



## LLAMA DEARA RANCH

Jesse Juen  
U.S. Bureau of Land Management  
New Mexico State Office  
PO Box 27115  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

August 2, 2014

Re: Proposed sales of parcels NM-201410-001, 004 thru 015 (in Rio Chama Watershed, east of Continental Divide) offered in 10/22/14 BLM Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale

Dear Director Juen:

My name is Hannah-Leigh Bull. For going on 15 years, I own and reside on my Chama River property in Medanales, in Rio Arriba County. My main purpose for settling here was the abundance of clean water and air and the predominance of unadulterated natural settings in a river and lake region where I can work with children and families.

For the following reasons, I oppose the leasing of the above parcels:

**Excessive water use:** Oil and gas exploration uses 2-10 million gallons of water for each well. This is an unwarranted waste of our precious resource in this drought-challenged region of the state and country.

**Water contamination:** The chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing could compromise the health of all living creatures in the area. Spills and groundwater contamination have been documented in other areas of the country and world. Besides impacting the health of animals, polluted water will contaminate the food that we grow. The health risk is too great to warrant exploration in an area that research shows will render far less oil and gas than in other parts of the state and country.

**Risk of fire:** When I was purchasing my property, my escrow was held up because of the Cerro Grande fire. Drought has made our forests tinderboxes. Wells can explode, catch fire, and ignite the forests, as can the burn-off of natural gas. Fires result in the deterioration of the soil, which leads to the frequent flooding we have experienced this year and other years during the monsoon season.

**Air pollution:** Chemicals, burn-off, and fires will pollute our clean air, as documented in areas of the country where fracking has been permitted.

As a behavioral health care provider, I cannot in clear conscious standby and watch my land and the land of my neighbors, patients, and communities be compromised without protesting. I ask that you defer the 13 parcels considered for lease in the October 22, 2014 BLM Lease Sale.

Sincerely,

Hannah-Leigh Bull  
Owner, Llama Deara Ranch  
PO Box 305  
Medanales, NM 87548