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**From:** Hayes, Miriam (Nicole) <mnhayes@blm.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 31, 2019 8:03 AM  
**To:** coastalplainAR; Sean Cottle  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] RE: DOI-BLM-AK-0000-2018-0002-EIS (Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing EIS)

**Nicole Hayes**  
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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **JANE HEISLER** <[rroberts8001@msn.com](mailto:rroberts8001@msn.com)>  
Date: Wed, Jan 30, 2019 at 7:13 PM  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: DOI-BLM-AK-0000-2018-0002-EIS (Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing EIS)  
To: [mnhayes@blm.gov](mailto:mnhayes@blm.gov) <[mnhayes@blm.gov](mailto:mnhayes@blm.gov)>

Coastal Plain Project Manager, Nicole Hayes, at [mnhayes@blm.gov](mailto:mnhayes@blm.gov)

Dear Ms. Hayes,

Allowing the leasing of lands in a National Wildlife Refuge for oil and gas drilling should not occur. **Please adopt Alternative A in your EIS.**

The Bureau of Land Management's mission is to "sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations." Given that you desire to offer this pristine National Wildlife Refuge for a purpose entirely unfitting for a wildlife refuge, I question the BLMs commitment to their mission. Is there no other BLM land that is not proximate to subsistence hunting tribes, polar bears, caribou and other endangered fauna who cannot speak for themselves?

Why does the Draft EIS envision leasing the majority of the Arctic Refuge Coastal Plain to oil and gas corporations, going far beyond what was required in the Tax Act? BLM is required to consider a reasonable range of alternatives, and they have failed to do so. You developed a 'No Action' alternative, then claim that you cannot select it?

Your EIS fails to consider how oil and gas development will interfere with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's administration of the Coastal Plain. It fails to guarantee that the wilderness, conservation, and subsistence purposes for which the Arctic Refuge was first set aside in 1960 will continue to be protected.

Your EIS also fails to meaningfully evaluate potential impacts to air quality that would result from oil and gas activities on the Coastal Plain. BLM made no attempt to quantify emissions of pollutants produced from oil and gas leasing and their impact on human health and the environment.

Your Executive Summary says it all: dozens of potential impacts make this the wrong place for any oil and gas drilling activity.

From your EIS:

- Potential impacts on subsistence users, both from impacts on subsistence species and from direct disturbance of hunts, displacement of resources from traditional harvest areas, and hunter avoidance of industrialized areas
- Impacts on water quality caused by water extraction and construction of ice roads and pads, gravel mining, and wastewater discharges from a central processing facility (CPF)
- Impacts from routine activities on air quality due to release of pollutants
- Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from exploration and development
- Potential impacts on birds from predators and increased human presence
- Potential impacts on marine mammals, including human-polar bear interactions; vehicle, aircraft and boat traffic and noise disturbance; and accidental, unplanned take by vessel strikes or oil spills
- Impacts on terrestrial mammals, including disturbance from vehicle and aircraft noise, human presence, and habitat fragmentation and loss
- Disturbance and loss of permafrost, vegetation, and wetlands • Potential impacts on state employment, labor income, and revenues
- Potential impacts on North Slope Borough (NSB) employment, income, and revenue
- Potential impacts on cultural resources by lease development
- Visual impacts from infrastructure and artificial light
- Loss or reduced quality of some access to recreation and use opportunities around areas leased for energy infrastructure

**Only Alternative A allows you live up to your mission statement.**

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