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[EXTERNAL] ARCTIC REFUGE - STOP THE DRILLING1 message

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To: "blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov" <blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov>

I am writing out of concern about the Arctic Refuge. I urge you to preserve this last truly wild place. Do not grant drilling leases.

An argument has been made that we in the US need to drill more oil so that we're not dependent on foreign nations. My observation is that many oil companies do not keep all the oil here in the states for our use at reasonable prices by our citizens but sell our oil to other nations. Right now the oil and gas industry has a massive surplus of oil and gas leases and permits. They do not need more.

An argument has been made that it is safe to drill and that there need not be concern about the land or water. However, the track record is not good. There have been numerous instances when oil spills have spoiled a great deal of land and water. Please protect the Arctic Refuge from this.

An argument has been made that this will result in \$1 billion dollars to the US Treasury over 10 years. Study the data and you'll find the facts don't support that. More basic, however, is that you don't sell (or destroy) that which is a treasure--you don't become a prostitute

Please take the long view. One that places the welfare of the citizens and preservation of public land above that of profit-motivated companies and politicians. Remember "God ain't makin' no more land." Preserve the Arctic Refuge.

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