

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Indian Affairs**

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**Final Environmental Impact Statement
and a Revised Draft Conformity
Determination for the Proposed Wilton
Rancheria Fee-to-Trust and Casino
Project, Sacramento County, California**

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs,
Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) as lead agency, with the Wilton Rancheria (Tribe), City of Galt, City of Elk Grove, Sacramento County (County), and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) serving as cooperating agencies, has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Wilton Rancheria Fee-to-Trust and Casino Project, Sacramento County, California, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended. This notice announces that the FEIS is now available for public review. In accordance with Section 176 of the Clean Air Act and EPA's general conformity regulations, a Revised Draft Conformity Determination (DCD) also has been prepared for the proposed project.

DATES: The BIA will issue a Record of Decision (ROD) on the proposed action no sooner than 30 days after the date EPA publishes its Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**. The BIA must receive any comments on the FEIS on or before that date.

ADDRESSES: The FEIS is available for public review at the Galt Branch of the Sacramento Public Library, located at 1000 Caroline Ave., Galt, California 95632, and the Elk Grove Branch of the Sacramento Public Library, located at 8900 Elk Grove Blvd., Elk Grove, California 95624, and online at <http://www.wiltoneis.com>. You may mail or hand-deliver written comments to Ms. Amy Dutschke, Pacific Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825. You may also submit comments through email to Mr. John Rydzik, Chief, Division of Environmental, Cultural Resource Management and Safety, Bureau of Indian Affairs, at john.rydzik@bia.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. John Rydzik, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Regional Office, 2800 Cottage

Way, Sacramento, California 95825, (916) 978-6051.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Tribe has requested that BIA take into trust approximately 36 acres of land (known as the Elk Grove Mall site) currently in fee, on which the Tribe proposes to construct a casino, hotel, parking area, and other ancillary facilities (Proposed Project). The proposed fee-to-trust property is located within the incorporated boundaries of the City of Elk Grove in Sacramento County, California.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) identified Alternative A, located on the 282-acre Twin Cities site, as the Proposed Action that would allow for the development of the Tribe's proposed casino/hotel project; however, after evaluating all alternatives in the Draft EIS, BIA has now selected Alternative F, located on the Elk Grove Mall Site, as its Preferred Alternative to allow for the Tribe's Proposed Project. Since the DEIS was published, the Elk Grove Mall site increased by approximately eight acres, from approximately 28 to 36 acres. The additional eight acres consists of developed and disturbed land similar to the original 28 acres and was added due to parcel configuration and redesigned interior circulation. In addition, Alternative F project components have been revised in the FEIS from their discussion in the DEIS. The total square footage of the proposed facility has decreased approximately 2,299 square feet, from 611,055 square feet to 608,756 square feet. Some components have also changed, such as restaurant types, and a three-story parking garage has been added. However, gaming floor square footage has remained the same. These changes do not impact the conclusions of the EIS. The Final EIS was updated accordingly.

The Proposed Action consists of transferring the approximately 36 acres of property and the subsequent development of the Proposed Project. The Proposed Project would contain approximately 110,260 square-foot (sf) of gaming floor area, a 12-story hotel with approximately 302 guest rooms, a 360-seat buffet, 60-seat pool grill, other food and beverage providers, retail area, a fitness center, spa, and an approximately 48,000 sf convention center. Access to the Mall site would be provided via an existing driveway and a new driveway located along Promenade Parkway.

The following alternatives are considered in the FEIS: Alternative A—Proposed Twin Cities Casino Resort; Alternative B—Reduced Twin Cities

Casino; Alternative C—Retail on the Twin Cities Site; Alternative D—Casino Resort at Historic Rancheria Site; Alternative E—Reduced Intensity Casino at Historic Rancheria Site; Alternative F—Casino Resort at Mall Site; and Alternative G—No Action.

Alternative F has been identified as the Preferred Alternative, as discussed in the FEIS. The information and analysis contained in the FEIS, as well as its evaluation and assessment of the Preferred Alternative, are intended to assist the Department of the Interior (Department) in its review of the issues presented in the fee-to-trust application. The Preferred Alternative does not reflect the Department's final decision because the Department must further evaluate all of the criteria listed in 25 CFR part 151 and 25 CFR part 292. The Department's consideration and analysis of the applicable regulations may lead to a final decision that selects an alternative other than the Preferred Alternative, including no action, or a variant of the Preferred or another of the alternatives analyzed in the FEIS.

Environmental issues addressed in the FEIS include geology and soils, water resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural and paleontological resources, socioeconomic conditions (including environmental justice), transportation and circulation, land use, public services, noise, hazardous materials, aesthetics, cumulative effects, and indirect and growth inducing effects.

Section 176 of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. 7506, requires Federal agencies to ensure that their actions conform to applicable implementation plans for achieving and maintaining the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for criteria air pollutants. The BIA has prepared a Revised DCD for the proposed action/project described above. The Revised DCD is included as Revised Appendix T of the FEIS.

A public scoping meeting for the DEIS was held by BIA on December 19, 2013 at the Chabolla Community Center in Galt, California. A Notice of Availability for the Draft EIS was published in the **Federal Register** on January 15, 2016 (81 FR 2214), and announced a review period that ended on February 29, 2016. The BIA held a public hearing on the Draft EIS on January 29, 2016 in Galt, California.

Directions for Submitting Comments: Please include your name, return address, and the caption: "FEIS Comments, Wilton Rancheria Fee-to-Trust and Casino Project," on the first page of your written comments. If emailing comments, please use "FEIS Comments, Wilton Rancheria Fee-to-

Trust and Casino Project” as the subject of your email.

Locations Where the FEIS Is Available for Review: The FEIS is available for review during regular business hours at the BIA Pacific Regional Office and the Galt and Elk Grove Branches of the Sacramento Public Library at the addresses noted above in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice. The FEIS is also available online at <http://www.wiltoneis.com>.

To obtain a compact disc copy of the FEIS, please provide your name and address in writing or by voicemail to Mr. John Rydzik, Bureau of Indian Affairs, at the address or phone number above in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice. Individual paper copies of the DEIS will be provided upon payment of applicable printing expenses by the requestor for the number of copies requested.

Public Comment Availability: Comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review during regular business hours at the BIA mailing address shown in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice. Before including your address, telephone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may 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: This notice is published pursuant to Sections 1503.1 and 1506.6(b) of the Council of Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508) implementing the procedural requirements of the NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321, *et seq.*), the Department of the Interior NEPA Regulations (43 CFR part 46), and is in the exercise of authority delegated to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8. This notice is also published in accordance with Federal general conformity regulations (40 CFR part 93, subpart B).

Dated: December 8, 2016.

Lawrence S. Roberts,
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

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Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Notice of Public Meetings for a Federal Coal Lease by Application (MTM 105485), Application To Modify Federal Coal Lease (MTM 94378), and Applications To Amend Land Use Permit (MTM 96659), and Land Use Lease (MTM 74913), Big Horn County, MT

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Bureau of Land Management (BLM) regulations, the United States Department of the Interior, BLM Miles City Field Office is publishing this notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential impacts of four proposed actions related to coal mining at the Spring Creek Mine in Big Horn County, Montana. The proposed actions involve the potential sale of two tracts of Federal coal through a Lease-By-Application (LBA) and a lease modification application (LMA). Both applications cover proposed additions to an existing Federal coal lease at the Spring Creek Mine. Related to these leasing requests, the EIS will also evaluate proposed amendments to an existing land use permit to maintain access to mine monitoring and gauging stations and an existing land use lease to provide room for the placement of overburden and infrastructure. The EIS will be called the Spring Creek Coal EIS. This notice initiates the public scoping process for the Spring Creek Coal EIS.

DATES: Public scoping meetings to provide the public with an opportunity to review the proposals and gain understanding of the coal leasing process will be held by the BLM. The dates and locations of any scoping meetings will be announced at least 15 days in advance through local media outlets and through the Miles City BLM Web site at: www.blm.gov/mt/st/en/fo/miles_city_field_office.html. At the meetings, the public is invited to submit comments and resource information, plus identify issues or concerns to be considered in the environmental analysis. The BLM can best use public

input if comments and resource information are submitted in writing by February 13, 2017. We will provide additional opportunities for public participation upon publication of the Draft EIS.

ADDRESSES: Please submit written comments or concerns to the BLM Miles City Field Office, Attn: Irma Nansel, 111 Garryowen Road, Miles City, MT 59301. Written comments or resource information may also be hand delivered to the BLM Miles City Field Office. Comments may be sent electronically to BLM_MT_MCFO_SCCEIS@blm.gov. For electronic submission, please include “Spring Creek Coal EIS/Irma Nansel” in the subject line. Members of the public may examine documents pertinent to this proposal by visiting the Miles City Field Office during its business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Irma Nansel, Planning and Environmental Coordinator; telephone 406-233-3653. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Spring Creek Coal LLC (SCC) submitted four applications to the BLM, Montana State Office in 2012 and 2013. The four applications are as follows:

A. On February 15, 2013, SCC submitted LBA MTM 105485 for the Spring Creek Northwest and Spring Creek Southeast tracts. The LBA encompasses approximately 1,602.57 acres (containing approximately 198.2 million mineable tons of coal) adjacent to the Spring Creek Mine. Since decertification of the Powder River Federal Coal Region as a Federal coal production region by the Powder River Regional Coal Team (PRRCT) in 1990, leasing is permitted to take place under the existing regulations on an application basis, in accordance with 43 CFR 3425.1-5. The PRRCT reviewed the proposed Spring Creek Northwest and Spring Creek Southeast tracts in the application and recommended that the Montana State Office begin processing the application. This LBA consists of the following acreage: