

**§ 2310.3-2**

and provide for one or more public meetings in relation to requested actions involving 5,000 or more acres in the aggregate and, as to requested actions involving less than 5,000 acres, solicit and evaluate the written comments of the public as to the requested action and as to the need for public meetings;

(vi) State, in the case of a national defense withdrawal which can only be made by an Act of Congress, that if the withdrawal is to be made, it will be made by an Act of Congress;

(vii) Provide the address of the Bureau of Land Management office in which the application and the case file pertaining to it are available for public inspection and to which the written comments of the public should be sent;

(viii) State that the application will be processed in accordance with the regulations set forth in part 2300 of this title;

(ix) Reference, if appropriate, the FEDERAL REGISTER in which the notice of a withdrawal proposal, if any, pertaining to the application was published previously;

(x) Provide such additional information as the authorized officer deems necessary or appropriate.

(c)(1) In determining whether a public meeting will be held on applications involving less than 5,000 acres of land, the authorized officer shall consider whether or not:

(i) A large number of persons have expressed objections to or suggestions regarding the requested action;

(ii) The objections or suggestions expressed appear to have merit without regard to the number of persons responding;

(iii) A public meeting can effectively develop information which would otherwise be difficult or costly to accumulate;

(iv) The requested action, because of the amount of acreage involved, the location of the affected lands or other relevant factors, would have an important effect on the public, as for example, the national or regional economy;

(v) There is an appreciable public interest in the lands or their use, as indicated by the records of the Bureau of Land Management;

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(vi) There is prevailing public opinion in the area that favors public meetings or shows particular concern over withdrawal actions; and

(vii) The applicant has requested a public meeting.

(2) A public meeting, whether required or determined by the authorized officer to be necessary, shall be held at a time and place convenient to the interested public, the applicant and the authorized officer. A notice stating the time and place of the meeting, shall be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER and in at least one newspaper having a general circulation in the vicinity of lands involved in the requested action, at least 30 days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

**§ 2310.3-2 Development and processing of the case file for submission to the Secretary.**

(a) Except as otherwise provided in § 2310.3-6(b) of this title, the information, studies, analyses and reports identified in this paragraph that are required by applicable statutes, or which the authorized officer determines to be required for the Secretary or the Congress to make a decision or recommendation on a requested withdrawal, shall be provided by the applicant. The authorized officer shall assist the applicant to the extent the authorized officer considers it necessary or appropriate to do so. The qualifications of all specialists utilized by either the authorized officer or the applicant to prepare the information, studies, analyses and reports shall be provided.

(b) The information, studies, analyses and reports which, as appropriate, shall be provided by the applicant shall include:

(1) A report identifying the present users of the lands involved, explaining how the users will be affected by the proposed use and analyzing the manner in which existing and potential resource uses are incompatible with or conflict with the proposed use of the lands and resources that would be affected by the requested action. The report shall also specify the provisions that are to be made for, and an economic analysis of, the continuation, alteration or termination of existing uses. If the provisions of § 2310.3-5 of this