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To casper_wymail@blm.gov
cc
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Subject Wright Area Coal Lease Application Draft Environmental
Impact Statement t

August 23, 2010

Michael J. Strawn
29631 Palomino
Warren, MI 48093

Sarah Bucklin
Wyoming BLM
casper_wymail@blm.gov

Dear Ms. Bucklin:

Regarding the Wright Area Coal Lease Applications Draft Environmental Impact Statement:

Please disclose the greenhouse gas emissions from burning the coal to be mined in the lease applications, and to also consider ways to mitigate the global warming impacts of such emissions.

The Wright Area coal lease applications will approve leases granting mining companies permission to mine an additional 2.5 billion to 3.4 billion tons of coal over a 5-10 year period. When all that coal is combusted, it will produce around 6 - 7 billion tons of CO₂, or approximately the same amount as produced by all the commercial power plants in the US in a year's time.

Clearly, these are long term leases with long term consequences. The EIS should address these effects.

Also, remember Secretary Salazar's order of September 14, 2009 ordering the Interior Department and all of its agencies -- including BLM -- to address the impacts of climate change on America's water, land, and other natural and cultural resources. This proposed action flies in the face of Secretary Salazar's statement.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Strawn