

June 5, 2012



COGCC

Hearing Department

1120 Lincoln Street Suite 801

Denver, Co. 80203

Re: SWEPLP-78110

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my concerns over the proposed pending permits of Shell Oil in Huerfano County. The location of these wells and consequences to the county's living environment will be altered as a result of the actions taken by Shell and the COGCC. I am asking that the COGCC please take seriously the health and welfare of the citizens affected by the proposed Shell permits.

Huerfano County's economy is highly dependent on water for agriculture, and recreation. The county is struggling with a shortage of water that is affecting the current environment. This is not the time to add another burden to the dwindling water sources in the county. Shell Oil proposed sites if granted will have a negative impact on the county, and create an additional burden for citizens. In my opinion it is the responsibility of the COGCC to provide the public with assurances that basic water, health and safety can be met, and that these issues are addressed prior to the issuance of permits to Shell Oil.

The sites of the Fortune, State, Seibert and Freeman oil wells are located in environmentally sensitive areas of the county. The proximity of the proposed wells to the Huerfano River increases the risk of pollution and contamination to the existing water table and to the river itself. Again the location of these wells is a threat to agriculture, and to the Gardner community water system. It is my opinion that guarantees should exist that these waters will remain potable for agriculture and human consumption. At the present time no such assurances exist.

Citizens of Colorado have experienced the oil and gas exploration mistakes of the past, and the consequences of these mistakes have threatened our environment and quality of life. You cannot replace the life that could potentially be destroyed as a result of a hasty decision concerning the Shell pending permits. As a concerned citizen of Huerfano County I am asking that the COGCC strongly consider all of the consequence to drilling in the Huerfano drainage area. It is my opinion that further research needs to be completed prior to granting these permits. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joseph PFander

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joseph PFander". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "P".

PO Box 235

Gardner, Colorado 81040