



Mr. Michael W. Shurgot  
6536 31st Ave NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

SEATTLE WA 980

18 JUN 2018 PM 3 L



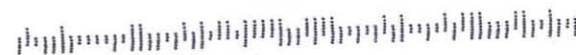
MAILROOM AK-954

2018 JUN 20 AM 11:25

RECEIVED

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

99513-750413



Bureau of Land Management  
Alaska Coastal Plain  
Oil and Gas Leasing Program

To Whom It May Concern:

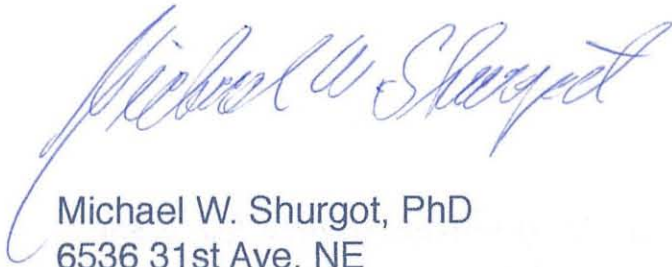
In August 2012 I visited the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge on a two week camping and hiking expedition sponsored by the Sierra Club. We camped near Carnivore Creek that empties into Lake Peters. We hiked up and down adjoining valleys, including up the glacier of Mt. Chamberlain. In my notebook I wrote the following about this spectacular landscape:

"The sheer vastness and openness of this Arctic Plain is spectacular. The mountains rise steeply above the rivers and the tundra, and the overwhelming sense is of openness reaching to eternity. The float plane ride was both stunning and terrifying. We flew into the Brooks Range over steep valleys and rugged, barren peaks. The plane dove and swooped between the ridges as if glued to a string being pulled by wild, uncontrollable wind currents."

Now I realize that I was inland and that the leasing is proposed on the coastal plain, but what I want you to try to understand is that the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is an **intact ecosystem**; it is not a place that can be divided into parcels like an urban development. Once a place this sacred and pristine is violated it is defiled forever, and no one generation, much less greedy oil and gas executives or politicians who care nothing for ecological integrity, has the right to destroy this integrity. There is absolutely no justification for drilling anywhere in ANWR, and anyone who follows the history of oil and gas development in sensitive environments throughout the world knows what kind of destruction inevitably follows from such development.

I therefore urge you to prohibit drilling for anything anywhere in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The ages have been at work on it. Our duty is to leave it alone!

Respectfully,



Michael W. Shurgot, PhD  
6536 31st Ave. NE  
Seattle, WA 98115  
[mwshurgot@earthlink.net](mailto:mwshurgot@earthlink.net)