
From: Hayes, Miriam (Nicole) <mnhayes@blm.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2019 7:48 AM
To: coastalplainAR; Sean Cottle
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Arctic National Wildlife Refuge comments

Nicole Hayes

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ruth McHenry** <ruthmc216@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 5:06 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Arctic National Wildlife Refuge comments
To: <mnhayes@blm.gov>

Dear Ms. Hayes,

I wish to make a couple of brief comments on the ANWR draft EIS:

- Even considering the action of opening lands to oil and gas development reflects a lack of concern about the seriousness of global climate change. Not only would the eventual burning of fossil fuels add to the atmospheric greenhouse gas problem, but exploration, development, and production would contribute, too.
- Fossil fuels are a non-renewable resource. When they are gone, they cannot be re-used; they leave only a legacy of pollution and atmospheric carbon. Caribou, ducks, geese, and other wildlife are renewable. If we take care of them, they will continue to feed Arctic people; the waterfowl will continue to feed hunters' families all over the U.S.; all the wildlife and natural landscapes will continue to attract visitors who can contribute to Alaska's economy.
- South 48 states have made the mistake of choosing temporary wealth over long-term values. Now, in many places, at great cost, the federal and state governments are trying to bring back wildlife species, clean the water and air, and restore landscapes. Alaska should learn from those mistakes. We can have a sound economy by understanding and protecting the true value of what we have, by encouraging the university system and private enterprise to continue to innovate ways to utilize renewable resources, and by helping Alaskans--including rural and bush communities--to take an increasing share of the ecotourism market.

The draft EIS should give more serious weight to these considerations.

Sincerely,

Ruth McHenry

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