



CoastalPlain\_EIS, BLM\_AK &lt;blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_eis@blm.gov&gt;

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**[EXTERNAL] STOP the move to drill in ANWR**

1 message

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**Terry Trimingham** <ttrim02@yahoo.com>

Thu, Jun 7, 2018 at 9:57 AM

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

Dear Bureau of Land Management,

I am very saddened by the recent activities aimed at opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling. I'm writing to add my voice to those wanting to let you know that this a very bad idea and to encourage you to not allow drilling in this area.

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is one of the last untouched wilderness areas we have and there is no justifiable reason to drill for oil in that area considering the damage that it will cause. After a multiyear study concluded in 2015, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services reported that irrevocable damage to this pristine and sensitive area would be caused by the web of roads, requisite infrastructure, and inevitable spills of drilling enterprises. Why rush in and change now? Hundreds of thousands of public comments were received during that study. Are they to be ignored now?

Currently the oil and gas industry as a massive surplus of oil and gas leases and permits. Recent and historical lease-sale data from other places in AK suggest drilling in this area would not benefit the U.S. Treasury to the level that some might have claimed. Why be so shortsighted and reckless to destroy something that cannot be reversed? There hasn't been and still is no reason why critical caribou calving grounds and polar bear denning habitat need to be destroyed for oil drilling. That would be a costly and dangerous mistake.

Having worked many seasonal jobs in Alaska in the past, I know the people of the state to be resourceful and inventive. They pride themselves in putting "THE LAST FRONTIER" on license plates. Allowing oil operations that erode the fragile ecological systems which support wildlife on the tundra of the Arctic plain forever would change that in the most negative way.

I encourage you to consider the legacy that you will leave if you allow the current thoughtless and hasty rush for drilling to proceed. This decision is very grave. The harm that would be caused is not reversible. The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is no place for oil and gas drilling. Please do not allow it to happen.

Sincerely,

Terry Trimingham