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Attn: Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program
EIS
222 West 7th Ave., Stop #13
Anchorage, AK 99513

99513-750413



Peter Hummel
1715 44th Ave. S. W.
Seattle, WA 98116

Coastal Plain Oil & Gas
Leasing Program EIS
222 W. 7th Ave., Stop #13
Anchorage, AK 99513

Dear EIS Comment Responder/Reviewer:

I was deeply saddened to hear that a measure to lease for oil & gas extraction in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge ^(ANWR) was included in this year's tax overhaul. This letter is provided to document my opposition to this, or any future, oil & gas leasing & extraction in ANWR. My opposition has developed over many decades of debate on this issue & is based on three primary reasons:

1. The resources proposed to be extracted are abundant from other parts of the country, primarily in the "lower 48." Leasing & extraction from ANWR will do nothing to enhance U.S. energy independence or national security.

2. The ANWR is in pristine condition and is critically important to the survival of hundreds of species of migratory birds, and iconic mammals such as caribou & polar bears. These species are already under unprecedented stresses from climate change effects in the arctic. The leasing & extraction puts these wildlife species at needless risk of harm.

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3. This refuge, its mineral resources, wildlife, natural habitats, & wilderness character are of national significance. They belong to all of this country's citizens, ANWR in its current condition is an irreplaceable treasure. It must be treated as such, and not used as a political pawn. Its future must be publicly determined & not, as has happened earlier this year, hidden in a much larger tax bill to avoid public debate.

Listen to the citizens of the United States who have repeatedly expressed over decades of repeated attempts to lease & extract the oil & gas in ANWR. They have consistently made it known that the ANWR's value as a wilderness is much greater than the oil & gas below its surface.

This refuge belongs to everyone in our great country, and to the future generations who deserve to have ANWR protected as the precious wild place that it is.

Sincerely,

Peter Hummel

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