



CoastalPlain\_EIS, BLM\_AK <blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_eis@blm.gov>

---

## [EXTERNAL] Scoping Comments on Arctic Coastal Plain Leasing

1 message

---

**Steve Borell** <sborell@alaska.net>  
To: blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_EIS@blm.gov

Thu, Jun 7, 2018 at 2:35 PM

BLM,

Attached are my comments for scoping on Leasing the Arctic Coastal Plain.

Steve Borell



**BLM - Scoping for Arctic Coastal Plain Oil & Gas Leasing 6-7-18.pdf**  
20K

**Borell Consulting Services LLC**

6420 Rockridge Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99516  
907-230-7580

June 7, 2018

Bureau of Land Management [blm\\_ak\\_coastalplain\\_EIS@blm.gov](mailto:blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov)  
Attn: Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program EIS  
222 West 7th Avenue, Stop #13  
Anchorage, Alaska 99513

Re: Scoping Comments for Arctic Coastal Plain Oil & Gas Leasing

Dear Sirs,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the scoping for this EIS. Development of this area has the opportunity to improve the U.S. balance of trade while also improving the lives of many Alaskans, especially many living in rural Alaska.

1. The EIS should define and quantify the benefits that this oil & gas leasing will have on health and safety for the employees and their families. Advanced health, safety and first aid training is required for every employee. Working on a drilling rig or at production facilities is safer than work in commercial construction, residential construction, and often safer than work in an office environment. Additionally, studies show that most accidents occur in the home and if several hundred or thousand employees result from this leasing, that means that there are that many homes with at least one family member that has had this kind of training.
2. The EIS should provide an estimate for the number and skill levels of the EMTs that will be needed for drilling and production and the added safety benefit that will be distributed throughout the communities where these EMTs live.
3. The EIS should also discuss the increased safety consciousness that the workers will bring to their communities. Safety awareness and safe work practices will result in improved safety in all they do, on and off the job.
4. The EIS should address the current lack of hope that pervades many villages of the region and the effect that is having on use of illegal drugs and alcohol, domestic abuse, suicide, etc. The Red Dog experience can be a guide to quantifying these benefits.
5. The EIS should explain that drilling and production will provide interesting, skilled, high-quality, year-around jobs. Beyond being quality jobs, these jobs will result in careers that will serve the workers for their entire lives.

6. The EIS should investigate the impact of year-around employment as compared to other industries in Alaska where markets, weather, government actions, etc. often disrupt or even cancel the opportunity to make a reasonable living.
7. The EIS should address the impact this leasing will have on currently operating oilfield service and supply businesses that will continue to operate.
8. The EIS should describe the impact of how the skills learned for these jobs will provide an entry point to the job market for many persons now working in lesser jobs and how these skills will be transferrable to other industries and to other places in the world.
9. The EIS should address the way increased demand for products and services from local businesses will impact and benefit communities throughout Alaska. How this will allow local grocery stores, hardware stores, lumber yards, clothing stores, etc. to open and/or expand and provide better selection of products and at lower prices for all local residents, including those dependent upon the often fickle fishing industry.
10. The EIS should address how the philosophy of modern oil & gas development can benefit communities regarding environmental stewardship. Proper handling and disposal of chemicals, fuels, lubricants, etc. learned on the job will translate into improved environmental stewardship throughout the communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the tremendous opportunity that oil & gas leasing of the Arctic Coastal Plain presents. The oil & gas industry has proven over the past many decades that oil & gas can be produced in an environmentally responsible manner. It is essential that the above items be addressed in the EIS to ensure that the document is comprehensive, accurate and legally defensible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steven C. Borell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large 'S' and 'B'.

Steven C. Borell, P.E.  
Owner