



CoastalPlain\_EIS, BLM\_AK &lt;blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_eis@blm.gov&gt;

---

**[EXTERNAL] Support letter for Coastal Plain lease sales**

1 message

**Deantha Crockett** <Deantha@alaskaminers.org>

Tue, Jun 19, 2018 at 3:50 PM

To: "blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_EIS@blm.gov" &lt;blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_EIS@blm.gov&gt;

Thank you!

Deantha Crockett  
Executive Director  
Alaska Miners Association  
(907) 270-9234 direct  
(907) 563-9229 main  
(907) 317-6323 mobile  
[deantha@alaskaminers.org](mailto:deantha@alaskaminers.org)  
121 W. Fireweed Lane, Suite 120  
Anchorage, AK 99503

**AMA comment letter ANWR.pdf**

145K



121 W. FIREWEED SUITE 120 | ANCHORAGE, ALASKA | 99503 | 907.563.9229 | ALASKAMINERS.ORG

June 19, 2018

Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program EIS  
Bureau of Land Management  
222 W 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Stop 13  
Anchorage, AK 99513

Submitted via [blm\\_ak\\_coastalplain\\_EIS@blm.gov](mailto:blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov)

Re: Support of Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program

To Whom It May Concern:

The Alaska Miners Association (AMA) writes to provide support for lease sales on the Coastal Plain.

AMA is a professional membership trade organization established in 1939 to represent the mining industry in Alaska. We are composed of more than 1,400 members that come from eight statewide branches: Anchorage, Denali, Fairbanks, Haines, Juneau, Kenai, Ketchikan/Prince of Wales, and Nome. Our members include individual prospectors, geologists, engineers, suction dredge miners, small family mines, junior mining companies, and major mining companies, Alaska Native Corporations, and the contracting sector that supports Alaska's mining industry.

While the mission of AMA is to promote responsible mineral development in Alaska, we write to you today in support of lease sales on the Coastal Plain because it is good policy for all of Alaska, and the people that depend on our state's resource economy. Indeed, a healthy oil and gas industry is crucial for a healthy mining industry, and it is our belief that it is vital for Alaska to have oil and gas policy that incentivizes the industry to continue to invest in our state.

An Environmental Impact Statement will consider and analyze potential environmental impacts of various leasing alternatives, so it only makes sense to perform these analyses and determine the best route forward. In this process, lease stipulations and best management practices will be applied to leases and associated oil and gas activities to properly balance development with existing uses and to limit the footprint of facilities on federal lands, specifically, to no more than 2,000 surface acres of the 1.6 million-acre coastal plain within the 19.3 million-acre Refuge. A lease sale is the first step in a very long process, and lease sales do not guarantee development.

What is absolutely critical to Alaska's miners is that this area considered for leasing was specifically set-aside in ANILCA for future oil and gas development. ANILCA is a compromise and a promise that for land designated as open for development, proponents will be allowed to do so as long as they can meet the requirements under federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations.

Alaska's resource industries have an impressive track record of responsible development and have continued to make strides to reduce its collective footprint. For these reasons, AMA urges you to allow access the world-class resources within just a tiny fraction of the coastal plain. Thank you.

Thank you for your consideration of our support of lease sales on the Coastal Plain.

Sincerely,



Deantha Crockett  
Executive Director