your sampling and testing findings to BLM. All information you submit under this section is subject to part 2 of this title. That part sets forth the rules of the Department of the Interior relating to public availability of information contained in Departmental records. (*See* § 3601.8.)

(c) A letter from BLM authorizing you to sample and test mineral materials does not give you a preference right to a sales contract or free use permit.

(d) BLM may impose bonding and reclamation requirements on sampling and testing that you conduct under an authorization letter.

MINING AND RECLAMATION PLANS

§3601.40 Mining and reclamation plans.

BLM may require you to submit mining and reclamation plans before we begin any environmental review or issue a contract or permit. You may combine these plans in one document.

§ 3601.41 What information must I include in my mining plan?

If BLM requires you to submit a mining plan, it must include:

(a) A map, sketch, or aerial photograph identifying the area for which you are applying, the area and depth you plan to disturb, existing and proposed access, and the names and locations of major topographic and known cultural features;

(b) A description of your proposed methods of operation and the periods during which you will operate;

(c) A description of measures you will take to prevent hazards to public health and safety and to minimize and mitigate environmental damage; and

(d) Such other information as BLM may require.

§ 3601.42 What information must I include in my reclamation plan?

If BLM requires you to submit a reclamation plan, it must include:

(a) A statement of the proposed manner and time in which you will complete reclamation of the areas disturbed by your operations;