Don Simpson
BLM State Office
5353 Yellowstone Rd
Cheyenne,Wy 82009

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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CHEYENNE, WYOMING

Dear Director Simpson:

I am writing regarding the proposed drilling leases in the Little Mtn area of sw Wyoming.I adamantly oppose these leases,and request that you WITHDRAW them from consideration.Little Mountain is a very special area,perhaps the most unique area in the entire state for many different plant and animal species.In addition to having world-class big game hunting and fishing,the area is very special to those of us who have spent the majority of our lives here from a historical aspect as well.

Significant amounts of money have been spent by various conservation groups,as well as Wyo G&F,on habitat improvement projects over the past several years.What a shame it would be to have all that go to waste.I understand you are in contact with the governor's office on a regular basis,and I am sure he has conveyed the same sentiments to you that I am now.Wyoming Game and Fish has also stated their position on this lease sale.With the overwhelming opposition from the public also,I would hope that you would withdraw the following 14 parcels from consideration in the Dec.2 lease sale:Wy 0812-177,Wy 0812-178,WY 0812-179,Wy 0812-180,Wy 0812-181,Wy0812-182,Wy 0812-183,Wy 0812-186,Wy 0812-187,Wy 0812-188,Wy 0812-189,Wy 0812-190,Wy 0812-191,Wy 0812-192.I also would urge you to consider withdrawing any new leases that may be in the future for any country west of Bitter Creek Rd,south of I-80,and west to Flaming Gorge Reservoir.This entire area has world-class pronghorn,mule deer,and elk herds.All are highly sought after by hunters from not only Wyoming and the rest of the USA,but from overseas hunters as well.

I am also concerned about air quality from the dust raised by big rigs going up and down roads,not to mention gases and such produced through the drilling process.Of course,the very real possibilty of an accidental chemical release into Flaming Gorge also exists,possibly ruining one of the most famous trout fisheries in the world!

With the entire state of Wyoming undergoing intense mineral exploration and extraction,why can't we leave this one area alone?Why?Why must we drill every acre of this wonderful state?What will be left for our future generations?Where will my grandchildren hunt and fish?Jonah and the Mesa near Pinedale are ruined and will never be the same.Must we do that to the Little Mountain area,too?

Thank you for your time;
Respectfully,
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