

February 10, 2016

Bureau of Land Management
New Mexico State Office
301 Dinosaur Trail
Santa Fe, NM 87508

2016 FEB 16 PM 5:35


RE: Protest of Oil and Gas Lease Sale

Pursuant to 43 C.F.R. § 3120.1-3, I submit this protest regarding the January 20, 2016 Notice of Competitive Lease Sale of Oil and Gas ("notice"). This protest is timely because it is submitted on or before the close of business on February 18, 2016.

The notice describes 43 parcels of public land to be offered for lease. My concern is with the 258.9 acres described in parcel NM-201604-043, Denton County, Lake Lewisville Project.

This important watershed is a critical water source for a significant population of the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex, and the current earthen dam is in need of significant repairs. With the growing number of reports of **water contamination** and **geologic destabilization** that accompanies fracking from many sites around the United States, I fear that the costs and risks of catastrophe far outweighs any benefits that would be gained from allowing fracking in this area. According to a recent study by the USGS, North Texas recorded only a single earthquake from 1950 to 2008. Since that time, fracking has become much more prolific, and we have now recorded more than 130 seismic events. This citizen begs that you revoke any lease or sale of this parcel for the purposes of oil and gas collection. Your decision will have an effect on many lives, homeowner property values, wildlife habitat areas, and drinking water quality. I pray that you choose to protect rather than endanger.

Sincerely,



Mark Johnson
2613 Skyview Drive
Corinth, TX 76210