

Wyoming wind energy rules drafted

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CASPER, Wyo. - The Wyoming State Lands and Investments Board has drafted new rules regarding wind energy development on state lands and is seeking public comments.

State officials say the biggest change in the rules is how surface damages are paid to state land lessees.

Typically, a grazing lessee negotiates surface damage payments and splits those payments with the state.

The proposed change would allow the grazing lessee to receive 100 percent of the surface damage payment from a wind developer.

Another change is a requirement that a wind developer notify existing lessees of state lands of any plan to develop wind energy on the land when it submits a lease application.