

Public Comments

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

No. Comment

Comment Date

1	<p>A moratorium on permitting should be enacted until research is conducted and rules are created to ensure that public health, safety and welfare, the environment and wildlife are protected, as SB 19-181 has directed the Commission to do.</p> <p>Colorado communities deserve full due process and a halt to permitting to allow time for a thoughtful, thorough process that enables public participation in rulemaking at the state and local levels and accomplishes the intention of SB19-181 -- protection of public safety, health, welfare and the environment.</p> <p>Please consider the climate change impacts of oil and gas development on public health, safety and the environment relative to new laws and regulations supporting the necessary transition away from fossil fuels in Colorado, and develop plans to phase out oil and gas development within the next 10 years.</p> <p>The most recent IPCC (International Panel on Climate Change) report states "1.5°C-consistent pathways are characterized by a rapid phase-out of CO2 emissions and deep emissions reductions in other GHGs (greenhouse gases)" (Section 2.2.2 and 2.3.3).</p> <p>The COGCC should take responsible action to help move Colorado toward Governor Polis' 100% renewable energy by 2040 goal as well as the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions Goals laid out in HB 19-1261.</p> <p>Under the new law, the COGCC should be focused on REGULATING oil and gas, not FOSTERING oil and gas.</p> <p>The COGCC must use the precautionary principle: if an action or policy has a suspected risk of causing severe harm to the public domain, the action should not be taken in the absence of scientific near-certainty about its safety, and the burden of proof about absence of harm falls on those proposing an action, not those opposing it. Do these new proposed sites follow this principle?</p> <p>Therefore, oil and gas drilling and operations should not be allowed in or near the places people live, work or play until and unless credible public health studies prove that doing so does not increase the risk of harm.</p> <p>Please prioritize and honor community input near permit sites, including community groups, homeowners associations, environmental groups, and local governments and agencies.</p>	08/23/2020
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