

August 14, 2014

Jesse Juen
US Bureau of Land Management
New Mexico State Office
PO Box 27115
Santa Fe, NM
Telefax 505-954-2010

Dear Director Juen:

Our names are David and Virginia Marshall, our address is 267 Shroyer Drive, Laguna Vista (PO Box 217, Los Ojos, NM 87551). Our interest in protesting is we are residents concerned with the issue of "fracking" in the nearby Santa Fe National Forest. Specifically, we protest the leasing of 13 parcels including NM-201410-001, 004, 005, 006, 007, 008, 009, 010, 011, 012, 013, 014 and 015. We are requesting that these remaining parcels, east of the Continental Divide, be deferred for the same reasons that the other 22 parcels were deferred, as these parcels, proposed for lease/sale in October 22, 2014 and gas lease sale/Farmington Field Office, are in the same geologic and geographic location.

The reasons for our request are multiple and include that shallow shale hydraulic fracking was not addressed in the BLM 2003 Resource Management Plan and the Mancos Shale/Gallup Formation RMPA/EIS alternative studies. In addition, we are also concerned by the use of millions of gallons of our water that would be required for each proposed well, as well as the potential negative effect on the ground water in the Chama water shed area. Our well could be in danger of being polluted and it is our only source of water. Since the fracking also involves the introduction of chemicals being injected in the wells, we are appalled that the fracking companies are not required to disclose what chemicals are being used and have no good solution for the waste water generated by the fracking process. There are additional concerns being raised regarding seismic activity. News reports will show increased activity associated with areas where hydrofracking is being done in Texas. We are also aware that the common practice of flaring increases the potential for increased air pollution and risk of fires, which adds to our concern for the effects on the environment and possible health issues associated with fracking.

With all of the negative aspects, it's simply not worth the minimal economic potential to lease the parcels for this risky use.

A finding of No Significant Impact for the October 22, 2014 oil and gas lease sale is not adequately supported by the environmental assessment as it now stands.

Sincerely,


Virginia Marshall

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