



"Darin the Purple Guy"
<darin_b1@yahoo.com>
>

To: <pais_superintendent@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: Drilling in Padre Island Seashore

04/23/02 12:55 PM EST
Please respond to
darin_b1

Dear Mr. Whitworth

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed oil and gas drilling campaign on Padre Island National Seashore, and express my strong objections to the permit application for the new Lemon/Lemon Seed wells that is currently under review.

I am very shocked that our state would even consider having something like this occur. I have been many times to the park & it is a very beautiful park. I was commenting to some of my friends at how in Texas we have some of the best parks in the nation. Now we are trying to ruin them.

I am deeply concerned about the long-term, negative impacts of BNP Petroleum's plans for an "aggressive drilling campaign." I'm opposed to heavy truck traffic up and down the beach where my family and I go to escape the noise and traffic of everyday life. I believe that if I visit Padre Island in the coming months, my experience of the beauty and tranquility of the park will be ruined by the truck traffic. I don't think many people will want to bring their children to a beach where 18-wheelers drive between where parents are sitting and their children are playing in the water. I am also concerned that the beauty and quiet of the beach is being spoiled for birders, anglers and campers. I disagree with your conclusion that no impairment to visitor use and experience will result from the drilling proposed in the pending permit.

Noise, vibrations, spilled oil, and deep ruts in the sand caused by heavy truck traffic could also deter turtles from coming ashore to nest. The Environmental Assessment fails to address this threat, which could result in a major, long-term adverse impact on efforts to establish the Kemp's ridley turtle on Padre Island.

You have failed to address the cumulative impact of this truck traffic, along with the presence of 15 to 20 possible future well pads and new roads. These impacts need to be assessed in full before you move ahead.

I urge you to complete a full Environmental Impact Statement before proceeding any further. I also urge you to consider, as part of that EIS, the alternative of buying out the remaining mineral rights for oil and gas underneath the Padre Island National Seashore. This is the only way to give the seashore the full protection that it has been granted under the law.

Thank you for your consideration.

Darin Browning
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Darin Browning
Big Day Events