



CoastalPlain_EIS, BLM_AK <blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov>

[EXTERNAL] NANA comments on Draft EIS for the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program

1 message

Märit Carlson-Van Dort <Marit.Carlson-Van.Dort@nana.com>

Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 4:29 PM

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

Cc: Liz Cravalho <Liz.Cravalho@nana.com>

Good afternoon,

Please find attached comments from NANA Regional Corporation on the Draft EIS for the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program.

Regards,

**Märit Carlson-Van Dort** | Director of External and Government AffairsNANA | 909 West 9th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501Direct 907 265 3738 | Cell 907 321 6283 | Marit.Carlson-Van.Dort@nana.com**2019.03.12 NANA Comments ANWR Draft EIS.PDF**

156K

March 12, 2019

Mr. Chad Padgett, State Director
Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program Draft EIS Comments
Bureau of Land Management
222 W. 7th Avenue, Stop 13 Anchorage, AK 99513

Via email to: blm_ak_coastalplain_eis@blm.gov

Re: Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program Draft EIS

Dear Director Padgett,

NANA Regional Corporation (NANA) supports an oil and gas leasing program within the non-Wilderness portion of the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR).

NANA is an Alaska Native Corporation formed under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) that is owned by over 14,300 shareholders and holding title to approximately 2.2 million acres of land in the Northwest Arctic. NANA has a long history of stewardship of our lands and responsible development of our resources.

Alaska has had a long history of responsible oil and gas development. A no action alternative, as described in the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program Draft Environmental Statement should not be considered. Alaska's oil and gas resources are significant, and should be part of a suite of the United States' energy resources required to bolster domestic energy production and decreasing dependence on foreign oil and energy. Alaska remains a resource development state with the state's economic health and prosperity closely tied to the ability to responsibly develop resources. Accordingly, regional stakeholders and those located closest to potential impacts should continue to be consulted regularly throughout development, operations, and closure. These stakeholders can provide important local knowledge and input in order to minimize environmental impacts, protect subsistence resources, and maximize efficiencies and access to infrastructure. An inclusive and collaborative development plan will ensure that the important benefits of the oil and gas resources located in the coastal plain of ANWR can be developed and accessed for the maximum benefit of local residents, the state, and the nation. NANA is confident that development in this carefully defined and discrete portion of ANWR can carefully balance development impacts with the necessary protections of the environment and important subsistence resources.

NANA supports implementing an oil and gas leasing program within the non-Wilderness portion of the coastal plain of ANWR.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Cravalho
Vice President of External Affairs