

Mardie Miller  
1218 Woodbine St  
Flower Mound, TX 75028

February 12, 2016

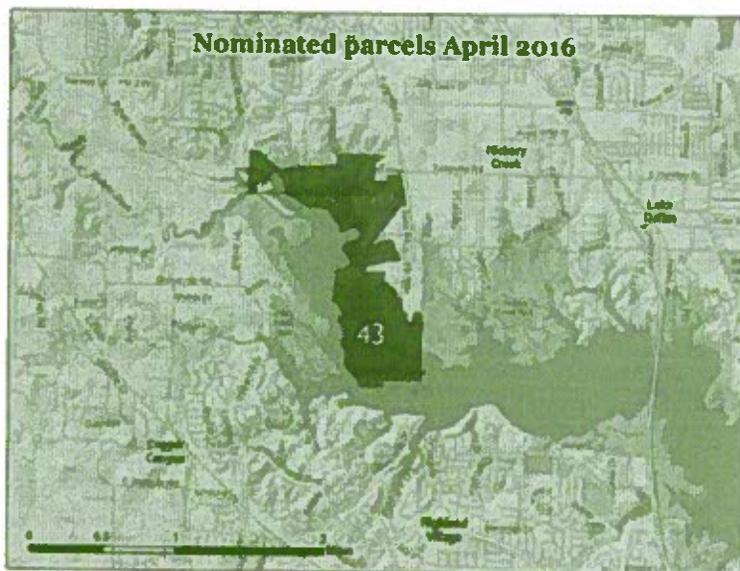
TO:

Amy Leuders, Director and  
Julie Ann Serrano, Lead Land Law Examiner  
Bureau of Land Management  
New Mexico State Office  
301 Dinosaur Trail  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-0115

CC: Congressman Michael Burgess & Staff Members  
Lake Dallas District Office  
2000 S. Stemmons Frwy STE #200  
Lake Dallas, Texas 75065

2016 FEB 16 PM 6:26

**RE: Protests of April 20, 2016 Lease Sale on Lewisville Lake, Texas**



Dear Ms. Leuders and Ms. Serrano,

I am filing this Protest of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) planned April 20, 2016 oil and gas lease sale and Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-NM-040-2015-61-EA, pursuant to 43 C.F.R. § 3120.1-3.

I formally protest the inclusion of the following parcel, NM- 201603-43, covering a total of 258.9 acres. The proposed parcel is on/adjacent to Lewisville Lake.

**I am filing this protest on behalf of myself and my family. My name is Mardie Miller and I live at 1218 Woodbine Street Flower Mound Texas 75028 and I can be reached at (972)-740-3080. My email is [MardieKay.1987@gmail.com](mailto:MardieKay.1987@gmail.com).**

I live in Flower Mound, TX directly south of this parcel of land. I grew up in Highland Village where my parents still live there today. Their lakefront home is located directly on Lewisville Lake. Twice this year, lake water rose above the flood plain and filled yards near their home with water.

It takes at least 60 days for water to recede to the other side of our private fence. Would the chemicals they use from fracking oil and gas get into their yard when the lake comes up? How will it affect plants, food, our dogs, and other wildlife? My husband as well as my parents run our Labrador dogs on the greenbelt behind our house and let them swim in the lake at least twice a week. Will our precious furry family members be put at a health risk??

My husband and I also own a boat which we use every weekend on Lake Lewisville during the summertime. How can we be sure the water will be safe from harmful chemicals as we enjoy our favorite past time? The heavy machinery and equipment will be a complete eye sore compared to the beautiful tranquil treeline and wildlife we so enjoy.

Is it logical, is it safe, to lease land for oil and gas development on the shores of the reservoir for the Dallas/Ft. Worth metroplex area? Does it make sense to allow drilling for oil so close to the 8<sup>th</sup> worst dam in the country, when we know that there is a high correlation between earth quakes and fracking ?

In San Pedro, CA a gas leak is now in its 103<sup>rd</sup> day. People have had to leave their homes because of the methane gas smell and fumes, forcing them to take up temporary shelter. Many are reporting headaches, nausea, nosebleeds, and dizziness. We cannot

subject our citizens and children to this sort of hardship of being displaced from their familiar homes, lives, and jobs. We still do not know the long term health risks that these people in San Pedro, California may have due to the gas leak. I believe it is negligent to put our family and friends at risk of ever experiencing such a devastating ordeal. See partial article source below.

# Story So Far Porter Ranch gas leak updates

FEBRUARY 3, 2018 12:10 PM

A gas well leak in the upscale San Fernando Valley community of Porter Ranch has poured fumes into the neighborhood. Since the leak began in October, thousands of residents have been relocated to temporary housing. Many are reporting health issues such as headaches, nausea, nosebleeds and dizziness. Southern California Gas Co. predicts the leak will not be plugged until late February, possibly March.

We should not be developing oil and gas wells so close to our heavily populated areas!

**Please STOP the potential lease of the Hickory Creek Bureau of Lake Lewisville, Texas parcels of land! The following are just a few reasons to stop this disaster to our beloved community:**

1. Lake Lewisville serves as the **primary drinking water reservoir for Dallas and much of North Texas**, including my water in Flower Mound and my parent's water in Highland Village. I am worried about the contamination of our drinking water through possible drilling runoff from the site. The possible migration of contaminants through our aquifers could also impair our public water wells. Local commerce and businesses would suffer from the lack of people going to enjoy the lake if it is polluted and dangerous. Have any studies been done to see how this will affect the lead in old pipes, the cost of rebuilding infrastructure caused by all of the chemicals that will land in our reservoir? **The population of DFW metro area is over 4.7 million people. If our water is unsafe to drink, what will we do?**

2. Earthquakes associated with hydraulic fracturing and wastewater injection well disposal have been shown by USGS seismologists, as well as seismologists from numerous major universities, to have occurred in Oklahoma, as well as in Irving, Dallas, Azle, Reno, Springtown and other North Texas cities resulting in structural damage to homes, municipal buildings and commercial structures.

What affect will these earthquakes have on our home foundations? What affect will the earthquakes have on the foundations of all the public buildings, the new bridges across the lake at FM 2499? The old and new bridges for Interstate Highway 35East?

The Lake Lewisville dam, which the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers states is the 8<sup>th</sup> worst dam in the U.S., is already in need of millions of dollars of repairs. The dam is currently under repair after a 161-foot long, 23-foot wide slide on an earthen embankment this past spring. Additional drilling or the migration of drilling fluids along existing fault areas below the lake could negatively impact the integrity of the dam's infrastructure. Can it withhold any risk of earthquake tremors, knowing that millions of people downstream could be flooded out with a 50 foot wall of water? Is it worth risking billions of dollars of property damage and potentially thousands of lives lost as well?



See Dallas Morning News December 12, 2015 photo and article <http://interactives.dallasnews.com/2015/lewisville-dam/>. A breach could put 440,000 people in the destruction path.

3. Insurance companies will not cover structure damages caused by man-made earthquakes associated with oil and gas production activities.

4. Oil and gas exploration and production on or under mortgaged properties violates provisions of federally insured mortgage loans issued by VHA, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and other federal agencies, and can result in loans being called leading to forced foreclosures for people who receive no benefits from the oil and gas production.

5. The lease rates in the bid proposal offer public property at rates far below fair market value and defraud citizens of appropriate revenues from the lease of public property and the sale of publicly-owned minerals. Bidding starts at \$2 an ACRE! It's absurd that so much of our infrastructure would be at risk for this diminished sum. NO SUM of money would ever cover the cost of damage to

our clean air, clean water, wildlife, plantlife, and the risk of damage to the Lewisville Dam and bridges in the area.

6. The Lake Lewisville lease parcels are very close to developed residential communities that would be harmed by the non-stop heavy industrial process starting with pad-site preparation and continuing through well completion without benefit to local residents and reductions of their real property values. This will affect my parents directly who are at their retirement age and are trying to financially plan for the next twenty years. If their property value plummets due to your drilling, it could damage their futures dramatically!!

7. I work and spend most of my free time in Highland Village, Texas with my family. The quality of my life will be adversely affected by the smell of oil and gas development, the harmful chemicals deposited in earth adjacent to our reservoir if not directly into the reservoir itself; the change in view of the night sky when minerals are extracted from these parcels of land, and the disruption to our beautiful lake.

We should build wind farms, solar energy farms, and develop other alternative energy sources; reduce consumption of fossil fuels, and preserve our planet earth. Fracking for oil and developing natural gas wells should not be permitted so close to a reservoir that millions of people depend upon for drinking water. Not enough is known of the harmful consequences developing oil and gas wells and resulting earth movements on the Lake Lewisville dam. The location is too close to suburban homes, major thoroughfares permitting people to commute from the north side of the lake to the DFW Airport, Fort Worth, Dallas and other cities with millions of jobs.

The Environmental Assessment for this proposed lease sale is substantially and procedurally flawed. There was no analysis of how drilling, fracking, or wastewater injection could impact the Woodbine, Trinity or Paluxy aquifers in relation to this parcel. The EA does not address the soils or the geology regarding this Lake Lewisville parcel along with other important issues. Therefore, BLM's offer of this parcel is unlawful as it fails to sufficiently address the above issues as required by the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA). Please pull this parcel from the April 20, 2016 auction. Do not put my family's water, health, and well-being at risk.

Sincerely,

Mardie Miller

Mardie Miller  
+ family

February 12, 2016