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Beaverton, OR 97006-7709

PORTLAND OR 972

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BLN, Alaska State Office
Attn: Coastal Plain ~~GIS~~

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To: BLM, Alaska State Office
Attention—Coastal Plain EIS
222 West 7th Avenue, #13
Anchorage, AK 99513-7599

March 7, 2019

I am writing out of concern for the wild quality of both the Coastal Plain and adjacent designated Wilderness lands in the Arctic Refuge. I believe that the public needs to be made aware of the impact of oil leasing and development in the Arctic Region including the following considerations.

The DEIS fails to describe how oil leasing and development would destroy the Arctic Refuge's ecological integrity which has flourished since the beginning of time.

Additionally, DEIS fails to fully assess the significant impacts oil leasing and development would have on caribou, especially when caribou are most vulnerable to disturbance—during critical times of calving and raising young. Oil leasing and development on the Coastal Plain would cause caribou populations to decline, which would have significant ramifications over a vast area of Alaska and Canada. These effects would persist beyond the estimated 130 years of exploitation. The DEIS also fails to address this reality and its effects on indigenous people.

The DEIS significantly underestimates the amount of carbon pollution that oil leasing and development would add to atmosphere, and fails to truthfully address the implications of exacerbating the climate crisis. Because fresh water is relatively limited on the Refuge Coastal Plain, the DEIS does not adequately assess the impacts that industry's water use would have on fish and wildlife.

The DEIS does not thoroughly assess the cumulative effects of oil leasing and development within the Refuge considering current and expanding development across the North Slope and offshore in the Arctic region.

Finally, the DEIS fails to fulfill the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and therefore BLM cannot authorize leasing. Thank you for your consideration of my concerns.

Sincerely,

Linda Sinclair
14141 NW Laidlaw
Portland, Or 97229