



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

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**[EXTERNAL] Coastal plain of the Arctic Refuge**

1 message

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**LynnSupporter Yellott (ly.lists@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message**

Mon, Apr 23, 2018 at 4:11 PM

&lt;automail@knowwho.com&gt;

To: blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_eis@blm.gov

Dear BLM Alaska,

I am appalled by the plan to open up to drilling in any of the Arctic Refuge. I have two primary reasons for my opposition. First, The Arctic NWR stands as one of our country's last wild places. It contains the most wildlife diversity in the northern polar regions.

Second, it is the sacred land for the Gwich'in Nation. Isn't it enough that we confiscated their land? We should not desecrate it more by defiling it with drilling for fossil fuels. It is imperative that we seek alternative energy sources if we are to stop climate change. Like indigenous peoples, we need to show foresight.

Oil drilling would permanently destroy this sacred place.

Protecting the Refuge is also a matter of human rights for Alaska Native tribes like the Gwich'in, who consider the Refuge sacred and rely on the Porcupine Caribou herd for over 80% of their diet. Oil exploration would impact the birth rates and migration patterns of the caribou, which would threaten the tribe's food sources and way of life.

Allowing drilling in the Arctic Refuge would also worsen climate pollution, harming communities already bearing the brunt of the changing climate as they are forced to adapt to rising seas, melting ice, and changing migration patterns.

The Arctic Refuge is a symbol of what we want for our future -- the preservation of a way of life, climate justice and wild places for future generations. I urge you to protect it from drilling at all costs.

Sincerely,

LynnSupporter Yellott  
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