



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** July 21, 2023

**CONTACT:** Gwen Lachelt, 505-469-0380, [gwen@westernleaders.org](mailto:gwen@westernleaders.org)

Jess Pace, 615-294-2049, [jess@westernleaders.org](mailto:jess@westernleaders.org)

## **Western Leaders Network Applauds the Passage of Colorado’s Latest Rule to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Oil and Gas Sector**

Yesterday, Colorado’s Air Quality Control Commission approved Regulation 7, a critical new rule to help the state reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the oil and gas sector and meet state climate targets.

Colorado’s new Intensity Measurement and Verification rule requires the state Air Pollution Control Division and oil and gas operators to directly measure climate-warming methane emissions and use real-world data to demonstrate that they’re meeting emission reduction requirements.

Current monitoring standards can detect but not easily quantify emissions released through oil and gas operations, and as a result, oil and gas companies frequently underestimate the volume of methane released.

“We thank the AQCC for adopting this rule, and applaud Governor Polis and his administration for continuing to be a national leader on climate action,” Western Leaders Network Executive Director Gwen Lachelt said. “Methane is a powerful greenhouse gas. By adopting these new standards, Colorado is in a stronger position to achieve its climate goals of reducing emissions by 30 percent by 2025 and 60 percent by 2030.

As a next step, WLN and other community organizations will be encouraging the Air Pollution Control Division to develop a clear implementation plan with input from frontline communities, to ensure Colorado is moving as quickly as possible to enforce Regulation 7.