



NEWS RELEASE

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR ■ BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
NEW MEXICO STATE OFFICE ■ 1474 RODEO RD ■ SANTA FE NM 87505

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For Immediate Release

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BLM to Hold Federal Oil and Gas Lease Sale January 21

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is offering leases for sale on federal lands and mineral rights on 56 parcels totaling 51,767 acres on lands in New Mexico, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. The oral auction will take place on Wednesday, January 21, 2004, at 1474 Rodeo Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505.

The BLM will open to the public at 8:00 a.m., to allow each interested party time to obtain a bidding number. The sale will commence promptly at 9:00 a.m. Only oral bids offered at the sale will be accepted. Leases will be awarded to the qualified bidder offering the highest acceptable bid. The minimum acceptable starting bid is \$2.00 per acre.

The breakdown by State is as follows:

44 parcels totaling 48,413.48 acres in New Mexico;

3 parcels totaling 400.00 acres in Kansas;

7 parcels totaling 458.28 acres in Oklahoma;

2 parcels totaling 2,494.89 acres in Texas.

Leases will be awarded for a period of 10 years or as long thereafter as there is production in paying quantities. The government receives 12½ percent royalties on production on those leases. New Mexico received \$369 million dollars from federal mineral leasing, rents and royalties in fiscal year 2001 or 21 percent of the State General Funds collected from oil and gas. New Mexico schools received \$67 million dollars from that federal collection.

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