



CoastalPlain_EIS, BLM_AK <blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program EIS1 message

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To: blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov

I am writing in opposition to the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program. The fact is simply, that exploration for oil and gas production is not compatible with the purposes of the National Wildlife Refuge.

Especially concerning is the provision that out of the 1,600,000 acres of the plain 2000 non-contiguous(!) acres may be developed, i.e. converted to industrial sites. If all equipment is helicoptered to the sites, drilling and production might not take more than 2 acres. Therefore ~1000 industrial sites could be erected on the plain. This would be one industrial site separated by 1.5 miles in each direction from the next one. If Kenya or Tansania would erect a drilling platform every 1.5 miles on the African serengeti we would call them callous and irresponsible. Why would we consider doing this in the North American 'serengeti'? I have just visited the ANWR and experienced the awe inspiring beauty and fragility of this unique place on this planet.

I am a geophysicist in the oil and gas industry and am convinced that with the continuous improvement in technology all hydrocarbon needs can be easily met without moving into one of the last unspoiled landscapes.

Furthermore, carbon burning induced climate change makes a transition to other energy sources mandatory. Future generations will thank us for not taking away this treasure because of shortsighted policies.

Thank you for your attention,

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