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[EXTERNAL] ANWR leasing EIS

1 message

leon lynch <llynch@acsalaska.net>

Thu, Jun 7, 2018 at 5:54 PM

To: blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov

I am strongly opposed to oil and gas development in ANWR. This area is unique in the world and the caribou calving grounds should be considered a national treasure not an area to pump more fossil fuel. For decades we have been told by our politicians that we must open this area due to national security concerns. That we were being held hostage by foreign governments because we imported their oil. Now we learn we are an oil exporting nation and will soon be the largest producer in the world. Opening ANWR for oil and gas development is a political issue not a national security issue. The BLM has the legal authority and duty to conduct a cumulative impact study of the coastal plain. When the Alpine Oil Field was initially developed it had one central pad and was suppose to be a showcase for how ANWR could be developed. Look at Alpine today. It is the typical North Slope spider web with multiple pads and pipelines spread all through the highly productive Colville River Delta. It has also become the base for all the development farther West in NPRA. I sincerely hope you listen to the villagers in Nuiqsut who were promised Alpine would be limited to a single pad and who now find their village surrounded by development with much more on the way. It is suggested that only 2000 acres in ANWR may be developed. This is a ruse and only considers the footprints of pads, roads and pipelines, not the hundreds of square miles actual impacted.

NPRA is largely open for development. Leases have been issued and wells drilled. Recent discoveries in NPRA in Smith Bay and on land West of Nuiqsut are estimated to be nearly 10 billion barrels, more than what is estimated for ANWR. Soon BLM will be pressured in to opening the highly productive wildlife corridors around Teshekpuk Lake. Speaking about ANWR, the former president of Shell Oil Company stated that some areas of the world are so unique that oil and gas development should be prohibited. In the past 20 years I have seldom seen any significant interest from the major oil companies to open ANWR but the politicians are relentless. Do your job and leave politics out of it. Opening ANWR is unnecessary, and an insult to the G'witchin and many other Alaskans.

Sincerely,

Leon Lynch