

Amendments to Senate Bill No. 475
3rd Reading Copy

For the House Federal Relations, Energy, and Telecommunications
Committee

Prepared by Sonja Nowakowski
March 25, 2009 (1:06pm)

1. Page 2.

Following: line 10

Insert: "COORDINATION SECTION. **Section 4. Coordination instruction.** If both House Bill No. 425 and [this act] are passed and approved, then [section 1] of House Bill No. 425 and [section 1 of this act] are void and [section 1] must read as follows:

"NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Notice of lease sale required.**

(1) Within 15 days of the previous oil and gas lease sale, the department shall publish the date and place of the upcoming sale in a publication of general circulation in Montana and on the department's website.

(2) (a) The department shall accept nominations of tracts for an upcoming sale until 77 days prior to the date of the sale.

(b) Upon receipt of a nomination by the department, the location of the tracts is public information.

(3) At least twice, the department shall publish in a publication of general circulation in Montana and on the department's website a notice containing the time and place of the sale, a statement that all sales will be by competitive oral bidding, and the number of tracts in each county offered for sale at the time of the notice. The notice must be published:

(a) not less than 63 days before the date of an upcoming sale; and

(b) between 21 days and 35 days before the date of the sale.

(4) In a publication of general circulation in each county where a tract is nominated for sale, the department shall publish a notice in compliance with the provisions and timeframes of subsection (3), except that each notice must contain the number of tracts nominated for sale in that county and notice that a description and maps of tracts nominated are available on the department's website.

(5) The department shall publish on its website a description and maps of tracts to be offered for sale.

(6) (a) Except as provided in subsection (6)(b), the department shall provide notice by first-class mail to the surface owner of a tract being offered for sale using the most current known property owners of record as shown in the records of the county clerk and recorder of the county where the tract is located.

(b) The notice in subsection (6)(a) is not required if the

surface is managed by the department pursuant to Title 77,
chapter 1.

(7) The notice required by subsection ~~(5)~~ (6) must contain
the time and place of the sale, a statement that all sales will
be by competitive oral bidding, and a description and area map of
each tract offered for sale that initiated the notice
requirements of subsection (6)."

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