

# Bureau of Land Management

## WATERPOWER WITHDRAWAL TERMINOLOGY

In general, the following is an explanation of the various terminologies one will find in the BLM (formerly USGS orders) waterpower withdrawal case files. (Note: The USGS/MMS era ended in 1983, with the beginning of the BLM era.)

USGS/MMS era: Revocation of a **POWER SITE RESERVE (PSR)** by USGS was given a **POWER SITE RESTORATION (PSRest.)** number; beginning in 1942, BLM would also give the revocation order a **Public Land Order (PLO)** number.

*Examples: Power Site Reserve No. 24 was partially revoked by PS Restoration No. 187, effective July 19, 1915. Power Site Reserve No. 24 was also partially revoked by PS Restoration No. 672, effective November 13, 1970, and published in the Federal Register as PLO 4941.*

BLM era: Power Site Restoration numbers are no longer assigned; only a **PLO** number is used in the revocation order.

*Example: Power Site Reserve No. 661 was partially revoked, effective March 28, 1994, and published in the Federal Register as PLO 7029.*

USGS/MMS era: Revocation of a **POWER SITE CLASSIFICATION (PSC)** by USGS was given a **POWER SITE CANCELLATION (PSCanc.)** number; USGS Director had authority to sign the revocation order in 1942 (when PLO's started), so no PLO number assigned until about 1950, when signature authority went back up to the Secretary of the Interior; BLM then would also give the revocation order a PLO number. The USGS Director regained signature authority for a short period in the 1970's, so there again are revocations at that time issued in the Federal Register as Geological Survey (USGS) orders with only a PSCanc. number and no PLO number.

*Examples: Power Site Classification No. 150 was partially revoked by PS Cancellation No. 97, effective September 7, 1949. Power Site Classification No. 426 was partially revoked by PS Cancellation No. 203, effective April 9, 1964, and published in the Federal Register as PLO 3383. Power Site Classification No. 150 was also partially revoked by PS Cancellation No. 201, effective April 5, 1973, and published in the Federal Register as a Geological Survey order.*

BLM era: Power Site Cancellation numbers are no longer assigned; only a **PLO** number is used in the revocation order.

*Example: Power Site Classification No. 150 was partially revoked, effective March 27, 1989, and published in the Federal Register as PLO 6712.*

#### **EXCEPTIONS to the above:**

Occasionally, during the USGS/MMS era, you will find that the above rules do not apply, and the reverse has happened. That is, sometimes mistakes (?) may have occurred by issuing a Power Site Restoration number for a Power Site Classification, or a Power Site Cancellation number for a Power Site Reserve. In the later case, it's possible that Power Site Cancellations may have been used with PSRs because the USGS Director had cancellation authority, but not restoration (PSRest.) authority (????).

*Examples: Power Site Reserve No. 181 was partially revoked by Power Site Cancellation No. 49, effective May 12, 1931. Power Site Classification No. 171 was partially revoked by Power Site Restoration No. 427, effective February 26, 1929.*

#### **ADDITIONAL TERMINOLOGY:**

**Water Power Designations (WPD)** have been revoked by both Power Site Cancellations and Power Site Restorations. WPDs are almost always overlapped by Power Site Reserves, usually with the same effective withdrawal date.