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OSTS_00147

Sherri Thompson
Bureau of Land Management
Oil Shale and Tar Sands Draft Programmatic EIS Comments
9700 South Cass Avenue
Argonne, IL 60439

RE: Develop National Oil Shale and Tar Sands Resources

Please reply to

I strongly support the development of our national oil shale and tar sands resources - including the leasing in Utah, Colorado and Wyoming - as proposed by Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in its Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS). A robust and active oil shale program conducted in an environmentally sensitive manner as proposed by BLM will strengthen communities, add to our nation's energy portfolio and help reduce energy prices for consumers.

With rising energy costs and increasingly volatile supplies, it is more important now than ever that the United States pursue balanced energy solutions and alternative energy sources like oil shale and tar sands. Consumers, industries and businesses throughout the nation face rising energy prices, ever-tighter supplies and increased dependence on imports, often from politically unstable areas. Oil shale can help address the nation's energy challenges.

Further, production of domestic oil shale and oil shale technology will have a positive impact on America's energy security. For example:

- In spite of significant conservation efforts, world energy demand is projected to increase by 50% over the next 20 years and could double in 50 years.

- Oil shale deposits on public lands hold the equivalent of 1.23 trillion barrels of oil. No nation has more oil shale than the United States.

With today's technology, this enhanced development can be conducted in an environmentally responsible manner.

Finally, development of unconventional fuels will create a vibrant workforce and will strengthen the local and regional economies of Utah, Colorado and Wyoming. Development of oil shale and tar sands in these communities would provide tremendous local and national benefits that will help to strengthen our national energy security and bring much-needed supplies of oil into the markets to offset increased demand in China and India.

For these reasons, we urge BLM to adopt Alternative B of the PEIS. BLM should also investigate and analyze the positive impacts to the American public that would result in developing this valuable resource.

Sincerely,

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Michael	Anderson	Sugar Land	TX			
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Sharon	Bevers	Conroe	TX			
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Joseph	Brignac, Jr	Katy	TX			
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Robert	Clark	Houston	TX			
Daniel	Clavier III	Slidell	LA			
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