

**Subject:** Fwd: Your Comment Submitted on Regulations.gov (ID: BLM-2018-0001-0001)  
**Date:** Monday, April 23, 2018 at 10:05:07 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
**From:** Laura Folkwein  
**To:** Shantha Ready Alonso

Done!

peace,  
Laura

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Regulations.gov <[no-reply@regulations.gov](mailto:no-reply@regulations.gov)>  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 23, 2018 at 10:04 PM  
**Subject:** Your Comment Submitted on Regulations.gov (ID: BLM-2018-0001-0001)  
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**Agency:** Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

**Document Type:** Rulemaking

**Title:** Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resource Conservation: Rescission or Revision of Certain Requirements

**Document ID:** BLM-2018-0001-0001

**Comment:**

Dear Secretary Zinke,

As people of faith, we strongly oppose any rule change on Department of Interior Methane Waste Prevention gas policies on BLM lands.

Many faith traditions and cultures around the world believe that the Earth is a sacred gift from God, which humans are called to steward gently and well, as part of our faith practice. From the Garden of Eden to the Garden of Gethsemane, and from Mount Horeb to the Mount of Olives, stories of faith transpire within the beauty and power of nature.

God calls us to watch over and safeguard all of creation. Methane, the colorless and odorless main component in natural gas, is not detectable to the naked eye. Yet, scandalous amounts of methane and related volatile organic compounds are leaking into the air, contributing to asthma and cancer in our communities—especially among people who are poor and living close to production sites with little means of mitigation.

Leaking pipelines also waste a valuable natural resource, which should be preserved and used carefully as part of

Creation.

Lastly, there has not been a single public hearing for this rule. People who will be most impacted live in Western states. We find this rule-making process to be recklessly hasty, endangering the lives of Westerners without our ability to respond.

We are called to care for one another and God's earth. Rescinding or diminishing our BLM Methane Waste Prevention rule accomplishes neither.

Respectfully,  
Rev. Laura Folkwein for  
Montana Interfaith Network

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“Every piece of the universe, even the tiniest little snow crystal, matters somehow. I have a place in the pattern, and so do you.” T.A. Barron, writer