

**OPTIONAL EA, FONSI AND DECISION RECORD FORM
BLM LAS VEGAS VALLEY LAND DISPOSAL ACTIONS**

EA Number: 2006-113

Lease/Serial/Case File #: N-79694

Proposed Action Title/Type: Modified Competitive Sale

Location of Proposed Action: T. 19 S., R. 61 E., sec. 23, lot 12.

No Action Alternative: Land would not be offered for sale under the authority of the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA).

Existing NEPA Documentation: The following documents are tiered to as appropriate for indirect site specific and cumulative analysis: Las Vegas RMP EIS, ROD signed October 5, 1998, Las Vegas Valley Disposal Boundary EIS, signed December 23, 2004, FES 04-48. The EIS is available at www.nv.blm.gov/lvdiseis.

Applicant: City of North Las Vegas, Nevada

Conformance with Applicable Land Use Plans: The proposed action is in conformance with use plan decision LD-1, disposal of public lands.

Need for Proposed Action: Through the orderly sale or disposal of public land, under the authority of Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (90 Stat. 2750, 43 U.S.C. 1713 and 1719), Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-263, 112 Stat 2343) (SNPLMA) and, the Clark County Conservation of Public Land and Natural Resources Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-282) and other disposal actions noted in LD-1 of the Record of Decision for the Las Vegas RMP, the BLM will offer a modified competitive sale of 20.42 acres which is consistent with local planning and zoning requirements and recommendations pursuant to Section 4(d)(1) of SNPLMA.

Description of Proposed Action: Offer 20.42 acres for sale through modified competitive bidding sale procedures.

Environmental Impacts (Please mark an "X" in the appropriate spaces):

Critical Element	Affected		Critical Element	Affected	
	Yes	No		Yes	No
Air Quality	X		Native American Religious Concerns		X
ACECs		X	T & E Species (animal or plant)	X	
Cultural Resources		X	Wastes, Hazardous or Solid		X
Environmental Justice		X	Water Quality Drinking/Ground		X
Farmlands, Prime/Unique		X	Wetlands/Riparian Zone		X
Floodplains		X	Wild and Scenic Rivers		X
Migratory Birds	X		Wilderness		X
Noxious Weeds/Invasive Non Native Species	X				

Description of Impacts: Impacts of land title transfers are later in time and therefore considered indirect impacts. No impacts noted in this analysis are direct impacts as no ground disturbance can occur until after transfer of title.

Air Quality: Page 4-9 of the Las Vegas Valley Disposal Boundary EIS, LVVDB/EIS clearly states the proposed action, disposal of 20.42 acres would not result in an exceedance of the PM10 standard, as well as CO would continue to be in compliance with SIP requirements. Finally on page 4-12 the Proposed Action would be in compliance with the 8-hour ozone standard in the out years modeled 2009 and 2018. This action falls within the analysis already completed for the LVVDB/EIS. Argonne National Laboratory modeling results indicate attainment would be reached and maintained for PM10, CO and Ozone out to the year 2018.

Water Resources: Water needs were assessed on page 4-61 of the LVVDB/EIS, to the year 2018 based on 70,000 acres being developed over that time frame. The expected water needs amount to additional 175,000 acre/feet of water. This action falls well with the EIS analysis.

Cultural Resources: Efforts to identify and evaluate cultural resource properties for this project according to 36 CFR 800.4 are described in BLM report numbers 5-2121 and 5-2467. Mitigation of the eight sites identified as eligible for the National Register will be required prior to title transfer. None of those sites are located on the sale parcel.

Environmental Justice: Page 4-56 of the LVVDB/EIS indicated there are no EJ populations identified in the LV Valley, therefore no disproportionately high or adverse human health or environmental effects were identified for minority or low-income populations.

Migratory Birds: Under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and subsequent amendments (16 U.S.C. 703-711), it is unlawful to take, kill, or possess migratory birds. A list of those protected birds can be found in 50 C.F.R. 10.13. Page 4-28 of the LVVDB/EIS states that due to the existing fragmentation it is unlikely the Proposed Action would interfere with the movement of migratory wildlife species.

Threatened and Endangered Species: The only threatened or endangered species known to occur in the general vicinity of the sale parcels is desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*), a threatened species. The Section 7 Consultation was completed in accordance with **Biological Opinion File No. 1-5-96-F-023R.3 for the Las Vegas Valley**.

Noxious Weeds/Invasive Non Native Species: The sale of land would not lead to the spread of invasive species and noxious weeds.

Wildlife: Wildlife species in the general area include small mammals, rodents, birds and reptiles. These species would be displaced as lands are disposed of for community expansion.

Cumulative Impacts: All cumulative impacts associated with this disposal action were analyzed on pages 4-58 through 4-66 of Las Vegas Valley Disposal Boundary EIS and are incorporated by reference.

Minerals Impacts: The United States is reserving all oil, gas, sodium, potassium and saleable mineral deposits on this parcel and to it, its permittees, licensees, and lessees, the right to prospect for, mine and remove minerals owned by the United States under applicable law and such regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe. This reservation includes necessary access and exit rights and the right to conduct all necessary and incidental activities including, without limitation, all drilling operations, storage and transportation facilities deemed reasonably necessary.

Description of Mitigation Measures and Residual Impacts:

Under the Biological Opinion, no mitigation fee is collected upon the sale of this land. The fees will be collected prior to development in accordance with the Clark County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan.

Residual impacts to air quality include a short term increase in dust emissions from construction phases of any development of the land, and vehicle activity. In addition, an increase in hydrocarbon and combustion emissions from internal combustion engines would be expected in the project area. No long term residual adverse effects on Air Resources are expected from the proposed action. The impacts are expected to occur during development of the land sold. Once developed, the dust emissions would be minimal to none for the entire project area and a slight increase in

hydrocarbons would be expected due to additional combustion engine vehicles continually being operated in the area, during and after construction. However, new technology for combustion engines has reduced the CO emission, which results in a minimal increase in CO.

The land purchaser will be required to take measures to control fugitive dust, in compliance with the Clark County Department of Air Quality Management permitting regulations.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT/DECISION RECORD.

I have reviewed this environmental assessment including the explanation and resolution of any potentially significant environmental impacts. I have determined that the proposed action with the mitigation measures described will not have any significant impacts on the human environment and that an EIS is not required. I have determined that the proposed action is in conformance with the approved land use plan. It is my decision to approve the land sale with the mitigation measures identified.

Authorized Officer: _____ Date: _____