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[EXTERNAL] Coastal Plain Notice of Intent Comment - June 3, 20181 message

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To: "blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov" <blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov>

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) is one the last truly wild places on earth for current and future generations of the Alaskan Native communities, scientists and Alaskan tourists to learn about and enjoy. The US Fish and Wildlife Service concluded in 2015 that oil development would cause irrevocable damage to the ANWR. There is also concern regarding the urgency to drill in the ANWR as there is no shortage of petroleum in the United States and alternative and renewable energy investments have reduced our dependency on fossil fuels for our energy needs. The conclusions and references stated in the following scientific study underline the high risk of oil and gas leasing: [A landscape-level analysis of ecological values of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge](#). Due to the risk of oil and gas drilling in the ANWR, the terms of the oil and gas lease must ensure that the environmental and economic costs of the proposed leasing are covered within the terms of the lease including meeting all domestic and international treaty obligations to ensure future generations of Alaskans and United States taxpayers do not bear future economic costs associated with the proposed leasing program. The EIS should assess the impact of oil and gas leasing on the four purposes of the ANWR:

1. To conserve fish and wildlife populations and habitats in their natural diversity. Studies have shown that drilling in the 1002 area would endanger the wildlife.
2. To fulfill the international fish and wildlife treaty obligations of the United States;
3. To provide the opportunity for continued subsistence uses by residents
4. To ensure water quality and necessary water quantity within the refuge.

Thank you for your consideration,

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