

Nov. 6, 2006

Utah Bureau of Land Management  
Selma Sierra  
State Director  
440 W. 200 S. #500  
SLC, UT 84101

RE: Protest of Utah November Lease Sale – Parcels 276A, 298, 298A,  
298B, 298C, 347A, 347B.

Dear State Director Sierra:

I am seriously concerned about, and protest the planned lease sale on parcels 276A, 298, 298A, 298B, 298C, 347A, 347B of the Utah November Lease Sale.

I use the above areas for recreation. As a white water rafter I have launched at the BLM's Dewey Bridge boat ramp and floated the section down to Hittle Bottom, camping at the BLM's excellent campground there. I have launched at the Hittle Bottom boat ramp numerous times to float the Moab Daily. I have also hiked the Pole Line Road to the cliff edge overlooking the Hittle Bottom campground in order to access the incredible views (see attached photo).

Parcel 298 is less than an 1/8 of a mile upstream from the Hittle Bottom campground. Even if the only development allowed occurred on either of the east or west rims, or even back away from those rims, the lights and noise would greatly disturb anyone floating on the river, launching at Hittle Bottom to run the Moab Daily, or camping at the campground. Worse, anyone hiking the Pole Line Road to gain the world-class view from the rim would be looking directly at any drilling rigs or well heads, not to mention the road that would need to be developed to serve those installations.

There are several ranches just downstream from Hittle Bottom that would be affected as well in the same ways.

I also hike in the Yellow Bird area, which has been proposed for designation as a wilderness. Parcel 276A is right in the middle of this area, not to mention that it would be visible from within Arches National Park.

I also hike in the Lost Spring area, parts of which have been classified as having wilderness characteristics by your own agency. Parcels 298A, B and C are in this area and even overlap in part with the area your agency deemed to have wilderness characteristics. Leasing those areas would be in direct conflict

2006 NOV -6 PM 4:10  
DEPT. OF INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
RECEIVED  
APPROPRIATE UNIT

with your own agency's analysis of the resource. It would also mean there was one less area that I would have to use for accessing solitude, quiet, and the observation of nature. This area is also prime hunting ground and development in that area would be inappropriate because it would destroy this valuable resource as well.

The above is also even more applicable to parcels 347A and B, as almost all of those parcels would affect areas deemed by your own agency to have wilderness characteristics.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Seal', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Franklin Seal  
2 Lasal Road  
Moab, Utah 84532

