

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

New Mexico State Office

P.O. Box 27115

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-0015

To: All concerned (BLM) office

Re: Protest of April 20, 2016 Lease Sale

Fax: 505-954-2010

(7 pages)

February 14, 2016

Re: Protest of April 20, 2016 Lease Sale

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 45, 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 family. My name is Linda Schlette and my husband is Gary P. Schlette. We live at 2627 Wanderlust Drive in Lewisville Texas 75067. I can be reached at 972-315-0699 or 469-964-9510. My email is lgms_edu@yahoo.com

My water comes from the L. & L. and we also use Lake Lewisville for recreation for fishing, boating, picnics, and relaxation. My husband and I have been property owners at the 2627 Wanderlust address since 1988.

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

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The City of Louisville obtains its drinking water supply from Lake Louisville and public water wells near the Lake. I am very concerned and worried about the contamination of our drinking water through possible drilling runoff from the site. The possible migration of contaminated through our aquifers could also affect our public water wells. Water pollution was studied in 2015 by Dr. Yacovian McDonald and others in a study called, "A Comprehensive Analysis of Groundwater Quality in the Barnett Shale". It gives indications that fracking compounds have been detected in water samples near well sites in an analysis of more than 500 samples in the Barnett shale. Some of the sampling was done in Denton County. Fracking fluids can leak into underground faults causing contamination and groundwater changes. Fracking in, around, under, etc. Lake Louisville is a major risk to the public water supply that provides 1000's of people's drinking water. You wouldn't even be aware of a leak under the lake releasing contamination into it. It would be worse than Flint Michigan water problems.

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Emissions could affect our health due to poor air quality. Denton County has been designated as "serious" as part of a 10-county nonattainment area for not having healthy air under the Federal Clean Air Act. The EPA has issued comments regarding elevating the 10 County DFW area to "severe". So any drilling will produce air emissions to add to our unhealthy air quality. The wind primarily blows from Southeast to northwest during the summer months so any air pollution could impact the Denton airport monitor, which already has the highest air pollution readings consistently in our region.

The effects of climate change can be heightened by the life cycle of natural gas drilling processes. Clearing the well pad to drill, frack, store, and combust add to this problem. Methane is 86 times more potent than carbon dioxide. It creates ozone and is hazardous to human health.

I am also very concerned about our compromised dam from all the flooding rains this past spring. Our Lewisville Earth dam is rated as the 8th most dangerous dams. The Lewisville Dam is currently under repair. They call the Lewisville Lake Dam, the Dam called Trouble.

There is a long and wide landslide area on the earthen embankment from the point of origin. Any additional drilling or drilling fluids along existing fault areas below the lake could negatively impact the integrity of the dam's infrastructure. The Army Corps of Engineers identified new issues of concern in the relationship to dams and drilling. ⁽²⁰¹³⁾ Some of these issues include induced seismicity or earthquakes, like what is occurring about 10 miles in Irving around Old Cowboys stadium. Also the transmission of fracking fluids outside the target areas due to natural faults underground along with the disposal of flowback water, raises the potential for ground and surface water contamination. Erosion of the embankment along existing faults located in the foundation, abutments, or outlets could lead to a breach in our dam, and flooding of even Dallas. This could happen affecting thousands of people and cause major damage due to uncontrolled flooding. People could drown. Homes & businesses could be destroyed. Another concern is for the fish, birds, other fauna and endangered species, along with flora and soil impacts. It can affect our food chain and food. Also along with cattle ranches.

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There are potentials for environmental and health catastrophes in Denton County's backyard.

I just learned about this parcel up for lease for the April 20 auction last week on the TV news, and later newspaper. Seem like they didn't want to make the public aware. ^{It was a quick deadline to "protest" respond.}

The Environmental assessment for this proposed lease sale is procedurally and substantially flawed. When the dam was built there was no testing about how fracking could effect the lake and environment, etc. Today, there has been no analysis of how fracking, drilling, wastewater injection, etc. could impact the aquifers of Woodbine, Trinity, or Paluxy and the environment in relation to this parcel. They did not assess geology, soils, dam, along with other important issues and recreational economic impacts.

So the BLM's offer of this parcel is unlawful as it failed to address the above issues as required by the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA). They didn't meet requirements.

Please pull this parcel from the April 20 auction & reconsider pulling the other ones also. Let's save the environment! p. 6

Do not put my family's water, health,
and well-being at risk! Please do not
compromise our lives and gamble with
our lives for the "big money!" We
have a surplus of gas now and prices are low.
We need alternative safe energy options.
Please keep our precious resource of
water safe! Water is more precious than gas/oil.
You need water to survive! If we
don't have clean water and enough
of it, we all DIE! You can't drink
gas!

Thank you for your time and
consideration. The city of Lewisville
and surrounding cities have also submitted
their protests to this proposed lease sale also.

Linda Schlette
~~Linda Schlette~~
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