

## **Betty Tangeman**

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**From:** Jeff Walters <jeff.walters2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2021 8:57 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** oppose HJR12

To Members of the Senate Resource Committee:

I am a resident of Fairbanks and I have lived in Alaska since 1982. I urge you to oppose HJR12 regarding the coastal plain lease sale in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. I have traveled to the coastal plain of the Arctic Refuge and I am impressed with its unique character and value as it currently exists. Because the majority of the North Slope is already available for continued oil/natural gas extraction, I believe the relatively small, narrow coastal plain of the Arctic Refuge should be allowed to maintain its important wilderness character and should not be developed. I urge you to oppose HJR12.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Jeff Walters  
Fairbanks

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** PaulR <paulreichardtak@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 24, 2021 10:49 AM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** HJR12

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

I am not able to call in to this afternoon's hearing on HJR12, but I want you to know that I am opposed to the resolution and opposed to oil and gas exploration and development in the Arctic Refuge's coastal plain.

I realize that moving forward on the leases awarded by the Trump administration as it turned off the lights have, at least in theory, some benefits for Alaska. However, in my opinion the benefits from even the most inflated projections about the oil and gas underneath the coastal plain do not outweigh the costs and risk associated with their development. While I suspect that most, or all, of you disagree with my opinion, and while I acknowledge your right to do so, before each of you votes on whether to report the resolution out of committee I urge you to critically examine its "whereases." Even if I supported moving on with the lease sales, I would feel pretty silly supporting some of the rationales. For example:

- The jobs projections appear to assume aggressive exploration and discovery/development of resources at the upper end of reservoir potential, but the reality is that none of the successful bidders appear to have any capacity to undertake exploration in the near future. The lease sale attracted a few speculators (including AIDEA); big oil opted out.
- The interests of the Inupiat are touted, but the interests of the Gwich'in are ignored.
- While discovery and development of oil and gas reserves in the coastal plain may contribute to "energy independence," their impact on "national security" seems rather insignificant.
- While it is true that oil and gas exploration in the coastal plain will contribute little to greenhouse gas emissions, it is ludicrous to dismiss the effects of developing and burning the resultant hydrocarbons.

There are more flawed rationales; you can find them yourselves if you take the time to look.

In the end it comes down to the best use of the coastal plain. I think it's more valuable to maintain it as one of our national gems than to risk its demise for the sake of oil that, frankly, we don't really need. Even if you disagree, what's the rush? Lawsuits contesting adherence to federal regulations and processes are in the courts. No significant player in fossil fuel production is interested in the leases. Some dreams are enjoyable; others are nightmares.

Paul Reichardt

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**From:** Carl Portman <carlportman@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 24, 2021 11:44 AM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** HJR 12 Testimony

Dear Chairman Revak and Members of the Senate Resources Committee:

I am writing in support of HJR 12, endorsing lease sales in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR).

While opponents of leasing in ANWR cite climate change as one of their major reasons for opposing new oil and gas development in the Arctic, in reality, every barrel of oil not produced on the North Slope will simply be imported from abroad to offset declining production and throughput in the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS). The major market for Alaska oil is the West Coast of the United States. Refineries in California and Washington have been forced to import increasing volumes of oil from overseas, including the Russian Far East, to offset declining production in Alaska. Imported oil has a larger carbon footprint to get to market compared to Alaska oil which has a much shorter shipping distance and in many cases is cleaner burning oil.

Moreover, the U.S. Department of Energy forecasts indicate oil will still be a dominant energy source for decades as the transition to alternatives will occur gradually and take much of this century to overcome fossil fuels. Additionally, ANWR production has the potential to triple throughput in TAPS, which would greatly boost Alaska's economy through thousands of high-paying jobs and tens of billions of dollars in revenues to the State treasury.

I encourage the Committee to pass HJR-12. Thank you for your service.

Carl Portman  
Retired, life-long Alaskan