



Date: 2-19-16 From: Jeana Bellinger
Attn: Amy Leuders Phone: (979) 337-7567
Fax No. 505-954-2010 # of Pgs. 2
Re: Protest of April 20, 2016 Lease Sale - Parcels
#TXNM 201604-038, -039, -040, -041, -042, + -043

February 19, 2016

Ms. Amy Lueders
Bureau of Land Management – New Mexico State Office
PO Box 27115
Santa Fe, New Mexico

RE: Protest of April 20, 2016 Lease Sale – Parcels #TXNM201604-038, -039, -040, -041, -042, -043

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 parcels #TXNM201604-038 -039, -040, -041, on Somerville Lake. These parcels have also been described as including -042 and -043.

I am filing this protest on behalf of myself and my family because Lake Somerville is our city reservoir for Brenham. 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 concerns:

- 1) My city obtains drinking water from Somerville Lake. I am worried about the contamination of our drinking water through possible drilling runoff from the site and possible migration of contaminants through our aquifers.
- 2) I am also concerned about the potential for increased seismicity from drilling and disposal of fracking waste water in and around Somerville Lake.
- 3) As a member of the Brenham City Council, I am also concerned about the impact for all citizens I represent. It is my responsibility to represent the citizens of Brenham and without future information and research, I am concerned about the harm this could cause.

The Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proposed lease sale is substantially and procedurally flawed. There was no analysis of how drilling, fracking, or wastewater injection would impact the aquifers. The EA does not address the soils or the geology of Lake Somerville. 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 Agency.

Please pull this parcel from the April 20, 2016 auction.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mary Barnes-Tilley
2921 Oakwood Dr
Brenham, Texas 77833
979-277-8454