



CoastalPlain_EIS, BLM_AK <blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Chevron Comments on AK Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program EIS NOI

1 message

Jernigan, Daniel (DKJernigan) <DKJernigan@chevron.com>

Tue, Jun 19, 2018 at 3:39 PM

To: "blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov" <blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov>

Ms. Nicole Hayes,

On behalf of Chevron, I am pleased to submit comments regarding BLM's Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program, Alaska.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Dan Jernigan
Manager

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Government Affairs
Policy, Government & Public Affairs

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Chevron_BLM ANWR EIS Comments_6.19.2018.pdf
93K



Jeff B. Gustavson
Vice President, Mid-Continent Business Unit

June 19, 2018

Via email submission: [blm_ak_coastalplain_EIS@blm.gov]

Ms. Nicole Hayes
Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office
Attention - Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program EIS
222 West 7th Avenue, #13
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7955

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

Dear Ms. Hayes:

Chevron U.S.A. Inc. ("Chevron") is an integrated energy enterprise involved in all aspects of the energy business: exploration, production, manufacturing, transportation, marketing, and research. Chevron is an active operator in the U.S., with exploration and production operations in California, Colorado, Gulf of Mexico, Louisiana, New Mexico, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, and West Virginia. Chevron also has a long history of involvement in Alaska's oil and gas sector. Chevron is committed to conducting our operations safely and in a manner protective of the environment.

Chevron appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program (83 CFR 17562, April 20, 2018). We support BLM's effort to judiciously move forward in using its statutory authority to develop a competitive oil and gas program for leasing, development, production and transportation in and from the Coastal Plain.

Providing access to federal lands for the orderly assessment and development of oil and gas resources is vital for long-term U.S. energy security. We believe industry has demonstrated through its operations in Alaska that development of the Coastal Plain can be carried out with the necessary safeguards to protect people, the environment and the way of life in local communities.

Chevron supports the comments submitted by both the Alaska Oil and Gas Association and the American Petroleum Institute. We believe these organizations have provided a range of considerations in scoping the EIS and leasing program alternatives, which can guide BLM in meeting the intent of Section 20001 of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017.

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Specifically, Chevron asks BLM to:

- Consider leasing program alternatives that include both the minimum statutory obligations as well as more comprehensive lease offerings to better ensure the efficiency of commercial oil and gas development, and related environmental footprint management, across the developable areas within the geography of the coastal plain. Additionally, alternatives should fully consider the transportation needs for pipeline and surface access connecting these same areas.
- Utilize BLM discretion in interpreting "in a manner similar to" administration of NPR-A, to effect improvements for how the Coastal Plain oil and gas program can be managed.
- Utilize the full extent of industry operating experience and best available studies to accurately represent how oil and gas development can be carried out safely, and with appropriate protections for the environment.
- Ensure that the administrative framework, or plan to develop such framework, to govern oil and gas development in the Coastal Plain is fully addressed ahead of the leasing program to eliminate uncertainties.

Chevron believes responsible development of the Coastal Plain can be carried out to the benefit of the people of Alaska, the environment and the nation. We believe BLM has the opportunity to construct a leasing program to serve these interests and establish a long-term foundation for success on the Coastal Plain.

We greatly appreciate your attention and are happy to further discuss these comments. If you have any questions, please contact Dan Jernigan at (925) 842-8566 or dkjernigan@chevron.com.

Sincerely,



Jeff Gustavson