

February 8, 2016

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STATE OF NEW MEXICO
SANTA FE, NM 87502-0115

Amy Lueders
Bureau of Land Management
New Mexico State Office
P.O. Box 27115
Santa Fe, NM 87502-0115

Re: Protest of April 20, 2016 Lease Sale

Dear Ms. Lueders:

I hereby file this Protest of the Bureau of Land Management ("BLM")'s planned April 20, 2016 oil and gas lease sale and Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-NM-040-2015-61-EA, pursuant to 43 C.F.R. § 3120.1-3:

I formally protest the inclusion of each of the following parcels, covering a total of 36,841.03 acres in Oklahoma, Kansas, and Texas:

Kansas

NM-201604-001
NM-201604-002
NM-201604-003
NM-201604-004
NM-201604-005
NM-201604-006

Texas

NM-201604-012
NM-201604-013
NM-201604-014
NM-201604-015
NM-201604-016
NM-201604-017
NM-201604-018
NM-201604-019
NM-201604-020
NM-201604-021
NM-201604-022
NM-201604-023
NM-201604-024

NM-201604-025
NM-201604-026
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NM-201604-030
NM-201604-031
NM-201604-032
NM-201604-033
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NM-201604-035
NM-201604-036
NM-201604-037

NM-201604-039
NM-201604-040
NM-201604-041
NM-201604-042
NM-201604-043

Oklahoma

NM-201604-007
NM-201604-008
NM-201604-009
NM-201604-010
NM-201604-011

PROTEST

1. Protesting Party: Contact Information and Interests:

This Protest is filed on behalf of:

Name
Address
Telephone
Email

Statement of Interest:

- Lewisville serves as one of the primary drinking water reservoirs for Dallas and much of North Texas. Contamination of Lake Lewisville by toxic, carcinogenic and/or neurotoxic chemicals used in the drilling and hydraulic fracturing processes would render Lake Lewisville water undrinkable with considerable negative consequences for the entire North Texas region.
- My family and my daughter's family have felt earthquakes in Dallas. Earthquakes associated with hydraulic fracturing and waste water injection well disposal have been shown by USGS seismologists, as well as seismologists from numerous major universities, to have occurred in Oklahoma, as well as in Irving, Dallas, Azle, Reno, Springtown and other North Texas cities resulting in structural damage to homes, municipal buildings and commercial structures. Insurance companies will not cover structure damages caused by man-made earthquakes associated with oil and gas production activities.
- The Lake Lewisville lease parcels are very close to developed residential communities that would be harmed by the non-stop heavy industrial process starting with pad site preparation and continuing through well completion without benefit to local residents and possible reductions of their real property values.
- The lease rates in the bid proposal offer public property at rates far below fair market value and defraud citizens of appropriate revenues from the lease of public property and the sale of publicly-owned minerals.

2. Statement of Reasons as to Why the Proposed Lease Sale Is Unlawful:

BLM's proposed decision to lease the parcels listed above is substantively and procedurally flawed for the reasons discussed below.

(1) Oil and gas exploration and production on or under mortgaged properties violates provisions of federally-insured mortgage loans issued by VHA, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and other federal agencies, and can result in loans being called leading to forced foreclosures for people who receive no benefits from the oil and gas production. Fracking drill paths often extend to ten to twenty miles in length, long enough to protrude under homes.

(2) Fracking threatens endangered species.

- Whooping cranes (*Grus americana*) spent the summer of 2013 directly across from the fracking area on Lewisville Lake. <http://operationmigration.org/InTheField/2013/08/07/3866/>

- Interior least tern (*S. antillarum athalassos*) frequent Lewisville Lake

- Red-cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*) are found on or near proposed lease sites in East Texas.

Sincerely,

