

September 14, 2020

The Honorable Jared Polis
Governor of Colorado
200 East Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

CC: Commissioner Robbins, Commissioner Messner, Commissioner McGowan, Commissioner Nanjappa, Commissioner Gonzalez, Commissioner Putnam, Commissioner Gibbs, and Director Murphy

Dear Governor Polis,

Colorado's oil and natural gas industry is vital to our state's economic well-being, and has a long history of being responsible and safe and a good corporate citizen. As our state begins to pull out of this economic recession, it is imperative that this industry, much like other economic sectors, is healthy and unbridled by unnecessary or arbitrary regulations.

We are writing in regard to some of the alarming discussion that has taken place on oil and natural gas setback distances during the Series 600 deliberations, as part of the expansive Mission Change Rulemaking underway at the COGCC. As currently constructed, their 2,000-foot setback proposal (*which, in fact, is at least a 2,300 to 2,400-foot setback because of a change in how the setback is measured*) shifts dramatically away from a focus of protecting public health, safety, and our environment in a manner that is both reasonable and necessary, as required by Senate Bill 19-181.

The proposed setback would function very similar to the poorly conceived 2018 ballot measure Proposition 112. That 2,500-foot setback measure would have shut down 94 percent of the developable land in the top five producing counties, according to COGCC analysis. As we all know, Coloradans saw that for what it was, an industry ban, and voters defeated that measure by a double-digit margin. Thankfully, your leadership also prevented such a measure from being on this year's ballot.

Today's oil and natural gas development practices are incredibly safe and clean, especially in Colorado, as company efforts and regulations have outpaced others around the globe. This must be part of the discussion, because ensuring the protectiveness of our communities and our environment involves much more than the blunt instrument of a setback. Serving as the gold standard of oil and natural gas development should be a point of pride. Instead, the Colorado oil and natural gas industry would be severely penalized by this setback proposal, perhaps to the point of non-existence.

We ask you to urge COGCC commissioners to reconsider the setback rules being discussed and to instead provide a reasonable path forward for future development.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kelly Brough
President and CEO
Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce



Loren Furman
Senior VP, State & Federal Relations
Colorado Chamber of Commerce



A.F. Tony Gagliardi
Colorado State Director
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EVRAZ Inc. NA



Rod Slyhoff
President/CEO
Pueblo Chamber of Commerce



Christian Reece
Executive Director
Club 20



Sara Blackhurst
President
Action 22



Cathy Shull
Executive Director
Pro15



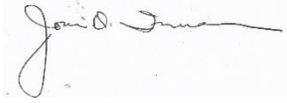
Scott Jones
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CACD



Bonnie Petersen
Executive Director
AGNC



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Executive Director
Colorado Women's Alliance



Sandra Hagen Solin
Executive Director
Northern Colorado Legislative Alliance



Chad Vorthmann
Executive Vice President
Colorado Farm Bureau



Chris Kraft
Chair of the Board
Colorado Dairy Farmers

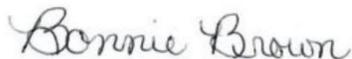


Terry R. Fankhauser
Executive Vice President
Colorado Cattlemen's Association

Terry R. Fankhauser



Bonnie Brown
Executive Director
Colorado Wool Growers Association



Tyrone Adams
President/CEO
Colorado Association of REALTORS®



Katie Kruger
CEO
DMCAR



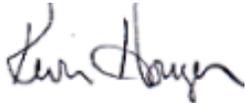
Lindsay Stovall
Director, State and Regulatory Affairs
American Chemistry Council



Greg Fulton
President
Colorado Motor Carriers Association



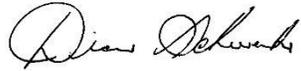
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Angie Binder
Executive Director
Colorado Petroleum Association

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Grier Bailey
Executive Director
CWPMA

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Colorado-Wyoming Petroleum Marketers Association
Convenience Store Association

Andrew Browning
Chief Operating Officer
Consumer Energy Alliance

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Michelle Lyng
President
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Heidi Gill
Founder and CEO
Urban Solution Group

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Jared Wandry
Managing Director
Norseman Capital LLC

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Farmers Mark & Michelle Smith
Owners
Country Fresh Farms, LLC



Christi Zeller
Owner
C Zeller Land Services, LLC

Christi Zeller