



CoastalPlain_EIS, BLM_AK <blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov>

[EXTERNAL] Support for the Coastal Plain Oil & Gas Leasing Program1 message

Michael Ferris <Mike@aesalaska.com>

Wed, May 23, 2018 at 9:48 AM

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

To whom it may concern:

I am strongly in support of the Coastal Plain Oil & Gas Leasing Program. The coastal plain was specifically identified by Congress, pursuant to Section 1002 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980, for its potential for oil and natural gas resources. Oil and gas from the non-Wilderness Coastal Plain is an important resource for meeting our nation's energy demands and achieving energy dominance. The U.S. Geological Survey estimates the coastal plain is North America's greatest prospect for conventional onshore oil production, with a mean likelihood of containing 10.4 billion barrels of oil and 8.6 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, as well as a reasonable chance of economically producing 16 billion barrels of oil.

Since the non-Wilderness portion of the coastal plain is less than 60 miles from TAPS, development of energy resources there is one of the most environmentally-sound ways to increase oil production in Alaska. Alaska's economic lifeline, the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS), is now running at three-quarters empty. New oil production from the coastal plain has the potential to reverse throughput in TAPS, a vital component of American energy infrastructure.

Thank you for your time

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