

P.O. Box 1193
Espanola, New Mexico 87532
August 11, 2014

Attn: Jesse Juen
NM State Director BLM
POB 27115
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

Dear Jesse Juen,

I am a resident of Espanola, (NM living not far from the Rio Grande), a graduate of Northern New Mexico College, and a writer about social and environmental issues, including the web site for the Espanola Farmers Market (espanolafarmersmarket.org).

I also own land in Abiquiu, New Mexico.

I'm writing to you about the 13 parcels in the Santa Fe National Forest: NM 201410-001, NM-201410-004 through -015 under consideration for fracking approval.

This is of extreme concern to me and many others because of the severe water shortage in Northern New Mexico and the dependence on pure water sources for those who depend on making a living through agriculture in this valley.

Over the past decade I've watched the number of farmers' market vendors and local growers increase in number. People can actually grow and sell fresh produce for themselves, their neighbors, and community and bring in much-needed income. This means younger people have a real opportunity for building a small business and Northern New Mexico College is a partner in this enterprise.

However, the entire deck of cards could come crashing down if the water supply becomes contaminated. Please defer the 13 parcels up for lease in the October 22, 2014 BLM lease sale.

I question if the BLM has fulfilled its responsibility of verifying that studies actually substantiate a finding of no significant impact. This is in light of the increasing evidence that shale can't be fractured above the aquifer without contamination.

Sincerely,



Marguerite Kearns

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