

# U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management



## Oil and Mineral Leasing Process on Public Lands

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Forest Service work closely on all oil and gas decisions. The BLM lease oil and gas rights and the Forest Service is responsible for protecting the surface resources for all oil and gas exploration, development, production and reclamation operations on the National Forests in Alabama.

### BLM Leasing Process

1. Lands are nominated to the BLM through the following:
  - Expressions of Interest (EOI) – confidential informal nominations from the public.
  - Presale Non-competitive Offer – nomination that is listed on BLM form 3100-11 along with the 1<sup>st</sup> years rental and Non-competitive Filing Fee (\$380 for FY13).
  - Bureau Motion – nomination by either BLM or Surface Management Agency (SMA) to protect Federal Minerals.
2. BLM reviews the nomination and assigns the nomination a tracking number.
3. BLM request consent to lease from the Surface Management Agency.
4. SMA grants consent to lease along with stipulations, e.g., No Surface Occupancy and Timing Stipulations.
5. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is posted online for 30 day comment period for documents that BLM is the lead agency (150 days before lease sale); SMA will post their NEPA documents on their site.
6. BLM notifies the public of Quarterly Lease Sale. BLM notifies the public 90 days prior to the sale. The public can protest the action the first 30 days of notification. Eastern States holds its sales March, June, September and December.
7. BLM holds the Competitive Lease Sale.
8. BLM issues Leases to Highest Bidders within 60 days from the Lease Sale unless the parcel has been protested.
9. Parcels not receiving bids are available non-competitively for 2 years

### References

[http://www.blm.gov/es/st/en/prog/minerals/parcels\\_available.html](http://www.blm.gov/es/st/en/prog/minerals/parcels_available.html)  
[http://www.blm.gov/es/st/en/prog/minerals/nominated\\_parcels.html](http://www.blm.gov/es/st/en/prog/minerals/nominated_parcels.html)  
<http://www.blm.gov/es/st/en/prog/minerals/0.html>  
[http://www.blm.gov/es/st/en/prog/minerals/leasing\\_instructions.html#Presale](http://www.blm.gov/es/st/en/prog/minerals/leasing_instructions.html#Presale)  
<http://www.blm.gov/es/st/en.html>