

July 24, 2014

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

BY: _____

Dear Director Juen,


My name is Julie Hennerty and my address is P.O. Box 758, El Rito, NM 87530. My interest in protesting is that I am a long-term resident and home owner in El Rito. I am writing to protest the inclusion of the 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, 012, 014, and 015. I am demanding that these parcels, east of the Continental Divide, be deferred for the same reasons that the other 22 parcels were deferred, as they are in the same geologic and geographic location.

This protest is based on the failure of the procedures used by the BLM to address the issues of the Mancos Shale /Gallup formation and the shallow shale hydraulic fracturing, in violation of NEPA. Water is in such short supply in this area that the water users of El Rito are under tight restrictions to use water for indoor use only. Allowing water to be used by oil and gas companies, and the possibility of contamination of the watershed seems totally irresponsible. We do not even have knowledge of the chemicals they pump into the ground in their wells. In addition, there would be massive disruption of the long-term and traditional culture and land use of this area, along with many environmental disruptions. This is a beautiful area, long used for recreation and tourism. Fracking would destroy the peace, quiet, natural beauty of the land and sky, and many historic sites. To ruin all that in return for a relatively small amount of shale oil and gas available in this area seems the height of irresponsibility and a violation of the guidelines established by the Federal government.

To reiterate, I demand that lease sale of these 13 parcels be deferred. 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.

Please send me a return receipt by either mail or email.

Sincerely,



Julie Wagner Hennerty
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El Rito, NM 87530
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