From: Derek Paulhus
To: Oil_Gas_Comments (Shared Mailbox)
Subject: Oil Drilling in Everglades
Date: Monday, August 17, 2015 2:12:38 PM

Hello,

My name is Derek Paulhus. I am 18 years old, and I have been born and raised in Broward County. I was recently made aware that there are plans to drill for oil in the Everglades from Kanter Real Estate L.L.C.

I urge you to please resist this plan. The Everglades is a staple of Florida. Not only is the swamp a tourist attraction, but it is also a water source and a symbol of our home. At a time when Florida is at risk for sea level rise, the state should be doing every thing in its power to support and revitalize the natural beauties that we have.

Right now the Everglades is a water source for millions of people here in South Florida. I understand that the proposal to drill is simply to explore the potential for oil in the Everglades. But today it is for oil exploration, and tomorrow it is for oil drilling. Please do not take this detrimental first step. We have seen what has happened in states across the heartland of the country that have started fracking measures. Their citizens have had their water contaminated, and thousands have become ill. In addition, much of the pristine land has been turned to utter decay.

The Everglades is a rich ecosystem, a reason I love to call my state home. I love taking airboat rides and biking trips, and observing the many birds, turtles, and alligators. The Everglades has been at threat, not only due to sea level rise, but also due to many invasive species, development, and chemical runoff. Please do not turn our backyard into a giant oilfield. Resist this proposal as it is the start of a terrible end. Support our Everglades and assist with its revitalization.

Florida has done an impeccable job with preserving the Everglades in the face of development from all sides. Please do not throw away your efforts now. Millions has been allocated to restore the Everglades, and counteract the harmful effects of sugarcane runoff. I applaud the state for this. However, please do not retract on your efforts by allowing oil to be drilled. The state has much potential to produce energy through solar and wind. We are, after all, the Sunshine State! It is time to move off of oil, and it is time to put our full efforts to protecting this state's environmental gem.

Please support the Everglades, and reject the proposal to drill for oil. As a Parkland resident growing up right on the border of the Everglades, I love venturing out and exploring Florida's original environment. I would hate to see the horizon dotted with oil wells. Please resist the

greedy calls for oil and money. Please support the Everglades.

Sincerely,
-Derek Paulhus