

Public Comments

The following comments were provided by members of the public and were considered during the technical review of this application.

<u>No.</u>	<u>Comment</u>	<u>Comment Date</u>
1	<p>I am urging for a more rapid shift away from oil and gas development in our state, particularly fracking. I am calling for all relevant state agencies and divisions to work together to craft and deploy a bold plan for a rapid and just transition away from oil and gas development in Colorado. With the oil and gas industry in economic collapse, Colorado can't afford to keep approving more oil and gas extraction. The state needs to focus on securing financial assurances from companies to ensure a full clean up of all current operations. Focus needs to be on adopting stronger safeguards for Colorado's health, environment, and safety.</p>	08/13/2020
2	<p>For the sake of climate, clean air, and communities, Colorado needs to end fracking. Especially in this time of unprecedented health concern, the state needs to put people first. We are living in the midst of a global pandemic present in our state and our communities. This pandemic, COVID-19, results in respiratory illness, respiratory distress, and even death, at alarmingly high rates. People with reduced lung capacity, those immuno-suppressed and the elderly are at higher risk. Oil and gas activities are responsible for as much as 40% of the pollution that resulted in the EPA reclassifying Colorado air quality as in "serious" violation of air quality laws, forcing stricter efforts to reduce air pollution. This pollution is greatly increasing our population's risk of severe outcomes from COVID-19.</p> <p>Additionally, the oil and gas industry is contributing significantly to the climate crisis through vast methane leaks and oil and gas burning. It is essential to begin making deep reductions as soon as possible. Therefore, state health agencies must begin to chart a path away from fracking. I call for all relevant state agencies and divisions to work together to craft and deploy a bold plan for a rapid and just transition away from oil and gas development in CO.</p>	08/13/2020
3	<p>To Whom It May Concern:</p> <p>In reality this concerns all of us. I'm a long-time resident of Colorado since 1996. Over the past 24 years, it has been absolutely devastating to see how the state has strongly pushed oil and gas development and literally destroyed areas that would otherwise be beautiful. The biggest issue is the degradation of our lands and resources that our communities depend on them for their survival. The short-term monetary gains will be overshadowed for centuries when the land, air, and water source is no longer viable for habitation.</p> <p>It appears through continued reckless decision making that our community's health and safety is of least concern. I strongly urge you to please consider the damage that has already happened and stop future drilling permits for the sake of our communities.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Jason Henderson</p> <p>Additional points to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •In this time of crisis, Colorado needs to put the brakes on new fracking and stop approving new drilling permits. The state needs to stop bailing out the oil and gas industry. •Coloradans need to focus on protecting their health and families, they should not be distracted by having to respond to new oil and gas drilling proposals in or near their communities. •With the oil and gas industry in economic collapse, Colorado can't afford to keep approving more oil and gas extraction. The state needs to focus on securing financial assurances from companies to ensure full clean up of their operations. •Focus needs to be on adopting stronger safeguards for Colorado's health, environment, and safety. •The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change tells us that for a 66% chance of avoiding climate catastrophe by limiting the global average temperature rise no more than 1.5° C above pre-industrial levels, the world must achieve net zero GHG (greenhouse gas) emissions by 2038. •Last year, the Colorado General Assembly passed SB19-096 and HB19-1261, which together establish GHG emissions reduction goals for 2025, 2030, and 2050. The 2025 goal of reducing emissions by 26% (compared to 2005 levels) aligns with the IPCC's 66% chance scenario of keeping 	08/14/2020

global temps below a 1.5 degree C rise.

- The oil and gas industry is contributing significantly to the climate crisis through vast methane leaks and oil and gas burning.

- It is essential to begin making deep reductions as soon as possible. Therefore, state health agencies must begin to chart a path away from fracking. I call for all relevant state agencies and divisions to work together to craft and deploy a bold plan for a rapid and just transition away from oil and gas development in CO.

- I call for greater air quality protections during a respiratory epidemic.

- We are living in the midst of a global pandemic present in our state and our communities. This pandemic, COVID-19, results in respiratory illness, respiratory distress, and even death, at alarmingly high rates. People with reduced lung capacity, those immuno-suppressed and the elderly are at higher risk.

- Oil and gas activities are responsible for as much as 40% of the pollution that resulted in the EPA reclassifying Colorado air quality as in “serious” violation of air quality laws, forcing stricter efforts to reduce air pollution. This pollution is greatly increasing our population's risk of severe outcomes from COVID-19.

- Fossil fuel extraction and production activities known to release harmful VOCs and air pollution should be ceased throughout the state for at least 30 days and until the pandemic is contained in Colorado.

Total: 3 comment(s)