

## **Opposition to Leasing California's Public Lands and Mineral Estate for Fracking and Oil and Gas Drilling**

September 7, 2018

Dear Secretary Zinke,

As environmental, public health and community groups with hundreds of thousands of members in California, we call on you to continue the moratorium on leasing California's federal public lands to oil companies that has been in effect for over five years. We are alarmed that under your watch, the Bureau of Land Management has taken the first step in the process to open more than a million acres of public land and mineral estate in California to oil drilling and fracking.

Like a household budget, the planet has a fossil fuel budget, and it has been overspent. There is enough oil, gas and coal in already open, producing fields globally to take us far beyond the Paris climate targets. It defies reason for the federal government to continue auctioning off publicly-owned lands and fossil fuels for development. Now more than ever, we must keep fossil fuels in the ground.

Fracking presents unacceptable risks to our health and safety. The Bureau of Land Management estimates that up to 90 percent of new wells on federal lands are fracked. A 2015 report from the California Council on Science and Technology concluded that fracking in California happens at unusually shallow depths, dangerously close to underground drinking water supplies, with unusually high concentrations of chemicals, including substances dangerous to human health and the environment.

Allowing fracking and dangerous oil drilling would put the state's most iconic landscapes at risk. It threatens not only lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, but risks polluting the air and water of other federal and private lands in the region, including the Sequoia National Forest, Los Padres National Forest and California's beautiful coastlines.

In the name of our health, wildlife and climate, we demand that you reverse your plans to sell off California's beautiful and precious public lands to Big Oil. Do not open the Bureau of Land Management Bakersfield Planning Area for fossil fuel leasing.

Sincerely,

Kassie Siegel  
Climate Law Institute Director  
Center for Biological Diversity

Sunny Galbraith  
Steering Committee Member  
350 Sonoma

Laura Neish  
Executive Director  
350 Bay Area

May Boeve  
Executive Director  
350.org

Alan Weiner  
Chapter Lead  
350 Conejo / San Fernando Valley

Brodie Lockard  
Founder  
350Hawaii.org

Nicole Kemeny  
President  
350 Silicon Valley

Dr. Barbara Brydolf  
Alta Peak Chapter, California Native Plant  
Society

## Opposition to Leasing California's Public Lands and Mineral Estate for Fracking and Oil and Gas Drilling

Leila Salazar-López  
Executive Director  
Amazon Watch

Donald Goldberg  
Executive Director  
Climate Law & Policy Project

Steve Holmer  
Vice President of Policy  
American Bird Conservancy

Fernando Serrano  
Vice-Chair  
Coalition Advocating for Pesticide Safety

Patrick McGibney  
CEO (Chief Environmental Officer)  
Biodiversity First!

Natalie Risner  
Co-Coordinator  
Coalition to Protect San Luis Obispo County

Julie Kluck  
Campaigns Associate  
Born Free USA

Humberto Lugo  
Environmental Policy  
Comite Civico del Valle, Inc.

Karuna Jaggar  
Executive Director  
Breast Cancer Action

Denise Boggs  
Director  
Conservation Congress

Linda Castro  
Assistant Policy Director  
California Wilderness Coalition

Tim Molina  
Political Director  
Courage Campaign

Catherine Garoupa White  
Coordinator  
Californians Against Fracking

Jack Gorman  
Chair and Co-Founder  
Critica

Allen Hernandez  
Executive Director  
Center for Community Action and  
Environmental Justice

Brian Bellamy  
Steering Committee Member  
Democracy Winters

Nayamin Martinez  
Director  
Central California Environmental Justice  
Network

Mary Gutierrez  
Executive Director  
Earth Action, Inc.

Mary Kay Benson  
Steering Committee - Manager  
Chico 350

Tara Thornton  
Program Director  
Endangered Species Coalition

Precious Kalombwana  
Group Leader  
Citizens Climate Lobby Zambia

Morgan Patton  
Executive Director  
Environmental Action Committee of West  
Marin

Kimberly Rivers  
Executive Director  
Citizens For Responsible Oil & Gas

Thomas Wheeler  
Executive Director  
Environmental Protection Information  
Center

RL Miller  
President  
Climate Hawks Vote

Adam Scow  
California Director  
Food & Water Watch

## Opposition to Leasing California's Public Lands and Mineral Estate for Fracking and Oil and Gas Drilling

Nicole Ghio  
Senior Fossil Fuels Program Manager  
Friends of the Earth US

Komivi Sedofia Atsu-Nenyewoede  
Supporter  
OFA, Togo

Jora Fogg  
Policy Director  
Friends of the Inyo

Danny Noonan  
Climate Law Fellow  
Our Children's Trust

Celia Scott  
Co-Chair  
Friends of the Pogonip

Barbara Gottlieb  
Director for Environment & Health  
Physicians for Social Responsibility

Sarah Brown  
Founder  
Green Alliance

Lydia Avila  
Executive Director  
Power Shift Network

Kaluki Paul Mutuku  
Environmental Defender  
Green Treasures Farms

David Braun  
Director  
Rootskeeper

Janet Redman  
Climate Campaign Director  
Greenpeace USA

Rebecca August  
Chair  
Safe Energy Now!

Mark Antoniewicz  
Director of Communication  
Hip Hop Caucus

Grace Feldmann  
Co-Founder / Co-Lead Organizer  
Santa Barbara Standing Rock Coalition

Alasdair Coyne  
Director  
Keep Sespe Wild

Lori Andresen  
President  
Save Our Sky Blue Waters

Kimberly Baker  
Executive Director  
Klamath Forest Alliance

Janet MacGillivray  
Executive Director  
Seeding Sovereignty

Franklin Masika  
Lawyers' Environmental Action Team

Carol Hart  
Justice Committee Chair  
Sepulveda Unitarian Universalist Society

Jeff Kuyper  
Executive Director  
Los Padres ForestWatch

Ara Marderosian  
Executive Director  
Sequoia ForestKeeper®

Linda Hutchins-Knowles  
Expansion Organizer  
Mothers Out Front

Sarah Friedman  
Senior Campaign Representative  
Sierra Club

Daniel Deceder  
Administrative Assistant  
NC WARN

Susan Britting  
Executive Director  
Sierra Forest Legacy

Steve Masover  
Member - Coordinating Committee  
No Coal in Oakland

## Opposition to Leasing California's Public Lands and Mineral Estate for Fracking and Oil and Gas Drilling

Nora Nash  
Director of Corporate Social Responsibility  
Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia

Dan York  
Vice President  
The Wildlands Conservancy

Jack Eidt  
Co-Founder  
SoCal 350 Climate Action

Joan Parker  
President  
Tulare County Audubon Society

Mary Zeiser  
Climate Campaigner  
Stand.Earth

Cassie Burdyslaw  
Advocacy & Policy Director  
Turtle Island Restoration Network

Janet Johnson  
Member, Coordinating Committee  
Sunflower Alliance

Rebecca Fischer  
Climate Guardian  
WildEarth Guardians

Morgan Curtis  
California Allegory Youth Fellowship Co-  
Coordinator  
SustainUS

Rafael J. González  
Professor  
Xochipilli Latino Men's Circle

Colin Bailey  
Executive Director  
The Environmental Justice Coalition for  
Water