

US Bureau of Land Management
NM State Office
PO Box 27115
Santa Fe,
NM 87520
Telefax 505-954-2010

August, 9, 2014
Dear

Director Juen:

My name is Jean Charis and my address is PO Box 2504, Chama, NM 87520. My interest in protesting the following is that I am a resident of New Mexico. I write to protest the parcels in Santa FE National Forest that are up for lease October 22, 2014 by Oil and Gas Lease Sale/Farmington Field Office. These parcels are NM-201410-001,004,005,006,007,008,009, 010,011, 012, 013, 0124, and 015. I 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 geological location.

Those reasons include risking the water supply of all downstream users including the large metropolitan areas of Albuquerque and Santa Fe. Water in New Mexico is ever more limited by years of drought and climatic changes. Millions of gallons of water are required for each proposed well. Where can that water come from? I have watched our New Mexican reservoirs dry up in recent years. Make no mistake, this wet year is abnormal. Our aquifers are being drained at an alarming rate and cannot be replenished quickly. Where can the water possibly come from?

Though oil companies advertise the major components of fracking fluids are water and sand, what they fail to divulge is the toxic chemicals that though small in quantity are so toxic that minute amounts can cause cancer humans and wild life. Waste water from drilling sites that is left in holding ponds risk leakage and the above chemicals evaporate into the air polluting the air.

The waste water that is injected into the earth has caused seismic activity in Greeley, CO and along the eastern seaboard. There are several fault lines around Abiquiu.

Further, at least 300 of the nearly 700 self-reported oil and gas spills in New Mexico impacted waterways or ground water in 2011 ~~was~~ and 2012.

Hydrofracking releases hydrocarbons into the air locally; flaring risks our tender dry forests with wildfire.

I have driven through areas of fracking and oil drilling and witnessed the degradation of the land with building excessive roads with scraped oil pads and dust from oil trucks used for constructions and hauling of product. This area of New Mexico is high desert. These lands

will not recover soon and may never recover as the west continues to heat up and dry up.

I have treasured many times the dark nights. Oil rigs have lights and they tend to be light polluting. I love seeing the stars and planets at night which is not possible in most of our country.

Why risk our fragile land for such a minimal amount of gas? I have lived off the grid for nearly 20 years using solar and wind power. I know first hand that these sustainable sources work. I have noticed when visiting Denver that many homes there are now equipped with solar.

Why would you strap our locals governments with infrastructure degradation and congestion? This industry is another boom and bust activity which has temporary benefits.

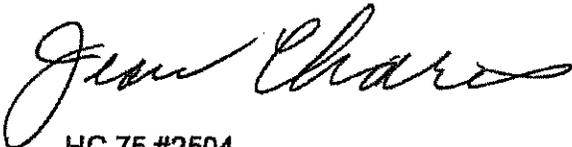
and long term destruction

A finding of No Significant Impact for the October 22, 2014 Oil And Gas Lease Sale is not adequately supported by the Environmental Protection Agency as it now stands. The 13 parcels in the Santa Fe Forest pose the same risks as in the neighboring parcels that have been deferred in the Rio Arriba Watershed east of the Continental Divide.

For these reasons, I demand as a citizen who wants the land protected for this generation and all following, that the the sale of these leases be prohibited until scientific proof and not propaganda shows that fracking methods are altered significantly to be safe.

Thanks you for your attention,

Jean Charis



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Email:

cc to Rio Arriba Concerned Citizens