

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

February 16, 2016

Re: Protest of April 20, 2016 Lease Sale

Dear Ms. Leuders:

I am filing this Protest of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) 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 the following parcel, NM- 201603-43, covering a total of 258.9 acres. The proposed parcel is on/adjacent to Lewisville Lake.

I am filing this protest on behalf of Cecilia, Torben, Annika and Hanna Nielsen. My family and I live at 3103 Lake Highlands Dr., Highland Village, TX and I can be reached at 972-317-1108. My email is cnielsen63@gmail.com.

I am a resident of Highland Village, and am concerned about many issues that arise from fracking. For one, what will it do to our property values? Property values are, in part, based on the fact we live near a recreational lake with no pollution. We use the lake for our recreational purposes and simply enjoy being close to wooded walking/biking trails and wildlife. This is the reason we, and many other families, moved to this area.

I don't feel safe with fracking so close by. We drink the water, breathe the air, swim in the lake and walk it's shores. I don't see why residents should be endangered by this. And, yes we are endangered because effects of fracking are proven.

The reason I feel I am an affected party by the auction of the 10-year mineral lease on the property is due to the following:

1) Highland Village obtains its drinking water supply from Lake Lewisville and public water wells near the lake. I am worried about the contamination of our drinking water through possible drilling runoff from the site. The possible migration of contaminants through our aquifers could also impair our public water wells.

2) I am also concerned about the potential for increased seismicity from added drilling in and around Lake Lewisville. The Lewisville dam is currently under repair after a 161-foot long, 23-foot wide slide on an earthen embankment this past spring. Additional drilling or the migration of drilling fluids along existing fault areas below the lake could negatively impact the integrity of the dam's infrastructure.

The Environmental Assessment for this proposed lease sale is substantially and procedurally flawed. There was no analysis of how drilling, fracking, or wastewater injection could impact the Woodbine, Trinity or Paluxy aquifers in relation to this parcel. The EA does not address the soils or the geology regarding this Lake Lewisville parcel along with other important issues. Therefore, BLM's offer of this parcel is unlawful as it fails to sufficiently address the above issues as required by the National

Environmental Protection Act (NEPA). Please pull this parcel from the April 20 auction. Do not put my family's water, health, and well-being at risk.

*Sincerely,
Cecilia Nielsen
3103 Lake Highlands Dr., Highland Village, TX 75077
H # 972-317-1108
cnielsen63@gmail.com*