



CoastalPlain_EIS, BLM_AK <blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Public testimony - ANWR EIS1 message

Carol Johnson <johnson.carolhill@gmail.com>

Sun, Jun 10, 2018 at 4:09 PM

To: BLM_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov

Public Testimony

Bureau of Land Management - ANWR Environmental Impact Study

June 10, 2018

Dear Staff,

Thank you for seeking input regarding the Arctic Refuge Coastal Plain Oil & Gas Leasing EIS. I am happy to send a few remarks, and I request that you extend the same opportunity to others who may be subsistence hunters and fishers, and may need additional time to comment.

I listened to testimony in Fairbanks, and read news reports afterward. Many people who oppose opening the Coastal Plain commented on impacts on wildlife (Porcupine caribou herd, migratory birds, etc), on Native Peoples' way of life, and on access to that land if it were to be locked up by developers. Those three issues concern me as well. I stand with those who oppose lease sales that would allow seismic exploration, and fossil fuel development and production on that pristine, fragile land.

In addition we must all look to the future to see the impact of increased carbon production will have on our children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and ALL of nature.

I recently visited Nome, Alaska and learned how terrified the local residents are of the major upward shift in ocean temperatures. This ocean warming has already reduced sea ice that protects vulnerable coastal communities. Many of these communities are losing their village infrastructure due to warming and rising seas. I held in my hands a dead murre, one of many that have died in the past year. Many appear to be starving. Has their food source moved away due to temperature changes? The people are fearful of losing a trusted food source (the murre) due to unexplained deaths.

Our Alaskan coastal villagers are feeling the impact of warming climate now, but they aren't the only ones. Major American coastal cities and states are facing storm surges due to warming oceans. Insurance companies are weary. Those who plan new infrastructure along our coasts are weary. Those who face increasing wildfires and tornadoes are more than weary.

Warming climate is the major reason that we must DO SOMETHING NOW, and that something is NOT increasing extraction of fossil fuels, the burning of which will exacerbate the problem.

We need to expand the development and use of renewable energy sources that do not contribute to the warming of the planet. (a subject for another letter)

Think about how you will tell your children and grandchildren about America today.

Sincerely,
Carol Johnson
2113 Jack St.

Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

I am also attaching my comments for your convenience

—

"Be a nuisance when it counts. Do your part to inform and stimulate the public to join your action." Marjorie Stoneman Douglas



Environmental Impact Study.docx

115K