

Mark Ames
Project Manager
BLM Farmington Field Office
6251 North College Blvd.
Suite A.
Farmington, NM 87402

RE: Farmington Mancos Gallup RMP-A and EIS scoping comment

Dear Mr. Ames,

Despite a recent explosion that occurred in Nageezi on July 11th that caused 55 residents to evacuate their homes--some losing their pets and livestock--lands and minerals managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Farmington Field Office continue to be leased to oil and gas companies. Your office has approved over 365 drilling permits and insists that horizontal fracking poses 'no significant impacts' to the surrounding communities, indigenous sacred sites, land or drinking water.

There are known risks associated with oil and gas development and Navajo communities living in the Eastern Navajo agency disproportionately pay the price. Community members experience water pollution, more dust pollution caused by heavy truck traffic, unsafe transportation, the desecration of unmarked sacred sites and herbs, toxic air from flaring and related health symptoms like dizziness, sudden headaches, burning eyes, nose and throat irritation, trouble breathing and related respiratory problems.

The Farmington Field Office admits it never analyzed the impacts of horizontally fracking the Mancos-Gallup shale, and uses an outdated 2003 Resource Management Plan (RMP) that does not regulate fracking. Meanwhile, thousands of acres of public, private, state, indian allotments and Tribal trust lands are leased for more oil development near Nageezi, Counselor and Lybrook.

Therefore, I ask that the Farmington Field Office include in its Resource Management Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement:

- 1.) Immediate moratorium on drilling, fracking, and leasing. Relief for the area is needed while a responsible and respectful planning process is underway. More than 90% of Bureau of Land Management mineral resources in the Eastern Navajo agency are already leased for oil and gas development.
- 2.) Tribal consultation at every stage of decision-making. Tribal consultation must not be limited to a single conversation with Navajo Nation Government. Indigenous peoples with interest in Greater Chaco area fracking development is not limited to Navajo Tribal Council government and therefore the review and tribal consultation must extend to all

Tribes who trace lineage and sacred lands to Chaco culture as well as traditional Navajo Chapters.

- 3.) Cultural, environmental, and public health safeguards. At minimum, a comprehensive health and social impact assessment, as well as a cultural significance study is needed to assure protection from fracking impacts for local communities and sacred resources. Additionally, the Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Indian Affairs must take a hard look at how climate change impacts ecological and community systems. 11 The threats to our water, land, soil, climate and many people's livelihoods are too great to have not been considered.
- 4.) The Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Indian Affairs must lead the way to develop and implement alternative economic development opportunities that do not endanger the land or lives of the people. Federal agencies must not continue to sacrifice Tribal communities living on the frontlines of resource extraction and should instead make efforts toward a just transition to democratized, equitable, clean and renewable energy.

Supporting Comment: It is outrageous that the BLM
is allowing fracking in the greater Chaco
area, without analyzing the consequences
and getting input from the residents of
the area.

Name and area of residence: Laurie Marnell Albuquerque, NM
Submit comments to BLM by email to BLM_NM_FFO_Comments@blm.gov, or by fax to
505-564-7608.

Submit comments to BIA by email to harrilene.yazzie@bia.gov

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Supporting Comment: ~~ASSA~~ ~~PROFE~~ As a professional archaeologist with personal experience ~~in~~ working in the Chaco Basin, I know the importance of this unique region first-hand. ~~As~~ Recent earthquakes in Oklahoma demonstrate the direct risks hydraulic fracturing pose to the region's rich cultural patrimony, and the potential devastation ~~fracturing~~ ^{group of} pose to this UNESCO world Heritage site.

Beyond this, though, ~~the~~ the potential for intensification of fracking in the Chaco Basin poses a huge environmental and public health risk to an already embattled indigenous community. For ~~public~~ ^{already} ^{risky} ^{with} ^{reg} ^{to} ^{water} ^{security} ^{clean}

Name and area of residence: PHIL LECKMAN, ALBUQUERQUE

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the threats to water and health cannot be ignored
to any and must be central
the environmental future of the region

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Supporting Comment: My experience is from
the information technology sector. We've
had a similar situation where the
technology has quickly outpaced statute
and regulations. This sounds similar in
that until the 2003 plan is updated
to consider the fracking technology,
why not pause fracking until
a greater understanding of impact
is gained.

Name and area of residence: JAN CHRISTINE SANTA FE, NM

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Supporting Comment: I want fracking to stop, hopefully
permanently, but if not, at least until the
Resource Management Plan is amended to take these
issues into consideration. Corporations should not take
priority over citizens. The health + safety of
the people who live in these areas is more important
than profits. Some of these lands are also considered
sacred by native people - the first Americans. We
owe it to these people to consult with them before
drilling in these areas. I'm a mother + I'm worried
about our children's future. Please, let's move away f.
fossil fuels + toward renewable energy. Thank you.

Name and area of residence: Nicole Pennebaker, Albuquerque, NM

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Supporting Comment: In modern society, because of ^{history of} archaeological science, tends to overlook the major ^{cultural} importance of the large sacred landscape. Pueblo tribes emphasize that their heritage "is not simply a collection of small individual sites, but rather a landscape that, as a whole, tells the story of our ancestors (Gov. Vigil A. Simon, Pueblo of Laguna, ABO Journal, 11/8/16)
BLM needs to open up its perspective in NEPA & NHPA compliance to the critical ^{cultural} importance of the large sacred landscape. BLM cannot continue the narrow view of considering only specific, isolated sites.

Name and area of residence: 1 Ke EASTVOLD, ALBUQUERQUE

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Supporting Comment: Water - Desert - Fracking using the
drinking water from the ~~ground~~ aquifers that sustains
the animals & the people. Does this really make sense?
Do you really want to support the sucking dry our land.
You are the managers of the land. Please be mindful
of this job for everyone & every being.

Name and area of residence:

Rashida Parks Albuquerque NM.

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Supporting Comment: In order for the BLM to responsibly manage public lands in a way that serves a broad range of the public, it is critical that the Bureau develop clear, open and wide-ranging decision-making structures. Consultation with all constituencies that benefit from, use, and live near or on public lands is essential. A process that invites diverse voices to share their concerns, and that takes the time to insure that these voices get heard, is required in order that the BLM properly serve a broad public.

Name and area of residence: Andy Young, Albuquerque

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Supporting Comment: The people who live on and off of these
lands need to lead the decision making process on
how, when, and if these areas should be extracted
of resources.

The chemicals used for the fracking
process need to be declared so the people who live on
fracked lands can make informed decisions about
risks impact to their soil, water, animals, and bodies.

Name and area of residence: Mick Eddings, Albuquerque NM

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Supporting Comment: I ask that the BLM consider
the public health impact of increased
fracking in the Four Corners area when
developing its Resource Management Plan.
Health Impact Assessments should be
completed to assess the existing health
effects as well as potential risks to health.
Epidemiological studies should be conducted
to develop baseline health data. New Mexico
cannot afford the costs associated w/ poor health
outcomes related to exposure

Name and area of residence: Lorna Marchand - Albuquerque
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to
frack
activity

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Supporting Comment: _____

The NEPA process must be appropriately implemented so that the local communities and the general public are addressed. ~~Go to~~ Impacts to groundwater from fracturing must be assessed and evaluated throughout the NEPA process.

Name and area of residence: _____

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Supporting Comment: The link between hydraulic fracturing, ~~the~~ and groundwater pollution
seismic unusual seismic activity is alarming in
places like Oklahoma and Pennsylvania. This manner
of resource extraction is far to We do not yet
know enough about the long term affects of this type
of resource extraction to feel confident that its pervasive
use won't ruin the land for generations to come. In
a region like NW New Mexico where ~~valuable~~ sacred
sites are plentiful, we cannot risk ~~destroying~~
losing access to them. Already last july dozens
of people have indefinitely lost access to their homes.

Name and area of residence: _____

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Supporting Comment: Fracking in the Mamas Gulch Shale
constitutes a direct threat to the ability of
the region to support life. It is not a
question of ~~IF~~ the pipe/well casing will
Fail, but rather a question of when.
When drinking water is no longer clean
and free of toxins, the region will perish.
How can we lease our public lands for
private profit? ~~What is the point?~~ Why take the
Risk? There are ^{RARE} cacti and sacred
sites in the area that will also be negatively impacted.

Name and area of residence: Ray Heilman, TAOS NM

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Supporting Comment: The Greater Chaco Canyon
area is our living connection to sacred landscape,
sacred stories, to our ancestors, to
culture, to living present culture that
has endured threats through centuries initiated
by dominate culture that does not
recognize or completely understand
the connection between landscape and
what is sacred. My son is Navajo.
We travel to the Greater Chaco Area to

participate in ceremonies. It is vital to preserve

Name and area of residence: Karen Argeanas

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Submit comments to BIA by email to harrilene.yazzie@bia.gov

k_argeanas@centurylink.net

this landscape,
native plants,
archaeologic
sites,
and Commur

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Supporting Comment: When I first moved back to New Mexico in 1991, I went to Chaco for the summer solstice and was overwhelmed by the history and culture there. I began to see the large area of which Chaco is a part & its visual connections to roads & outposts there. To have drilling & fracking there would be a tragedy. I also cracked my transmission on the roads to Chaco. I know current Navajo communities are greatly adversely impacted by fracking chemicals, dust & water & air pollution.

I call for an immediate moratorium on drilling, fracking and leasing on BLM lands.

Name and area of residence: John Robins, Albuquerque

Submit comments to BLM by email to BLM_NM_FFO_Comments@blm.gov, or by fax to 505-564-7608.

Jrobins@swcp.com

Submit comments to BIA by email to harrilene.yazzie@bia.gov

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Supporting Comment: I am greatly concerned about the health
of individuals who live near fracking sites, about the condition
of the soil which enables those who live in the area to put
food on their tables, about the polluted water which finds its
way to the mouths of livestock, and most importantly, the
impact of methane hot spots on the ozone layer. Tribal
communities should take part in every process of BLM
decision making, lands such as the Greater Chaco Region
are sacred, Not only are they a significant part of history,
but they continue to house hundreds, if not thousands of individuals
& other organisms. They deserve our utmost attention & care - No more fra

Name and area of residence: Kathryn Morrison, Albuquerque

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kamorr@gmail.com

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Supporting Comment: _____

Human beings are responsible for polluting and also protecting our environment. The impact of fracking on the environment is detrimental to water sources, the air, and people's health. As responsible stewards of our lands, we urge you to issue a moratorium on fracking. We know now that it pollutes air and water. Fracking should be subject to all EPA water quality standards. It is imperative that we reduce methane gas in ozone as climate change action. We must also consult with all tribal entities before continuing fracking.

Name and area of residence: _____

Rowan Stanland Albuquerque

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Supporting Comment: I am a geologist by training and have
spent time studying fracking. I also have a minor
in archaeology and have studied and spent time
exploring the Chaco cultural area. It is an incredibly
important site that still holds mysteries for all of
us. Fracking could destroy so much and the area
is fragile geologically.

Name and area of residence: DIANA CROWSON LOS LUNAS

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Submit comments to BIA by email to harrilene.yazzie@bia.gov

dicrow12@gmail.com

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Supporting Comment: As a member of the Navajo Nation, the preservation/
protection of land is salient to our cultural values and with over
90% of public land being used for extraction, there needs to be a
major evaluation of the impact of land sales to companies.

The communities are impacted on many levels: mentally,
emotionally, physically and spiritually. Hozho in Navajo means
balance & harmony. Based on BLM facts, ~~the~~ the land is being
destroyed & will impact water, air, & soil. The land & Chaco needs
to be protected for the future.

Name and area of residence: Mikaela Crank Thinn Albuquerque, NM *Mikaela.c.thinn@gmail.com*

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Supporting Comment: There are many reasons why BLM should pause before leasing more lands for oil / gas / fracking permits:
we dont know the true, ^{long term} impacts of fracking on lands, or on water. We do know there can be health impacts from the chemicals involved in these processes. The lives of the people in these communities should not be sacrificed to the wants of companies. The historical significance of these landscapes cannot be overstated, and the spiritual damage to those communities by air, water, & noise pollution cannot be measured.

Please be careful when making this decision and take into account the BLM's mandate to move towards alternative energy

Name and area of residence: Rachel Walsh Albuquerque NM source

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ratshell.w@gmail.com

Noise, light & air pollution

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- 3.) Cultural, environmental, and public health safeguards. At minimum, a comprehensive health and social impact assessment, as well as a cultural significance study is needed to assure protection from fracking impacts for local communities and sacred resources. Additionally, the Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Indian Affairs must take a hard look at how climate change impacts ecological and community systems. 11 The threats to our water, land, soil, climate and many people's livelihoods are too great to have not been considered.
- 4.) The Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Indian Affairs must lead the way to develop and implement alternative economic development opportunities that do not endanger the land or lives of the people. Federal agencies must not continue to sacrifice Tribal communities living on the frontlines of resource extraction and should instead make efforts toward a just transition to democratized, equitable, clean and renewable energy.

Supporting Comment: Indigenous grass roots people must be involved as they understand the spiritual aspect & detriment of the onslaught of that fracking causes. Leases were not adequately explained to Navajo speaking people to truly understand the repercussions of these lease agreements
Chaco Canyon is a very sacred, ancient trade center of the Indigenous People. Fracking & the truck traffic severely harms these ruins physically. Also, there is the harm to the physical, spiritual & mental well being to the people, plants, & animals in the Chaco Canyon area

Name and area of residence: Larilyn Haozeus Albuquerque NM

Submit comments to BLM by email to BLM_NM_FFO_Comments@blm.gov, or by fax to 505-564-7608.

Submit comments to BIA by email to harrilene.yazzie@bia.gov

walkings1@hotmail.com

Tribes who trace lineage and sacred lands to Chaco culture as well as traditional Navajo Chapters.

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Supporting Comment: As a 40 year resident of N.M. & 20 years in
public education I am deeply concerned about
the present & future quality of life here that is
threatened by continued fracking. New Mexico
should not be a 'sacrifice area', nor native
peoples subject to environmental racism, nor
a World Heritage site subject to degradation
and destruction.

Name and area of residence: Jane Ruge ABQ. strawin2gold@gmail.com
Submit comments to BLM by email to BLM_NM_FFO_Comments@blm.gov, or by fax to 505-564-7608.
Submit comments to BIA by email to harrilene.yazzie@bia.gov

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Supporting Comment: What is the interest in oil industry? There are better ways - cleaner alternatives for energy. Why do you let people unknowingly sacrifice their health, their legacies, and their traditions? We as Native people are trying to protect our land, people and our integrity. Why are you taking advantage of humble communities, who don't speak in federal government tongue? We only have pieces of our land left, don't contribute to the extinction of Native people!

Name and area of residence: _____

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Submit comments to BIA by email to harrilene.yazzie@bia.gov

Sandia Pueblo
Tribal Member

Julia.F.bernal@gmail.com

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Supporting Comment: I'm writing on behalf of my family,
friends and Navajo communities around the Navajo Nation
within the Navajo Nation, as well of San Juan Basin.
For years Fracking has negatively affected the
indigenous people. The ~~plentiful~~ bounty of indigenous
relations to Chaco will have a huge negative effect
if fracked upon.

Name and area of residence: _____

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Submit comments to BIA by email to harrilene.yazzie@bia.gov

Chee.treston@yahoo.com

Tribes who trace lineage and sacred lands to Chaco culture as well as traditional Navajo Chapters.

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Supporting Comment: As someone who has received income from
oil and gas leases on my family's land in another part of
the country, I understand the desire to mine the land for
Natural resources. Still, this needs to be done with care,
research and ^acomprehensive understanding of the risks to
culturally rich, historically important and inhabited
landscapes. As a world heritage site, I feel it's critical
to preserve this area from the many dangers to the ^{of fracking}
environment and people, especially Navaho people in the area,
the methane cloud, which greatly contributes to global
warming, is also of great concern.

Name and area of residence: Ellen LaPenna, Albuquerque

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Submit comments to BIA by email to harrilene.yazzie@bia.gov

Ellen.LaPenna@gmail.com

Tribes who trace lineage and sacred lands to Chaco culture as well as traditional Navajo Chapters.

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Supporting Comment: Drilling and fracking is
destroying the environments it touches. In
New Mexico we have great resources in
wind and sun energy. Renewable energies
will not damage soil and air, people
and animals. It is irresponsible to
continue to damage our land and air
unnecessarily.

Name and area of residence: Kim Whitman - ABQ

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Submit comments to BIA by email to harrilene.yazzie@bia.gov

Katwhitman@msn.com

Tribes who trace lineage and sacred lands to Chaco culture as well as traditional Navajo Chapters.

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Supporting Comment: I am concerned about the decrease
fracking going on in the Chaco area, the vast
destruction of the environment in the Chaco area,
the roads, the wells, toxic chemicals in the
soil, water and air. People in the area are
in a gas chamber. If our system cannot
develop without destroying the environment, then
it is sick.

~~SAM KARN~~

Name and area of residence: SAM KARN - ALBUQUERQUE

Submit comments to BLM by email to BLM_NM_FFO_Comments@blm.gov, or by fax to 505-564-7608.

Submit comments to BIA by email to harrilene.yazzie@bia.gov

sampato0012@yahoo.com

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Supporting Comment: *As a Native American woman, and an activist, protecting my heritage is a right and given. My people should not be fighting for our resources, land, and our rights. This is a colonization project, and one that will do more harm than good.*

Name and area of residence: *Peaches Blackbird, Zia pueblo.*

Submit comments to BLM by email to BLM_NM_FFO_Comments@blm.gov, or by fax to 505-564-7608.

Submit comments to BIA by email to harrilene.yazzie@bia.gov

peaches.medina.pm@gmail.com

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Supporting Comment: I am very concerned about the environmental/climatic impacts of fracking. The Four Corners Hotspot is the largest concentration of atmospheric methane in the US. Fracking contributes significantly to atmospheric methane through leaking, venting and flaring. This compound ~~instead~~ could be captured instead providing income for NM residents.

Name and area of residence: Theresa Palmer Albuquerque

Submit comments to BLM by email to BLM_NM_FFO_Comments@blm.gov, or by fax to 505-564-7608.

Submit comments to BIA by email to harrilene.yazzie@bia.gov

Theresa.A.Palmer@gmail.com

Tribes who trace lineage and sacred lands to Chaco culture as well as traditional Navajo Chapters.

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Supporting Comment: ~~The~~ The BLM must put a moratorium on fracking. This is land owned by all citizens, not private land. The ~~kind~~ allowing Fracking allows private interests to ~~degrade~~ ^{destroy} the cultural preserves, for ~~our~~ ^{our} loss, their gain. ~~The whole reason for Federal management of~~ The Government was given oversight because private interests could not be entrusted to maintain it. Don't let us down.

Name and area of residence: Edward T. Buxton ABQ NM
Submit comments to BLM by email to BLM_NM_FFO_Comments@blm.gov, or by fax to 505-564-7608.
andersonbuxton@msn.com
Submit comments to BIA by email to harrilene.yazzie@bia.gov

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Supporting Comment: As a wildlands firefighter who has spent weeks camping next to pipelines and oil/gas pads in an effort to protect these infrastructures from wildfire, I can attest to the immediate negative physical + psychic impacts of these infrastructures they pose threats, such as H₂S gas, to us workers in the immediate area, and the nightly noise, light and air pollution made it difficult to sleep immediately next to these structures. I have slept next to oil/gas pads in AZ, NM, and CO, and in the 2015 fire season I was sent to protect the Great Alaskan Pipeline with my fire crew.
All these landscapes were fragmented by the oil/gas equipment, and we had been sent there to protect these oil/gas buildings from

Name and area of residence: Hannah Kligman, Taos, NM
Submit comments to BLM by email to BLM_NM_FFO_Comments@blm.gov, or by fax to 505-564-7608.
Submit comments to BIA by email to harrilene.yazzie@bia.gov

hrk2104@gmail.com
wildfire, we had no choice but to be there
The further building of pipelines, oil & gas pads should be prohibited. There is no time for that.

Tribes who trace lineage and sacred lands to Chaco culture as well as traditional Navajo Chapters.

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Supporting Comment: I am deeply saddened that my interest in Chaco Canyon & the Far Corners area was sparked not because of its importance as a World Heritage Site or its cultural significance, but because of the threats to the area created by the oil & gas industry & the leases approved to these contested, extractive, destructive, dangerous actions. Please prioritize environmental & human safety ~~over~~, including renewable energies, over private/corporate interests.

Name and area of residence: Nancy Zastudil, Albuquerque

Submit comments to BLM by email to BLM_NM_FFO_Comments@blm.gov, or by fax to 505-564-7608.

Submit comments to BIA by email to harrilene.yazzie@bia.gov

nancyzastudil@gmail.com

Tribes who trace lineage and sacred lands to Chaco culture as well as traditional Navajo Chapters.

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Supporting Comment: I understand the need of extracting oil for financial gain and to ~~the~~ meet the need of human in energy consumption; however however this is being done in an irresponsible manner. Since fracking in the Chaco area affects ^{negatively} the way of life of surrounding population, therefore fracking must be banned since it pollutes the environment and contaminates ground water.

Name and area of residence: KEMGANG WZALI ABQ
Submit comments to BLM by email to BLM_NM_FFO_Comments@blm.gov, or by fax to 505-564-7608.

Submit comments to BIA by email to harrilene.yazzie@bia.gov

Kemgang@yahoo.com

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Supporting Comment: My visit to Chaco National
Park 2 years ago moved me. This
world Heritage site and its
broader cultural landscape deserve
reverence and dignity - not
pollution by fracking chemicals
that have harmed area livestock and
people - esp. those who are susceptible to
respiratory problems. Lastly, but not least, the
methane cloud in the area is worsening climate change

Be mindful please. Lynn LESSARD, Albuquerque, NM

Name and area of residence: Lynn LESSARD, Albuquerque, NM
Submit comments to BLM by email to BLM_NM_FFO_Comments@blm.gov, or by fax to 07111
505-564-7608.

Submit comments to BIA by email to harrilene.yazzie@bia.gov

Be mindful
our
future
is
at
stake
ok
lyn.

It is ultimately important to preserve the ancient history surrounding Chaco canyon. The area is the basis for the history of the state of New Mexico.

Chaco area has numerous historical ruins and archeological sites that should be preserved for future generations. Allowing drilling in this special area is unacceptable and ruinous to our antiquity. Destroying those is no different than what is being done by Isis in Afghanistan.

- Marilyn Szydlo, NM resident

There is very little about our original and native United States of America that is still considered sacred. That is why I am writing you to stop all new fuel and mineral activities in the Greater Chaco area. BLM offices around the country have taken a negative turn in the last few decades by disrupting the natural environs they are sworn to protect. That is my belief of a failure of this oversight group anyway.

I saw open areas outside of Tucson fenced off and land resources harvested to the detriment of the locals with pollution (that seriously affected my neighbor's and my own health) and lack of range access.

There is already a huge methane cloud over the Navajo reservation in the 4 corners area.

Our climate has warmed, regardless of whether one believes in a man made causal circumstance. The fact is, man can further help or destroy. We as a Human Race are suffering from insane amounts of pollution in air, water and earth with massive die offs of flora, fauna and our own lives. This is a greedy suicide mission...that many who believe in resource conservation, reduction, reuse and recycling know may be averted. I have worked in an environmental agency in NYC as a recycling Project Manager during the late 80s in a time of the Garbage Barge to Nowhere. We saw great success in our efforts to reclaim resources and begin a business model being used around the country and world now.

No, NM is not heavily populated and so I think that investors, corporations (government contracted or otherwise) and policy dictators believe their actions would have minimal impact.

To me that is short sighted and unknown and inconsiderate of all aspects attached to and effected by this project. Are we so jaded now that we no longer believe in culture and the sacred or even a future? Asked about personal beliefs directly and individually, I think most backers of these projects would cringe and fight against this if their own areas and ideals were being taken. NIMBY (not in my back yard) is alive and well and operating to the detriment of others. There is no longer out of sight out of mind, by the way, in this Global world.

Please protect Chaco and suspend resource harvesting.

- Alexa J. Lane, NM resident

This summer my husband and I visited New Mexico, where we met lots of really nice people, and were stunned by the area's beauty and unique landscape. We want to go back soon. And that leads me to write you. Why is our nation not committed to protecting our land and air and water - what cannot be replaced? Why is there STILL little progress on discovering and utilizing non-destructive energy sources? Why all the leasing and drilling and destruction of our nation's beauty FOR A PITTANCE ? That is not land management. That is land assault. The Resource Management Plan amendment for the Greater Chaco area SHOULD be full of meaningful alternatives to climate disruption, and SHOULD allow for a transition to clean, renewable energy. THAT would be land MANAGEMENT. Please, pleasestop all new drilling, leasing and approving of drill permits. What is the point, except to assure that a FEW companies continue, *without consequence to themselves*, to destroy the surrounding communities' lands, air and water. The natural resources of our nation are not to be used up until there is nothing left. The BLM Farmington Field Office, which manages lands and minerals in the Greater Chaco, area needs to stop leasing these lands, and stop all the drilling and fracking. Period.

- Chris Anderson

Please stop all action on leasing and drilling permits until your promise of meeting with Native American communities is finished and they approve - b/c really, it is their land. Please use Navajo translators so everyone clearly understands what is at stake. We don't need the oil there when there is free sunshine to run solar arrays and wind to create power. Add that to the fact that more of 90% of BLM lands are already leased for this purpose.

- Ann Tracy

I support the protection of Chaco Canyon and the Greater Chaco Canyon Area from fracking. Currently at stake are 843 more acres, scheduled to be auctioned online on January 25, 2017, even though the BLM has not finished the amendment to the Resource Management Plans to study fracking impacts in the area. It is *not in the public interest* to enable more leases and fracking, especially when there has not been an exhaustive study of the impacts of fracking. Don't auction off our land!

- Wendy Volkmann

My great-great grandfather and uncles did the early explorations at Chaco, the Wetherill brothers, and Richard and Marietta are buried there. The brothers built a trading post there, hosted several University explorations there, and lived there for many years. Chaco is very precious to us for our family traditions.

That being said, I also have to tell you that we have absolutely **no** concerns about fracking in that area whatsoever. We support the oil and gas leases approved by the BLM.

I am writing to tell you to stop your nonsense about fracking. You and your group have nothing to keep you busy, but need to maintain your cash flow, so you create issues where there are none, and unnecessarily alarm a gullible public. Please stop.

- Sandy Wagner

Please do not allow this freaking fracking to occur! Nor any sale of these lands, nor the lack of consideration of public outcry, not the lack of complete study of the environmental impact, nor the disregard of Ancient cultural sites and Native sacred ground.

- Abeille Kaelin