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[EXTERNAL] Alaska Coastal Plain Oil & Gas Leasing Program EIS1 message

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

Greetings,

I am writing to comment on the subject EIS. Plain and simple – This ill-conceived plan is an OUTRAGE!

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) is one of the last truly wild places in our country. It is brimming with wildlife. It is a critical calving ground for caribou, denning habitat for polar bears, and home to over 200 species of migratory birds! It is PUBLIC LAND, i.e. it belongs to ALL of us, NOT the oil and gas industry!

This development CANNOT be done “safely” as its proponents claim. In 2015, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concluded, after a multiyear review that included more than one million public comments including from scientists, and Alaska Native communities, that such a development of the area would “cause irrevocable damage.”

It is even more ridiculous because the oil and gas that might be extracted IS NOT NEEDED in our current economy. Nor will it be needed in the future; a future that is moving more and more rapidly toward the use of renewable energy in spite of the current administration’s attempts to restrain it! Furthermore, right now the oil and gas industry has a massive SURPLUS of leases and permits. Less than half of federal acreage under lease is currently producing and last year industry bid on only 7% of the federal acreage offered for lease! The industry DOES NOT NEED ANWR!

Bottom line: ANWR is NO PLACE for oil and gas drilling – NOT NOW, NOT EVER!

Thank you for your consideration of these comments!

Yours truly,

William D. Osmer

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