



The Honorable Governor Jared Polis
State Capitol Building 200 E. Colfax Ave, Rm. 136
Denver, CO 80203

Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
1120 Lincoln St, #801
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Wellbore Integrity Rulemakings

June 15, 2020

Dear Gov. Polis, Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commissioners & staff,

The board and staff of Western Leaders Network wishes to thank the office of Governor Jared Polis, the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commissioners and staff for making history last week and adopting the nation's strongest regulations to protect groundwater from contamination caused by oil and gas activity.

WLN is a nonpartisan nonprofit organization of pro-conservation local and tribal elected officials across the Interior West that includes more than 200 leaders from Colorado.

Your hard and thoughtful work to develop this protective consensus rule is appreciated and critical to the health and safety of communities across the state and couldn't be more relevant and timely during the age of COVID-19 when we must do more to protect our public health and environment. Groundwater is extremely important to our state, and these new measures will safeguard that resource throughout a well's lifecycle, from development to abandonment.

Importantly, the new regulations have diverse stakeholder buy-in that included the input of industry operators, state agencies, citizens and environmental organizations. We need this type of consensus and collaborative spirit if we hope to find solutions to complex issues that impact our air, water and communities. I encourage the administration and commission to continue on this productive path as you move forward with other oil and gas rulemakings as required under SB19-181 in the months ahead.

Sincerely,

Elise Jones
Board President

Western Leaders Network

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