



CoastalPlain_EIS, BLM_AK <blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Scoping comments on the proposed Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program EIS

1 message

Mulvihill-Kuntz Jason <mulvihij@yahoo.com>

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

Nicole Hayes
Project Coordinator
Attn: Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program EIS
[222 West 7th Avenue](#), Stop #13
Anchorage, Alaska 99513

Ms. Hayes:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments during the scoping of the proposed Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program EIS.

I respectfully offer the following brief comments for the BLM's consideration in scoping this EIS. The Alaskan National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) is one of the last remaining true wilderness areas, which support important and unique wildlife species, including caribou and polar bears. These public lands are also important to Native Alaskan communities who rely on them for subsistence and cultural value. The EIS must examine how the proposed drilling and all its associated road network and infrastructure will impact wildlife species' migration patterns, feeding preferences, and reproduction. This area was set aside as a wildlife refuge - a place where wildlife would be allowed to persist beyond the impacts of human development. The EIS must consider the risk of an inevitable oil spill on the fragile ANWR ecosystem. This proposal puts that purpose at risk for a perceived limited short-term economic return. In addition to the wildlife impacts, the EIS must consider the impacts to Native Alaskan communities.

Again, I appreciate the opportunity to submit comments, and hope the BLM's EIS will evaluate and weigh the full scope of environmental impacts to this precious national treasure. Considering these types of leasing proposals on public lands compromises the value to the public of these important and irreplaceable landscapes that belong to all of us and future generations.

Respectfully,

Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz
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