

**ATTN: Amy Lueders**

**RE: Protest of April 20, 2016 Lease Sale**  
**Bureau of Land Management**  
**New Mexico State Office**  
**P.O. Box 27115**  
**Santa Fe, NM 87502-0115**

*FAX: 505-954-2010*

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

February 17, 2016

Re: Protest of April 20, 2016 Lease Sale

Dear Ms. Lueders:

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 myself and my wife. My name is James Garvin and my wife's name is Frances Garvin and we live at 3810 Vista Woods Dr., Carrollton, TX 75007 and we can be reached at 972-492-0184. Our email is [garvinjf@gmail.com](mailto:garvinjf@gmail.com). The reason we feel we are affected parties by the auction of the 10-year mineral lease on the property is due to the following concerns:

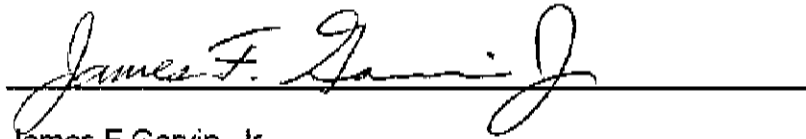
1) We are very concerned about the likelihood of increased seismic activity (earthquakes) in the areas around any drilling, particularly if fracking is the drilling method employed. It can no longer be considered a coincidence that areas of low seismic activity suddenly experience a large increase in the frequency and strength of earthquakes after fracking begins. Allowing drilling/fracking in the immediate area of the lake would be reckless, especially considering the fact that Lewisville Lake's earthen dam is already on the verge of being compromised due to various structural issues. In fact, the dam is already under repair after a 161-foot long, 23-foot wide slide occurred after intense rains last year. If the dam fails, it has been estimated that over 400,000 people will die from the resulting "tsunami". Is BLM prepared for the public backlash and potential legal aspects of putting over 400,000 people at risk of death? And even if we get lucky and the dam doesn't fail, we would still likely experience 4.0 earthquakes, which could damage drywall, foundations, cause pipes to break (including natural gas), etc. To summarize, allowing this sale would be reckless at best and at worst devastating and catastrophic.

2) The City of Carrollton contracts with the city of Dallas for our water. Dallas uses surface water from several sources, one of which is Lake Lewisville. We are 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 public water wells used by nearby communities.

3) Drilling will further degrade the air quality around Lake Lewisville, which the EPA already considers to be "severe". It is already a well-established fact that poor air quality significantly reduces life expectancy via lung cancer and other lung-related illnesses (including asthma), as well as heart failure. We do not need additional air pollution to further increase our risks of an early death.

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 our community's water, health, and well-being at risk.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James F. Garvin, Jr.", is written over a solid horizontal line.

James F Garvin, Jr  
3810 Vista Woods Dr.  
Carrollton, TX 75007  
Ph: 972-492-0184  
garvinjf@gmail.com