

TENNESSEE ADMINISTRATIVE REGISTER

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING**

*Notice of Petition*

**TO DESIGNATE CERTAIN LANDS IN THE NORTH CUMBERLAND WILDLIFE  
MANAGEMENT AREA AND THE EMORY RIVER TRACTS CONSERVATION  
EASEMENT IN ANDERSON, CAMPBELL, MORGAN, and SCOTT COUNTIES,  
TENNESSEE**

**LANDS UNSUITABLE FOR MINING PETITION**

- AGENCY:** U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Surface Mining (OSM)
- ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare a combined petition evaluation document/environmental impact statement (PED/EIS), and notice of scoping meeting and scoping comment period for the petition to designate certain lands within the North Cumberland Wildlife Management Area and the Emory River Tracts Conservation Easement in Anderson, Campbell, Morgan, and Scott Counties, Tennessee, as unsuitable for surface coal mining and reclamation operations.
- SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the OSM intends to prepare a PED/EIS for the decision on a petition to designate certain lands within the North Cumberland Wildlife Management Area and the Emory River Tracts Conservation Easement in Anderson, Campbell, Morgan, and Scott Counties, Tennessee, as unsuitable for surface coal mining and reclamation operations in accordance with Section 522 of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) of 1977. OSM has identified three alternatives that the combined PED/EIS would evaluate as described in the supplementary information of this notice. OSM requests that other Federal and state agencies and the public submit written comments or statements on the need for an EIS on the petition and the scope of the issues which should be analyzed in the combined document.
- DATES:** Written comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. (EDT), April 14, 2011. Oral and written comments may be presented at one of the three scoping meetings. The scoping meetings will be held at: Huntsville Middle School at 6:30 p.m. (EDT) on March 8, 2011; LaFollette Middle School, at 6:30 p.m. (EDT) on March 10, 2011; and Oak Ridge High School at 6:30 p.m. (EDT) on March 15, 2011.
- ADDRESS:** Written comments may be submitted via e-mail to [TNLUM@osmre.gov](mailto:TNLUM@osmre.gov) or mailed or hand delivered to the Office of Surface Mining, Field Office Director, Attn: Earl D. Bandy Jr., John J. Duncan Federal Building, 710 Locust Street, Second Floor, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.
- FOR FURTHER  
INFORMATION  
CONTACT:** Earl D. Bandy Jr., Office of Surface Mining, John J. Duncan Federal Building, 710 Locust Street, Second Floor, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.