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**[EXTERNAL] Public Comment on Docket 18X.LLAK930100.L16100000.PN0000
(Docket Number 2018 08302)**

1 message

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To: blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov

Fri, Apr 20, 2018 at 6:02 PM

Hello, my name is Kyle Gould and I am a concerned citizen from New York State.

I'm writing to urge the Bureau of Land Management to not lease any land from the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to gas and oil companies. The refuge offers pristine habitat to many species, especially breeding areas for caribou. By allowing the refuge to be drilled, the Bureau would be allowing for the degradation of tens of thousands of square miles of habitat. This could cause a severe reduction or even total destruction of biodiversity in the area, as well as adversely affect the hunting practices of native Inuit communities. Also, if there are any oil spills or gas leaks, the polar environment would make cleanup, repair, and even rescue become extremely difficult to outright impossible. Lastly, we as a nation must rid ourselves of fossil fuels so that we can mitigate the effects of man-made global warming, which are especially damaging in the state of Alaska, as many communities are finding out as the ocean is currently swallowing their villages.

To summarize, do not allow the leasing of lands within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. It would ruin biodiversity and the livelihood of Inuit communities, and is a wildly unpopular and unsafe decision. The Bureau of Land Management is meant to be stewards of the lands under their purview. By allowing oil and gas drilling to take place would be antithetical to their mission statement.

Thank you for your time,
Kyle Gould