



CoastalPlain_EIS, BLM_AK <blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Opposition to oil drilling in the ANWR coastal plain.

1 message

Nathaniel Perry <nep2004@gmail.com>

Tue, Jun 19, 2018 at 1:18 AM

To: BLM_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov

Some 237 years ago, my 4grs. Grandfather, William Perry, was appointed by the Continental Congress to a seat on a three member Committee on the Southern Indians. Over the years the relationship of Congress with Native Americans has a curious duality: Now providing housing, education and medical care, as a form of rent; now refusing to fund those programs to satisfy those who want 'something-for-nothing'. Then there are those times when it was decided to wipe out the living ecosystems in which Native Americans have played an important part; There was the horrific destruction of the prairie bison herds, so the prairie could be farmed.

Now, it is 'necessary' to drill for oil on the Coastal plain of ANWR; this plain often contains more than 200,000 Caribou from the Porcupine Herd. Calving on the plain is safe, but dangerous in the mountains; The Herd has close relief from mosquitos at the shore of the Arctic Ocean-but what will they do, if that relief is lost? Development will put the whole Herd at risk, at a time when global warming of the permafrost makes drilling much more difficult. The Gwich'in People have been a part of the Porcupine Herd's ecosystem for millennia.

Drilling makes no sense; the USA currently has an oil glut-currently the Saudis are producing 10bpd, but Russia is producing 11.1bpd, and the US 10.8bpd. The oil companies' PR speaks of energy 'dominance', or overproduction; this would destroy prices in Alaska, and probably the government-since we cannot have an income tax, but it would help the legacy companies put the frackers out of business.

I am definitely opposed to playing the Inupiat people against the Gwich'ins: The Inupiat are a whaling people, the Gwich'ins a caribou people. They live in separate ecosystems. The state has spent a great deal of money, buying Inupiat support for drilling; they were even given 91,000 acres in the coastal plain, a disastrous decision which must be corrected!

Thank you for the chance to comment! NE Perry, Shaktoolik, Alaska. Have been a resident of the state since 1971-was married to a local woman of Inupiat ancestry for 36 years; her DNA linked her to 4th Cousins from Dillingham up to Utgiagvik, and across the Arctic to Rankin Inlet on Hudson Bay and down to Nova Scotia! But not related to the Gwich'in!