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[EXTERNAL] Comments on the NOI for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge1 message

Lois Norrgard <lnorrgard01@gmail.com>

Wed, May 30, 2018 at 2:15 PM

To: blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov

BLM, and Secretary Zinke

RE: Comments on the NOI for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

We need to know—all of us—that BLM is listening to the vast majority of voices who raised concerns and opposition to leasing and drilling in the Refuge. BLM must make clear that our representatives, that the administration, are listening to us.

We need to know—all of us—how BLM is listening to those who would be most directly affected by leasing and drilling in the Refuge—that is, Gwich'in People and other Alaska Natives. BLM must make clear that their people are listening to Gwich'in People and other Alaska Natives.

We need to know—all of us nationwide —how BLM is listening to those outside, in the other 49 states. BLM must make clear that our government administrators are listening to the public concerning how public lands are treated.

This scoping process must be extended and must also include more times and spaces for people to speak. This process must not allow the oil and gas industry to drown out the voices of real people and the land that speaks.

This process must not allow the values of Manifest Destiny to overshadow the voices of real people and the land that speaks.

Show us that our voices count—that our government is our government. Show us that our government is for each and all—for land that is not free of destruction is not the land of the free. Show us that our government is not for corporations, as Misty Nickoli, Denaa of the Gaath Doh (Kaltag) and Tsimshian of Metlakatla, challenged last night, but is for communities and their members.

Sincerely,

Lois Norrgard

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