



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

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**[EXTERNAL] Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program EIS 222 West 7th Avenue, Stop #13 Anchorage, Alaska 99513.**

1 message

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**Theresa Owens** <theresaaowens@gmail.com>

Wed, May 9, 2018 at 6:47 AM

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

I am writing because I am adamantly opposed to drilling in the Arctic Refuge. There is a reason this area is considered a refuge, and any disturbances here will alter the balance of this important ecosystem. As a biology and marine science teacher with over 25 years of experience, I have watched the changes that have occurred in our environment as we have drilled for oil and there can be no doubt that drilling in this region will adversely impact the wildlife of this area.

I understand that we need to lessen our dependence on foreign oil, but wouldn't the resources for this be better placed in looking into industries that can provide energy without harming the environment. Even if you take climate change out of the equation, there is no doubt that drilling practices are damaging to the environment. If we can invest our efforts into renewable energy sources, not only are we creating job via research and manufacturing, but we are also doing less damage to the environment upon which we depend.

Please reconsider the proposal to drill in this important and vulnerable region.

Thank you for your time and consideration

Theresa Owens