

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

**Re: Comments on the Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact
Statement for the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program, Alaska**

Dear Ms. Hayes:

I am writing to express my opposition to any oil and gas activities on the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Oil and gas activities on the Coastal Plain are an affront to the Gwich'in Nation's human rights and way of life. The Coastal Plain is vitally important to the Gwich'in People because of its importance as the birthing and nursing grounds of the Porcupine Caribou Herd. The Porcupine Caribou Herd has provided vital sustenance for the Gwich'in People for thousands of years. Oil and gas activities are a threat to the Gwich'in physical, spiritual, and cultural survival.

I am particularly concerned about the following areas and impacts that oil and gas activities would have on the Arctic Refuge:

The overall natural integrity of the coastal plain, but, particularly, the health of the caribou herds.

I am concerned about these issues because:

Development of the coastal plain will likely negatively impact the natural ecosystem thereby disrupting animal populations, air & water quality and the way of life of ~~the~~ the Gwich'in whom depend on the land.

If these issues are not addressed I am worried that:

A pristine land may be irrevocably damaged and ~~an indigenous culture~~ the Gwich'in people harmed by the loss of a valuable subsistence resource.

Also, ~~ignoring~~ disregarding the opposition of Native peoples propagates the shameful legacy of U.S./Native American relations.

Sincerely,



Signature

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