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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for an extended opportunity to comment.

I strongly object to leasing in the Ruby Mountains for petroleum exploration or production. I'm a geologist and long time Nevada resident. Almost every "old timer" I met upon arriving here 20+ years ago described the Ruby Mountains as an aptly-named gem among our state's natural treasures. I want the Ruby range left for camping, hiking, hunting and fishing, intact for future generations.

Nevada has tremendous solar and geothermal energy potential and a proven metal mining industry. We have limited petroleum resources, and we don't need to disturb any new areas for petroleum exploration to make a fast buck. Leave new oil and gas production to states that already have proven petroleum resources and petroleum infrastructure.

As we watch long term droughts persist across our state, and see Lake Mead water levels drop toward emergency elevations, the last thing we need to do is develop more fossil fuels to further accelerate man made global warming.

I strongly object to this proposed oil and gas leasing, next to Wilderness, wildlife habitat and recreation lands in the Ruby Mountains, one of Nevada's most beautiful "sky island" mountain ranges.