



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

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**[EXTERNAL] We MUST protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge**

1 message

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**Katherine Martin** <martin.katherine.rose@everyactioncustom.com>

Mon, Apr 30, 2018 at 6:29 AM

Reply-To: martin.katherine.rose@gmail.com

To: blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_EIS@blm.gov

Dear Bureau of Land Management,

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge belongs to every American, and for the administration to just skip over the process of scientifically vetting the bid to drill is not only undemocratic, but is the epitome of anti-environment. This rushed timeline will not allow for the full analysis required under the law and which is necessary to meet the Department's obligations to responsibly steward one of the crown jewels of the nation's National Wildlife Refuge System.

Drilling in the ANWR prioritizes short-term gain at the expense of long-term preservation of the environment. Energy development raises a suite of environmental issues that forecasts permanent harm to the Arctic Refuge's fragile environment. Scars on the tundra from heavy seismic equipment will remain visible decades later. Nesting birds will be vulnerable to numerous, inevitable industrial oil spills and increased predation. The Porcupine Caribou Herd will face potential population-level impacts from roads and pipelines displacing the herd from calving grounds on the narrow coastal plain. The long-term conservation of a holistic Arctic ecosystem in the U.S. will be significantly jeopardized by embarking on this oil and gas program in the Refuge.

We know why you're skipping the vetting process. We know that YOU know what a full investigation into the environmental effects of a drilling site in the ANWR will show. And you're going to try to do it anyway.

The Refuge should remain a place in America's Arctic for birds and wildlife seeking refuge from the pressures of climate change and development. The Department must carefully collect the science and consider these issues, which clearly indicate why an oil and gas program does not belong in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

If the administration and your Department, Secretary Zinke, continues on this path and allows drilling in the ANWR, I can promise you that we the people will come for you. We will no longer tolerate the ruination of our planet for you and your friends to line their pockets from Big Oil.

Sincerely,

Katherine Martin

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