Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/10/2020 8:55:06 PM

First name: Marilyn Last name: Stapleton

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The overhaul of NEPA by the Trump administration orders (among other things) changes that could speed up approval of oil and gas leases on federal land in Utah and the West. Regulations haven't kept pace with the energy revolution that has taken place in the United States. They may exclude all considerations that should be incorporating climate change in evaluating environmental impact.

I understand federal agencies would prefer an easier path to do what they want without public comment. However, these are our lands. It is reasonable that we care about the future health of our Earth and those who will be living on it. NEPA is one of the country's bedrock environmental laws that has influenced state environmental laws, and the fact that the White House now wants to loosen environmental reviews is extremely troubling. Without a strong federal backing, state laws, and the clean air, water, and land that result from them, can be weakened and undermined by future administrations. The current federal government has shaken our confidence in its capability to be wise in shaping the future of our country. Therefore, it should be no surprise that we question the Foothills Landscape Project's lack of specificity in the when, where and what the Forest Service intends to accomplish in the Chattahoochee. For instance, it'd be more reassuring to see goals that would increase carbon capture, or lease unforested land, as well as utility right-of-ways, for solar projects rather than for gun ranges, or acquire land that would connect national forest land patches together. We need an open-minded Forest Service that is able to innovate best forest management practices as knowledge expands and local conditions warrant.