



CoastalPlain_EIS, BLM_AK <blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov>

[EXTERNAL] oil & gas drilling lease sales

1 message

Donna Yavorsky <dyavorsk@gmail.com>

Wed, Apr 25, 2018 at 1:13 PM

To: blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov

I am writing you with regard to the April 20, 2018 Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program, Alaska, to register my opposition to the sale of any oil or gas leases in the Arctic Wildlife Refuge Coastal Plain. While the Notice of Intent claims to "limit the footprint of production and support facilities on Federal lands to no more than 2,000 surface acres" of the 1.6 million acre Coastal Plain, and the recent GOP Tax Cuts and Jobs Act may have included a mandate of the sale of at least two such polluting leases by 2024, new partisan plans for profit do not change facts supporting the need for these lands to remain protected.

Science dating back decades establishes that extraction of the oil and gas in the coastal plain would cause permanent irreparable damage to wildlife and local ecology. Birds, polar bears, wolves, caribou and more rely upon the integrity of the Arctic Wildlife Refuge for sanctuary, safety and breeding space. I implore the Bureau of Land Management to cease all prospective oil and gas lease sales in these life-sustaining protected areas. The tax royalties desired by Alaskans from these projects may be able to come from more hydroelectric projects around Alaska; encourage those in areas outside the refuge instead. Thank you.

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