

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

8/15/2014

Dear Director Juen,

My name is Carol Bondy and I am writing to protest the proposed sales of parcels NM-201410-001, 004 thru 015 that will be offered up for lease in the BLM Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale, October 22, 2014.

**Interest in Protesting**

I have lived in Abiquiu for 15 years and been a property owner for 18. We purchased this land seeking out a cleaner environment. We live on the Chama River. Our shallow well pulls our drinking water from the river. I am also a member of Rio Arriba Concerned Citizens and the editor of the Abiquiu News. I am also a business manager of Rio Arriba Farms, a local organic Farm share program.

**Reasons for Protesting**

I understand the importance of clean water, and a functioning ecosystem for the health of our community. Without clean water we cannot hope to thrive in our traditional lands. We live with a limited amount of water in our part of the world, and I am concerned about the 2-10 million gallons of water that is used for each well in this process. I highly protest this misuse of the limited resource of water.

Chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing are known to cause cancer, neurological, and other health problems. There have been many examples of spills and groundwater contamination, despite the efforts of private oil and gas companies. The risk of polluting our precious water is too great. If our water is affected it is the residents who will have to live with the consequences, not these companies.

The waters in Gallina and Regina flow into the Rio Chama and any pollution will also affect our neighbors down river all throughout the state.

I live downstream. My family and I drink this water. This water is used to irrigate our farms. The chemicals used are unacceptable. The waste of precious water is unacceptable.

Living downstream from the Abiquiu Dam I am also concerned about the reported seismic activities, this type of mining can set up. An ongoing earthquake swarm in New Mexico and Colorado, which includes Colorado's largest earthquake since 1967, is due to underground wastewater injection, researchers said Friday (April 19) at the Seismological Society of America's annual meeting in Salt Lake City.

The earthquakes are concentrated near wastewater injection wells in the Raton Basin, where mining companies are extracting methane from coalbeds. The basin, which is actually a series of rock layers exposed in the Rocky Mountain foothills, stretches from northeastern New Mexico to southern Colorado.

The BLM should be looking into leasing land for renewable resources – wind and solar and not taking the land and water entrusted to them and destroying it for future generations.

I again protest and ask you to defer the 13 parcels up for lease in the October 22, 2014 BLM Lease Sale.

Sincerely,

Carol Bondy

*Carol Bondy*

Please send your mandatory response to my address: PO Box 1052, Abiquiu, NM 87510