



CoastalPlain_EIS, BLM_AK <blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Environmental Impact Statement - ANWR

1 message

Graeme Poile <poilegraeme@gmail.com>

Sun, Apr 22, 2018 at 8:48 PM

To: blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of the Vuntut Gwitchin Government's stated opposition to oil and gas development in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). **The Vuntut Gwitchin have domestic and international treaty rights in relation to the Porcupine caribou herd that must be respected.** I support their wishes that **ANWR should remain free of oil and gas development** because of the area's role in supporting the Porcupine caribou herd and numerous other northern species that are critical to the Vuntut Gwitchin's way of life. This herd is one of the last healthy caribou herds in the circumpolar north, and it has sustained the Vuntut Gwitchin and other northern indigenous peoples for thousands of years. This ecosystem should not be put at risk for any reason, and **the wishes of the Vuntut Gwitchin and other indigenous nations who are so closely linked to ANWR must be the first priority** in making land use decisions for this region.

I have worked and traveled within Vuntut Gwitchin traditional territory, and understand that the Porcupine caribou are central to the way of life of the Vuntut Gwitchin. I insist that the wishes and autonomy of the Vuntut Gwitchin Nation be respected.

Respectfully,

Graeme Poile
Whitehorse, Yukon