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Jesse Juen

US Bureau of Land Management

New Mexico State Office

PO Box 27115

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

August 8, 2014

Dear Director Juen;

I am writing as a concerned new resident of Abiquiu in Rio Arriba County. I am writing to protest the inclusion of 13 parcels in the Santa Fe National Forest that are up for lease sale in the October 22, 2014 Oil and Gas Lease Sale/ Farmington Field Office. These parcels are NM-201410-001, 004, 005, 006, 007, 008, 009, 010, 011, 012, 013, 014, 015. I am requesting that these remaining parcels, east of the Continental Divide, be deferred for the same reasons as the other twenty-two parcels in the same geologic and geographic location.

Let me make it short and concise; I do not support any further oil and gas exploration or production in Rio Arriba County. I was drawn to this area through my interest in history. The parcels listed above are among areas containing many cultural sites of historical significance and as well as a section of the Old Spanish Trail. It is short sighted for BLM to permit oil and gas exploration and production in these sensitive areas. These parcels represent more to our future generations left in pristine state than the oil supplies available under their surface could possibly equal.

A finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the October 22, 2014 Oil and Gas Lease Sale is not adequately supported by the Environmental Assessment as it now stands. Please defer the remaining 13 parcels in the Santa Fe National Forest; they pose the same issues as their neighboring parcels that have previously been deferred and the same risks to the Rio Chama Watershed east of the Continental Divide.

Sincerely,


Robert C. Hittel

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