



**Greenfire Farm**  
**"Teaching Deep Resilience in Community"**  
**2767 State Route 56**  
**New Marshfield, Ohio 45766**

6 Oct, 2011

Friends,

This is a letter of protest regarding the planned action to lease public land mineral rights within the US National Forest system and more specifically those parcels within the Wayne National Forest in southeast Ohio in the vicinity of the Hocking River.

Greenfire Inc. and Greenfire Farm are a non-profit operation established in the watershed effected by this activity. We are a the nucleus for area wide integration of sustainable, regenerative communities and economies, redefining land, air, water, and life relationships, enabled through research, demonstration, education, and community outreach to create deep resilience for all. We offer hands-on seminars, workshops and conferences to empower citizen leaders and enable a better life for economically challenged communities.

As Co-Directors of Greenfire and Greenfire Farm, in this new ancient forest community, we are deeply concerned and engaged in the protection and enhancement of the well being of our forest communities, watersheds, food-sheds, and bioregion in the Ohio River Basin of relations and beyond. We have seen nothing in the way of conclusive or even well vetted proof that the assurances of the energy industry regarding safety or mutual exclusion are valid. To the contrary, we have seen and heard a good deal of accumulated evidence, both empirical and anecdotal, that exactly the opposite is the case. Further there is reason to believe that offering these parcels for mineral exploitation without an effective assessment of environmental impact is actually at odds with Federal law.

At the very least it would seem to be common sense that such exploitation of public land that is adjacent to land occupied by the same people who pay the taxes that cause the Wayne National Forest to be held in public trust, and that pay BLM to administer them, would be coordinated with those people appropriately before said exploitation is finalized. That has not happened. On this basis, we feel that the Wayne National Forest parcels must be removed from this lease process and future policy of the US Forest Service and BLM must be evolved to help bring about integral health and deep balance, where we ALL function as a single community of life at this significant moment of conservation, renewal and regeneration for all.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Hogan

Founder, Co-director  
Greenfire Inc. & Greenfire Farm

John Strohl

Co-director  
Greenfire Inc. & Greenfire Farm