



CoastalPlain_EIS, BLM_AK <blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Concern for proposed oil and gas drilling in Arctic National Wildlife Refuge1 message

Beverly Meadows <meadowsb@everyactioncustom.com>

Wed, Apr 25, 2018 at 8:32 PM

Reply-To: meadowsb@paulbunyan.net

To: blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov

Dear Bureau of Land Management,

News has been shared with me that plans are quickly developing to open an oil and gas program in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. This is very disturbing.

Please use your influence to make sure that scientific data are fully evaluated for every stage of energy development and that the process is not rushed. The Wildlife Refuge was set aside for specific purposes that could be considerably undermined by a careless rush to drill, indeed by drilling itself.

Experts with the Audubon Society inform us that 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 would remain visible decades later. Nesting birds would be vulnerable to numerous, inevitable industrial oil spills and increased predation. The Porcupine Caribou Herd would face potential population-level impacts from roads and pipelines displacing the herd from calving grounds on the narrow coastal plain. In short, the long-term conservation of a holistic Arctic ecosystem in the U.S. would be significantly jeopardized by embarking on an oil and gas program in the Refuge.

I hope that you agree with the seriousness of this situation. Thank you for doing everything possible to protect this special place.

Sincerely,
Beverly Meadows
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