



Frack Off Great Chaco Coalition

440 Letters

February 20, 2019

BLM New Mexico State Office
Attention: State Director
301 Dinosaur Trail
Santa Fe, NM 87508

Re: Protest of Proposed March 2019 Oil and Gas Lease Sale by the Bureau of Land Management's Farmington, Rio Puerco and Pecos District Carlsbad Office

Dear State Director Spisak:

Please find enclosed public protests collected by the Pueblo Action Alliance to the Bureau of Land Management New Mexico state office protesting the March 2019 lease sale of the 37 nominated parcels listed:

Farmington Field Office parcels: - NM-201903-010, NM-201903-011, NM-201903-012, NM-201903-013, NM-201903-014, NM-201903-015, NM-201903-016, NM-201903-017, NM-201903-024, NM-201903-025, NM-201903-026, NM-201903-033, NM-201903-037, NM-201903-038, NM-201903-039, NM-201903-040, NM-201903-041, NM-201903-042, NM-201903-043, NM-201903-044, NM-201903-045, NM-201903-046

Rio Puerco Field Office parcels: - NM-201903-009, NM-201903-018, NM-201903-019, NM-201903-020, NM-201903-021, NM-201903-022, NM-201903-023

Pecos District Carlsbad Office parcels: - NM-201903-001, NM-201903-002, NM-201903-003, NM-201903-004, NM-201903-005, NM-201903-006, NM-201903-007, NM-201903-008

Included in this packet: 440 Responses

The Farmington Field Office Resource Management Plan amendment and the Rio Puerco Resource Management Plan revision processes are still ongoing. Full analysis of the impacts of horizontal drilling and multistage hydraulic fracturing have yet to be addressed. These processes are meant to ensure that community health and environmental protections are in place before any more drilling occurs.

By going forward with this lease sale, the BLM is failing in its obligation to fulfill the agency's multiple-use mandate, which requires for the BLM to manage public lands and their numerous natural resources so that they can be used for economic, recreational, and scientific purposes without the infliction of permanent damage. Over 93% of public lands in the San Juan Basin are already leased for oil and gas, and the Permian Basin is already experiencing the negative consequences of intensive oil and gas extraction. It is impossible for BLM to satisfy its multiple use obligations or create balance with nearby communities and the environment where oil and gas is prioritized in this manner.

In offering to sell the proposed lease parcels, the BLM has also inappropriately and without any public notice rolled back opportunities for public involvement. Not only has the agency completely eliminated comment periods for draft NEPA analyses, it has stopped allowing people to fax protests and rolled back the protest period from 30 to 10 days, an inordinately short amount of time to meaningfully participate. Forcing us to rush to document our concerns undermines our right to due process.

It's time to get control of the things we hold dear, before all is lost; like our clean air, water and the right to preserve the legacy of our beautiful landscapes, sacred spaces and ancient civilizations.' It doesn't matter whether these spaces are down south in the gaze of the majestic Organ Mountains or in the vast and mysterious Greater Chaco Canyon, we believe we are the custodians and protectors for our children and the generations to come.

Sincerely,

Frack Off Greater Chaco

Frack Free Four Corners

