



Date: May 27, 2004  
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### North Dakota Field Office Draft EIS Development

The Bureau of Land Management North Dakota Field Office issued a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on April 20, 2004. The DEIS addresses Coteau Properties Company's Federal Coal Lease Application, which is part of a 17,000-acre expansion of the Freedom Mine in Mercer County, ND. Approximately one-third of the expansion consists of unleased federal coal tracts. Proposed action involves mitigation of impacts to cultural resources using traditional archeological investigations and preservation of cultural landscapes, including 1,000 acres containing National Register sites, burials, and an effigy. The cultural landscape is to be preserved in a Trust designed to benefit tribal education.

Public meetings and a hearing will be held according to the following schedule.

June 1, 2004	Public Meeting	4 Bears Casino & Lodge 202 Frontage Road New Town, ND 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Mandan and Hidatsa Rooms	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
June 2, 2004	Public Meeting	Civic Center 120 7 Av NE Beulah, ND	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
June 3, 2004	Public Meeting	Prairie Knights Casino & Lodge 7932 Highway 24 Fort Yates ND Room 801 (main floor)	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
June 23, 2004	Hearing on DEIS/Maximum Economic Recovery/Fair Market Value	State Capital Grounds Heritage Center 612 East Boulevard Avenue Bismarck, ND	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.