



CoastalPlain_EIS, BLM_AK <blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Opposition to drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

1 message

Jim Cheydleur <jimc@mosquitonet.com>
To: blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov

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I am very opposed to any attempt to explore, to drill, and to any development in the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

This process is proceeding without the necessary time and careful attention required to understand the impact of the drilling and development would have on:

- the land
- the Gwich'in people and other people of Alaska
- and, perhaps, most importantly, the permanent impact on the abundant in numbers and species of wildlife that use this area
- the impact of the use of any fossil fuels extracted from ANWR on global warming and climate disruption

I ask that:

- there be time for a thorough and full review of all the numerous impacts that drilling and development would cause.
- There needs to be more opportunity for the people who live in small inaccessible Gwich'in villages to testify and to understand what is proposed and what the impact may be. This requires translation of the appropriate materials into the Native languages of the people whose lives will be directly impacted.
- Individuals in the rest of the United States, the majority of whom are opposed to drilling, also need to have opportunities for input and personal testimony.

There needs to be a realistic assessment of the impact of drilling and development that includes how much land would be impacted by all the roads, facilities and pipelines, as well as how much land will be impacted by the seismic survey work. This needs to be documented and published so the American people can understand the full impact of the proposed development.

There is **no** need to rush to develop this land. There may be **no** need at all to develop and explore for drilling at all. The United States has more than enough fossil fuel for many years to come.