



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

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**[EXTERNAL] Comments on Arctic Refuge drilling EIS**1 message

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**Jennifer Johnston** <jen.r.johnston@gmail.com>  
To: blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_eis@blm.gov

Tue, Jun 19, 2018 at 11:51 PM

Hello,

I would like to comment on the EIS in preparation for oil and gas leasing on the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

I am firmly opposed to the proposed leasing. As an Alaska resident and avid outdoorswoman, I believe that there are many other areas of the country that are better suited for oil and gas exploration than the fragile Arctic coastal plain. Not only will this have long-lasting, perhaps permanent effects on the Arctic ecosystem, but it is also being done without proper consultation with local native people.

Notice that I say native people and not native corporations. Of course the native corporations are interested in the economic opportunities promised by more development. Meanwhile, planning documents have not been translated into Gwich'in, leaving many of the people most affected by these actions in the dark.

At the very least, before these proposals can go any farther, local native people, not corporations, must be consulted in a manner and language that allows them to give their full input.

With this planned oil and gas exploration, we are throwing away a national treasure that I have seen with my own eyes in favor of short-term profit for the few already in power.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Johnston