



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Washington, D.C. 20240
<http://www.blm.gov>

September 10, 2004

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (DPEIS) on Wind Energy Development on BLM-Administered Lands in the Western United States. The BLM has prepared this DPEIS to (1) assess the environmental, social, and economic impacts associated with wind energy development on public lands in 11 western states (excluding Alaska) and (2) evaluate a number of alternatives to determine the best management approach to mitigating potential impacts and facilitating wind energy development.

Three alternatives were considered in the DPEIS: 1) the proposed action, which would implement a Wind Energy Development Program, establish Best Management Practices for wind energy authorizations, and amend a number of BLM land use plans; 2) the no action alternative, which would allow wind energy development under the existing terms and conditions of the BLM Interim Wind Energy Development Policy (October 16, 2002); and 3) a limited wind energy development alternative, which would allow wind energy development only in selected locations. The BLM seeks information and comments on the analysis of potential impacts of wind energy development on public lands and on the assessment of the management alternatives. In particular, the BLM seeks comments on the conclusion that the proposed action appears to provide the best approach for managing wind energy development on BLM-administered lands. The BLM also seeks additional data or information that would improve the analysis in the DPEIS. Your comments will be considered prior to issuance of the final document.

The public will have 90 days to review and comment on the DPEIS. You may submit comments in writing by the following methods:

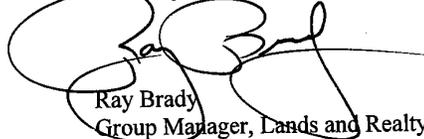
Via an electronic comment form on the project Web site: windeis.anl.gov

By mail to: BLM Wind Energy Programmatic EIS, Argonne National Laboratory EAD/900, 9700 S. Cass Avenue, Argonne, IL 60439

Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish BLM to withhold your name or street address, except for the city or town, from public view or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. We will honor requests to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

For additional information, you may contact Lee Otteni, Bureau of Land Management, Farmington Field Office, 1235 La Plata Highway, Suite A, Farmington, NM 87401, (505) 599-8911 or visit the Wind Energy Development Programmatic EIS Web site at windeis.anl.gov.

Sincerely,



Ray Brady
Group Manager, Lands and Realty