

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Consolidated Federal Oil & Gas and Federal & Indian Coal Valuation Reform RIN 1012-AA13

**Comment On:** ONRR-2012-0004-0024

Consolidated Federal Oil and Gas and Federal and Indian Coal Valuation Reform

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National-Wildlife-Federation\_Supplemental-Comments

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## General Comment

Attached are comments from 15,882 National Wildlife Federation supporters (15,882 individual comments), urging the U.S. Department of the Interior to close the coal loopholes!

As a taxpayer concerned about the impacts of continued coal leasing on wildlife, habitat, and our climate, I am writing to support reform of the coal royalty valuations on federal and Tribal lands. The proposed rule takes important steps, but it should go even further.

Climate change is threatening the very existence of wildlife populations, and coal mining threatens to directly destroy critical habitat. I urge you to adopt even stronger regulations that will help slow the impacts of coal leasing, not subsidize it. Coal companies that are allowed to continue mining must be required to pay their fair share and should not be allowed to dodge royalty payments by exploiting outdated loopholes.

Continued encouragement of leasing new coal mines will harm declining wildlife species such as the mule deer in Montana, devastate crucial habitat and dramatically increase carbon pollution that is driving climate change and putting all wildlife at risk.

I urge you close these loopholes and ask coal companies to pay their fair share.

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## Attachments

