

#### § 3400.3-4

of Criterion No. 1 in §3461.1 of this title.

#### § 3400.3-4 Trust protection lands.

The regulations in this group do not apply to the leasing and development of coal deposits held in trust by the United States for Indians. See 43 CFR 3400.0-5(o). Regulations governing those deposits are found in 25 CFR Chapter I.

[44 FR 42609, July 19, 1979, as amended at 47 FR 33134, July 30, 1982]

#### § 3400.4 Federal/state government co-operation.

(a) In order to implement the requirements of law for Federal-state co-operation in the management of Federal lands, a Department-state regional coal team shall be established for each coal production region defined pursuant to §3400.5. The team shall consist of a Bureau of Land Management field representative for each state in the region, who will be the Bureau of Land Management State Director, or, in his absence, his designated representative; the Governor of each state included in the region or, in his absence, his designated representative; and a representative appointed by and responsible to the Director of the Bureau of Land Management. The Director's representative shall be chairperson of the team. If the region is a multi-state region under the jurisdiction of only one Bureau of Land Management State Office, each State Director shall designate a Bureau of Land Management representative for each state.

(b) Each regional coal team shall guide all phases of the coal activity planning process described in §§3420.3 through 3420.3-4 of this title which relate to competitive leasing in the region.

(c) The regional coal team shall also serve as the forum for Department/state consultation and cooperation in all other major Department coal management program decisions in the region, including preference right lease applications, public body and small business setaside leasing, emergency leasing and exchanges.

(d) The regional coal team recommendations on leasing levels under §3420.2(a)(4) of this title and on re-

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gional lease sales under §3420.3-4(g) shall be accepted except:

(1) In the case of an overriding national interest; or

(2) In the case the advice of the Governor(s) which is contrary to the recommendations of the regional coal team is accepted pursuant to §3420.4-3(c) of this title. In cases where the regional coal team's advice is not accepted, a written explanation of the reasons for not accepting the advice shall be provided to the regional coal team and made available for public review.

(e) Additional representatives of state and Federal agencies may participate directly in team meetings or indirectly in the preparation of material to assist the team at any time at the request of the team chairperson. Participation may be solicited from state and Federal agencies with special expertise in topics considered by the team or with direct surface management responsibilities in areas potentially affected by coal management decisions. However, at every point in the deliberations, the official team spokespersons for the Bureau of Land Management and for the Governors shall be those designated under paragraph (a) of this section.

(f) If a state declines to participate under this section in the coal-related activities of the Department:

(1) The Department may take action authorized in Group 3400 of this title in a coal production region wholly within such a state without forming a regional coal team, and

(2) The Department may form a regional coal team without a representative of the Governor of such a state in any multi-state coal production region.

(g) The regional coal team will function under the public participation procedures at §§1784.4-2, 1784.4-3, and 1784.5 of this chapter.

[44 FR 42609, July 19, 1979; 44 FR 56339, Oct. 1, 1979, as amended at 47 FR 33134, 33135, July 30, 1982; 51 FR 18887, May 23, 1986; 64 FR 52242, Sept. 28, 1999]

#### § 3400.5 Coal production regions.

The Bureau of Land Management shall establish by publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER coal production regions. A coal production region may be changed or its boundaries altered by

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publication of a notice of change in the FEDERAL REGISTER. Coal production regions shall be used for establishing regional leasing levels under §3420.2 of this title. Coal production regions shall be used to establish areas in which leasing shall be conducted under §3420.3 of this title and for other purposes of the coal management program.

[47 FR 33135, July 30, 1982]

### § 3400.6 Minimum comment period.

Unless otherwise required in Group 3400 of this title, a minimum period of 30 days shall be allowed for public review and comment where such review is required for Federal coal management program activities under Group 3400 of this title.

[51 FR 18887, May 23, 1986]

## PART 3410—EXPLORATION LICENSES

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AUTHORITY: 30 U.S.C. 181 *et seq.*

SOURCE: 44 FR 42613, July 19, 1979, unless otherwise noted.

### Subpart 3410—Exploration Licenses

#### § 3410.0-1 Purpose.

This subpart provides for the issuance of licenses to explore for coal

deposits subject to disposal under Group 3400.

#### § 3410.0-2 Objective.

The objective of this subpart is to allow private parties singularly or jointly to explore coal deposits to obtain geological, environmental, and other pertinent data concerning the coal deposits.

#### § 3410.0-3 Authority.

(a) These regulations are issued under the authority of the statutes listed in §3400.0-3 of this title.

(b) These regulations primarily implement section 2(b) of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended by section 4 of the Federal Coal Leasing Amendments Act of 1976 (30 U.S.C. 201(b)).

#### § 3410.1 Exploration licenses: Generally.

##### § 3410.1-1 Lands subject to exploration licenses.

(a) Exploration licenses may be issued for:

(1) Lands administered by the Secretary that are subject to leasing, §3400.2;

(2) Lands administered by the Secretary of Agriculture through the Forest Service or other agency that are subject to leasing, §3400.2;

(3) Lands which have been conveyed by the United States subject to a reservation to the United States of the mineral or coal deposits, to the extent that those deposits are subject to leasing under §3400.2; and

(4) Acquired lands set apart for military or naval purposes.

(b) No exploration license shall be issued for lands included in an existing coal lease.

#### § 3410.1-2 When an exploration license is required.

(a) No person may conduct exploration activities for commercial purposes, including sale of data acquired during exploration, on lands subject to this subpart without an exploration license.

(b) An exploration license shall not be required for casual use.