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**[EXTERNAL] Comment: Attn: Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program EIS**1 message

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Wed, Jun 6, 2018 at 8:17 AM

To: "blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_EIS@blm.gov" &lt;blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_EIS@blm.gov&gt;

Oil companies have expressed reluctance to fund expensive efforts on the largely unknown reserves in the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge.

Oil shale development in the lower 48 states and technological advances in renewable solar and wind energy have rendered unlikely substantial economic returns from drilling in the harsh climate conditions in these areas of problematical access. We need to continue to transition away from fossil fuels toward renewable energy resources.

The recently passed "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act" represents the largest one-time reduction in the corporate tax rate in U.S. history which may significantly increase the federal budget deficit and, hence, our national debt. Those two results are anathema to prudent fiscal policies.

Bi-partisan concerns for these sensitive arctic ecosystems and the lifestyles of the indigenous people who live there led to the earlier enactment of strong, appropriate federal legislation protecting them.

For all these reasons we should reject initiatives to explore for or develop oil deposits in the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge.

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