

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
NATIONAL APPLIED RESOURCE SCIENCES CENTER
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In Reply Refer To:
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EMS TRANSMISSION: 01/10/97
Information Bulletin No. RS-97-007

To: All State Directors
From: Director, National Applied Resource Sciences Center
Subject: Transition of the Micrographics Project Office

As you are probably aware, we are on schedule to finish microfilming of historical cadastral survey notes and plats for Wyoming in the fall of 1997. The completion of this task is the final phase of filming in a project that has taken approximately 20 years to accomplish. In 1995, the BLM evaluated several potential options of preserving cadastral records in the future and discussed the transition of the project office. The Final Report on the "Service Center Mapping Sciences and Micrographics Review," dated July 31, 1995, -commonly known as the Culp Report- contained a series of recommendations which were subsequently approved by the Director. This report along with a subsequent National Applied Resource Sciences Center (NARSC) Implementation Plan provided that "the states will be notified of the impending transition, giving them the opportunity to assess their needs to perform the required maintenance in FY 98." Considering all of this, we now are at a point where we have to make several decisions.

Our preliminary thoughts were discussed at a national meeting of the Cadastral Survey Chiefs when they met in Denver on November 18, 1996. Based on this presentation and the discussion that followed we have developed a questionnaire (see attached) and ask that you complete this as soon as possible. Responses received by February 7, 1997 will be considered in developing our final transition plan.

If you have any questions please call Betty Riley, Micrographics
Project Manager, at (303) 236-6357 or John Matis, Group
Supervisor RS-150, at (303) 236-1613.

Signed by:
Lee Barkow,
Director, National Applied
Resource Sciences Center

Authenticated by:
Helen Sweeney
Staff Assistant

1 Attachment
1 - Questionnaire (1p)

Distribution

Director 200, MIB, Room 5650
Director 300, MIB, Room 5627
RS-150, BLM Library
NI-100, Reading File

Micrographics Transition Questionnaire - January 10, 1997

1. Should NARSC continue the function of capturing and preserving cadastral records as a service to the State Offices and BLM? (This includes filming, duplication of fiche orders, abstracting and updating the automated cadastral survey index).

2. Should this function be moved to the State Offices, and if so, what should be the transition time?

3. If the function is to remain at NARSC, do you have any suggestions regarding funding options - such as base funding, cost recovery, fee for service etc.?

4. Should BLM continue using microfiche technology or move to optical scanning or another format? (If there is interest in moving to another format would you please identify a volunteer or representative for a study group).

5. Do you have any other suggestion, ideas, or comments?