

February 15, 2016

NOTICE OF PROTEST

State Director  
Bureau of Land Management  
301 Dinosaur Trail  
Santa Fe, NM 87508

Re: 15 NM-201604-043  
258.90Acres TX TR F-519;  
TR F-520A; TR F-520B; TR F-524;  
Denton County  
Tulsa FO  
CORP OF ENGINEERS  
LAKE LEWISVILLE PROJECT  
NO PRIOR LEASES

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I wish to protest drilling under Lake Lewisville as I believe it may endanger my water quality and may lead to earthquakes in my neighborhood as has been shown by the new and frequent earthquakes in areas surrounding the Dallas-Fort Worth area in the recent past wherein fracking has been taking place. I note the following to support my protest:

Rita Beving, of the Clean Water Fund, said her group looked at all Texas properties listed in the upcoming sale. She wants mitigating factors to protect the environment and critical habitat for endangered species as well.

The environmental assessment done was not acceptable, Beving said, as it was done in a more global, cursory nature.

"We have every right to ask officials what analysis they've done that shows this won't affect the water," she said.

The Center for Biological Diversity is working to stop drilling on all public lands.

"[Public lands] shouldn't be for sale to the highest bidder," Park said. "Protecting the public should be a top priority. At a minimum, they have to do a proper and full environmental review."

The environmental assessment provided by BLM does not mention the lake's "Integrity problems", Park said; and, she is concerned with drilling affecting the drinking water supply for the City of Dallas and other numerous North Texas cities.

Lewisville Lake has been the subject of recent news reports including the LTJ regarding dam deficiencies. Park is concerned that the fracking process for horizontal wells under the lake could cause increased seismic activity-- a concern echoed by Beving. She worries that either fracking, or any possible wastewater disposal that might occur in the vicinity could weaken the dam and cause a breach.

The Sierra Club's Lone Star Chapter echoed the concerns of the others. Cyrus Reed, the group's conservation director, emphasized his concerns about water contamination. He thinks contamination could happen if a well's cementing or casing were to fail or if a spill were to occur.

"Any oil and gas development near a reservoir does have the potential to lead to water contamination if not managed correctly," Reed said.

I understand this office will forward my protest to the appropriate director.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melissa Newton', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mrs. Melissa Newton  
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