



CoastalPlain_EIS, BLM_AK <blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Scoping Comments

1 message

Marge Kolar <ntk1160@msn.com>

Thu, Jun 14, 2018 at 4:16 PM

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

Attached please find my scoping comments regarding the proposed drilling for oil and gas on the Arctic NWR. I have also pasted the comments below.

Marge Kolar

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Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office

Attn: Nicole Hayes, Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing EIS

222 West 7th Ave, Stop #13

Anchorage, AK 99513-7599

Dear Ms. Hayes:

These comments regard the Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS for oil and gas drilling on the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and request for issues to be addressed in the EIS (i.e., scoping).

First and foremost, you must consider that this land is part of a National Wildlife Refuge, identified by a previous Congress, as land of National Interest because of its phenomenal value for wildlife. Although your documents emphasize the Arctic Plain is "only" 1.6 million acres out of the 19 million-acre Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, the Arctic Plain contains the most productive acreage of the refuge.

The EIS must consider the unmitigable damage that will occur to the land and to the hundreds of species of plants, birds, and mammals found there and in the adjacent Arctic Ocean. These species are already being impacted by global climate change. Drilling for more oil and gas will only exacerbate the problem. Mitigation actions will never fully compensate for either the direct or indirect impacts that will occur.

The Arctic Plain is not only vital for the continued existence of the Porcupine caribou herd, but it is sacred to the Gwich'in people. The EIS should include the cumulative impacts of all the oil and gas projects, as well as other developments, that have significantly affected the lives of the Gwich'in. Consider how this additional stress will affect their daily lives.

The EIS should discuss why this oil is needed at this time of increasing oil supplies elsewhere in the nation and the rest of the world. Destroying a remarkable piece of wilderness should not be based on by Alaska's need to keep its taxes low.

As a citizen with an interest in congressionally- designated National Interest Lands, including National Wildlife Refuges, I thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Marge Kolar

2718 Adrian Drive

Davis, CA 95618



Arctic NWR Oil Drilling Scoping Cmts BLM.docx

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