

MAYORS MEETING

January 18, 2007

Rifle City Hall

12 noon-4:15pm

Agenda Items

Time	Item	Purpose
12 noon	Lunch	
12:15-12:45	Letter to and response from - Americans for American Energy	Any response necessary?
12:45-1:15	Regional Partnership for a Clean Energy Economy – Bill Sterling, Former Aspen Mayor and current Chairman of Community Office for Resource Efficiency (CORE) and Dan Richardson, Former Glenwood Council Member and current New Century Transportation Foundation (NCTF) Board Member will give an update on a developing regional initiative.	Introduction and update
1:15-1:30	DOLA Smart Growth Grant	Update on status
1:30-1:40	Proposed 2008 budget – Same as 2007	Discussion & Approval
1:40-2:00	Open information gathering meetings with community members – examples form other communities? [Question from Glenwood Springs]	Discussion
2:00-2:55	Open discussion and information sharing	
2:55-3:00	Next meeting date and location	
3:00-3:15	Break	
3:15 - 4:15	Discussion with Governor Ritter	

MOUNTAIN MAYORS

An Alliance for Cooperation & Action

December 14, 2007

Jim Sims & Greg Schnacke
Americans for American Energy
350 Indiana Street, Suite 640
Golden, CO 80401

Dear Mr. Sims and Mr. Schnacke,

We are writing to express our growing dismay over the misrepresentations promoted by Americans for American Energy in service of your industry's effort to open the public lands on the Roan Plateau for irresponsible energy development.

Contrary to your statements to the public and the press, a broad and diverse group of western Coloradans are concerned about industry's plans for drilling the only part of the Roan Plateau where your supporters have not already secured the right to drill, the portion that's owned by the public. As elected officials, it is our responsibility to represent these citizens. They are not only our constituents, but also our friends and our neighbors. We share their concerns about the lack of balance between natural gas development and the need to protect the clean air, clean water and abundant wildlife that make our communities wonderful places to live.

We object in the strongest terms possible your repeated attempts to equate any questioning of your industry's agenda to abetting terrorists. This is a scurrilous and irresponsible effort to muddy the waters and avoid discussion of the real issues and real values at stake.

As you well know, there has been overwhelming public support for protecting the public lands on the Roan Plateau. More than 74,000 comments were submitted during the comment period for the Roan Plateau Environmental Impact Statement asking for protection of the top and cliffs of the Roan and for responsible development of area that had already been leased.

In addition, a poll of 400 voters in the 3rd Congressional District this spring found that more than seven in 10 supported additional restrictions on oil and gas drilling. Just under half wanted drilling limited to existing sites near the base, with the upper plateau protected. Almost a quarter opposed any additional drilling. Almost seven in 10 hunters supported restrictions on drilling, as did three quarters of anglers, hikers and campers.

What most western Coloradans want is a balanced plan for the Roan Plateau that avoids the need for drilling on the public lands on top. For the health of our long-term economy, these lands must remain available for other uses such as hunting, fishing, camping, backpacking, mountain biking, wildlife viewing, scenic drives and encounters with solitude.

Oil and gas activity is booming all over Garfield County, with thousands of wells currently in production, about 1,000 new wells permitted each year, and tens of thousands of new wells expected to be drilled in the next 20 years. Despite the huge area leased to your industry, less than 30 percent is in production. Your industry is sitting on an enormous backlog of drilling opportunities.

Meanwhile, directional drilling technology is rapidly advancing. Just a few years ago, your industry claimed that having to drill multiple directional wells from a single pad was burdensome and costly. Then, your industry realized directional drilling was cost-effective. It has since become the standard practice. Drillers' ability to reach distant underground targets without compromising the land directly above continues to improve. Much of the gas under the Roan can already be reached with directional drilling. More of that gas will become available to directionally drilled wells in the future. That gas will also be more valuable in the future.

Yet judging from the email that Mr. Schnacke sent to your supporters in October, AAE appears not to care that industry could quite possibly access the gas under the Roan without destroying the public lands and wildlife habitat on top. Instead, your group appears to be motivated by a very narrow and self-serving principle: That no place is too special for your drilling rigs.

It appears to the Mayors of the Roaring Fork Valley and the Colorado River Valley that you have decided to make the sacrifice of the Roan Plateau an example of your political influence and the ruthlessness of your effort to secure every advantage for your industry supporters.

So you have mounted a smear campaign that insists anyone who suggests we balance our need for energy with our obligation to protect our communities is unpatriotic or interested in a "weaker America." Gentlemen, this is not true and you know it. You should be ashamed of yourselves.

We mayors write to reject your efforts to misrepresent the truth.

Sincerely,

Roaring Fork & Colorado River Valley Mayors & Elected Officials (See Page 3 for signatures)

Keith Lambert – Mayor, City of Rifle

Frank Breslin – Mayor, Town of New Castle

Dave Moore - Mayor, Town of Silt

Roy McClung – Mayor, Town of Parachute

Bruce Christensen - Mayor, City of Glenwood Springs

Michael Hassig – Mayor, Town of Carbondale



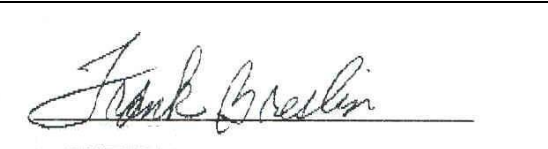
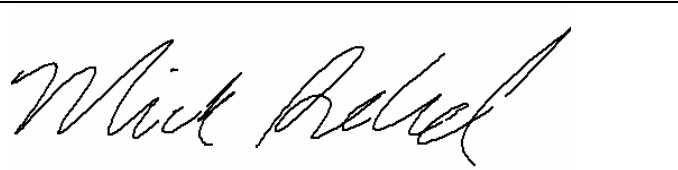


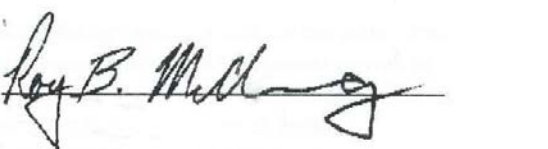



Leroy Duroux – Mayor, Town of Basalt

Mick Ireland – Mayor, City of Aspen

Doug Mercatoris – Mayor, Town of Snowmass Village

Ken Brenner – Former City Council Member, Steamboat Springs

Signature page:

 Keith Lambert Mayor, City of Rifle	 Leroy Duroux Mayor, Town of Basalt
 Frank Breslin Mayor, Town of New Castle	 Mick Ireland Mayor, City of Aspen
 Dave Moore Mayor, Town of Silt	 Doug Mercatoris Mayor, Town of Snowmass Village
 Roy McClung Mayor, Town of Parachute	 Ken Brenner Former City Council Member, Steamboat Springs
 Bruce Christensen Mayor, City of Glenwood Springs	
 Michael Hassig Mayor, Town of Carbondale	



Americans For American Energy

More American energy for a stronger America.

December 15, 2007

Dear Mayors:

Thank you for your correspondence, which we received today.

We know that mayors across Colorado work hard every day to balance the needs of local communities. It isn't an easy job, as each of you knows all too well. Thank you for your public service to your constituents and to the State of Colorado.

We also know that serving at the municipal level of government doesn't always afford one the time or opportunity to keep pace with larger issues such as global energy market dynamics or the geopolitical nexus between energy security and national security. Yet developments in these larger arenas impact your constituents, and all Americans, on a daily basis.

For example, our nation's inability to meet our growing demand for energy leads the U.S. to import increasing amounts of energy from foreign nations that are known to subsidize terrorist organizations, which in turn plan and execute attacks against Americans serving abroad, including young men and women from Colorado. Thus, efforts at the local level that block America's ability to produce more American energy can contribute to setting into motion events on a global scale that, can, in turn, have real and devastating impacts in each of our local communities.

While it is not pleasant to think through these kinds of progressions, they are nonetheless the realities of the world in which we live today.

Before we provide the specific facts and informational background necessary to respond to your letter, we first want to underscore several points:

- ☑ The particular project you oppose – the U.S. Naval Oil Shale Reserve (NOSR) – was originally set aside by President Woodrow Wilson as an energy reserve to help America in times of need. Now is definitely a time of need for our nation, a fact we are reasonably certain you would agree with. We are at war. Our nation needs all the American energy we can muster now, because a more energy independent America is a stronger America, and a stronger America is able to better support our troops now fighting overseas. If America is not able to harvest clean-burning natural gas from places like the NOSR and strengthen our national security in a time of war, America's future is indeed at risk.
- ☑ We also would point to the fact that your letter conveys the classic “not in my backyard” mentality that has directly contributed to the dangerous and growing dependence on foreign energy that plagues our nation now.



- ☑ We can't help but highlight the irony in the fact communities like Aspen, where an increasing number of huge "trophy homes" are being built, are looking at significant increases in natural gas demand to heat and cool those large homes. To argue, as Aspen's mayor does, against responsible production of that resource just at the point when your citizens will soon be needing more of that resource, would seem to us to be a difficult public policy position to defend in your community.
- ☑ We find your letter's rejection of the NOSR development plan puzzling on economic grounds as well. While it is true that some of the more affluent of communities in your Mountain Mayors' coalition, such as Aspen, do not stand to receive much of the billions of dollars in new revenues that would be distributed to Colorado governments from the project, other, less affluent communities in your coalition near the NOSR would receive relatively large amounts. Surely, the great majority of your "constituents, friends and neighbors" would benefit greatly from a substantial and direct influx of funds from this environmentally balanced energy development into their communities. As we point out below, a large amount of these funds are directed to Colorado schools.

With these points in mind, we offer to you the following additional facts and information. It is our hope that, upon consideration of these facts, you will agree to join with us in our national campaign to move America to a position of greater energy independence – and to support environmentally sensitive harvest of the large amount of American energy in the U.S. Naval Oil Shale Reserve.

The Facts

There are five irrefutable facts when it comes to America's energy and national security – and natural gas supplies in particular:

1. America's access to oil and gas resources is a key element supporting our current standard of living. These resources help us enjoy warm showers, drive to and from work each day, heat our schools, run our businesses and help municipalities and other levels of government provide vital services to all Americans.
2. Our nation's dependence on foreign oil now exceeds 60 percent of our daily use and grows every year. Many of nations on which we are dependent for this energy are overtly hostile to America. This dependence makes our nation weaker and more vulnerable to economic and other attacks from our enemies abroad.
3. As America's demand for cleaning-burning natural gas grows, the geological formations from which natural gas can be economically harvested are increasingly valuable national assets, particularly the U.S. Naval Oil Shale Reserve, which was set aside specifically for energy development.
4. Deployment of more renewable energy technologies, such as solar and wind power, will increase the demand for natural gas, given its role as a baseload electricity resource that is

best situated to offset the natural variability of these intermittent energy technologies.

5. Deployment of greater amounts of renewable biofuels, such as ethanol, also will increase the demand for natural gas, which is used extensively in the ethanol refining processes. For example, a proposed increase in the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) now being discussed in Congress to 36 billion gallons by 2022 would increase demand for natural gas by about 1.6 trillion cubic feet or a 7.3% increase in national demand.¹

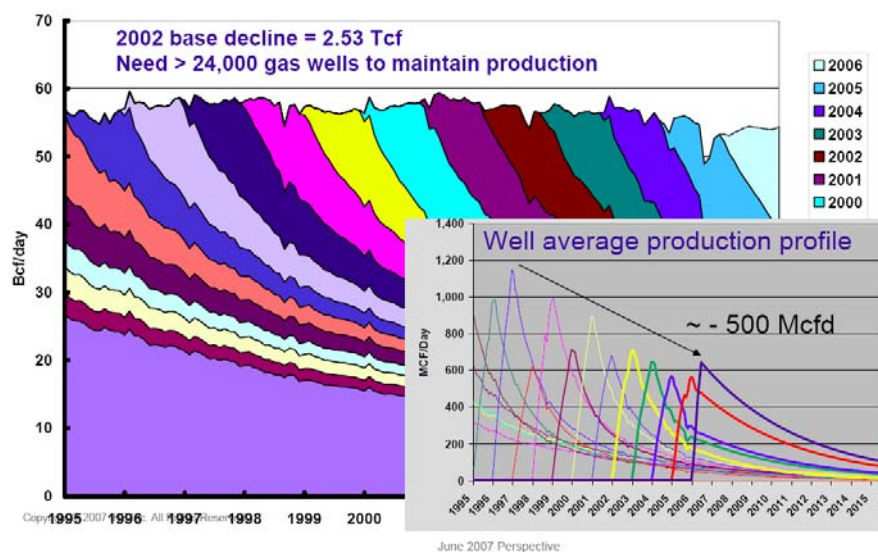
Our Nation's Primary Policy Options

These facts lead to a set of policy options that elected officials at all levels must grapple with, if our nation is to continue to meet consumer demand for oil and gas supplies. We outline these policy options below. *And we would ask each you to consider which of these paths you would recommend for America.*

1. **Meet more of our natural gas demand with American energy and with less foreign imports.** This is the policy path that overwhelming majorities of the American people strongly support. It reduces our balance of payments with foreign nations, helps support American jobs and economic growth, and gives our enemies overseas less leverage over our nation. It also requires drilling an increasing number of natural gas wells just to keep pace with current demand. To illustrate this point, please see the graph at right which shows that the U.S. will need to drill an additional 24,000 gas wells just to maintain current natural gas production levels.

Put another way, if America drills no more new wells, as we do not increase our foreign imports to compensate, our nation's supply of natural gas begins to decline precipitously. This would quickly lead to dangerous natural gas rationing and shortages.

Vintage Gas Production Profile U.S. Lower 48 States: 1995 - 2006



¹ This analysis uses assumptions from a December 3, 2007 Congressional Research Service report.

2. **Continue to rely on increasing levels of foreign energy for the oil and gas our nation needs.** This option is strongly opposed by large majorities of the American people. It leads to balance of payment problems, higher prices for consumers, less U.S. jobs and economic growth and more funds for anti-American terrorist organizations overseas.

Yet, allowing our foreign energy dependence to continue is an increasingly likely future given the ever-growing land use and production restrictions on domestic natural gas production that some politicians are proposing, as well as the growing influence of East-Coast funded extremist political groups that underwrite efforts in Colorado and elsewhere to block virtually every oil and gas development project. If successful, these efforts to hamstring America's ability to produce the oil and gas we need will lead to the same dangerous natural gas rationing and shortages we alluded to in the previous point.

3. **Pursue a combination of the above two options.** This is effectively a continuation of the status quo. It is strongly opposed by large majorities of the American people.
4. **Force enough of a reduction in natural gas demand – beyond what is attainable through reasonable levels of energy conservation – through either energy rationing or an economic recession.** American can reduce the rate of growth of our consumption of natural gas, and our organization strongly supports greater deployment of affordable and effective energy efficiency and conservation programs. However, to reduce natural gas demand to the point where we no longer need to increase production would require demand reduction far beyond what conservation can provide. This outcome is commonly referred to by economists as “demand destruction,” and almost always involves the shifting of America's manufacturing base (and jobs) to overseas locations, where energy costs are lower and/or natural gas supplies are sufficient. This last occurred several years ago when natural gas prices spiked as a result of supply and demand imbalances.

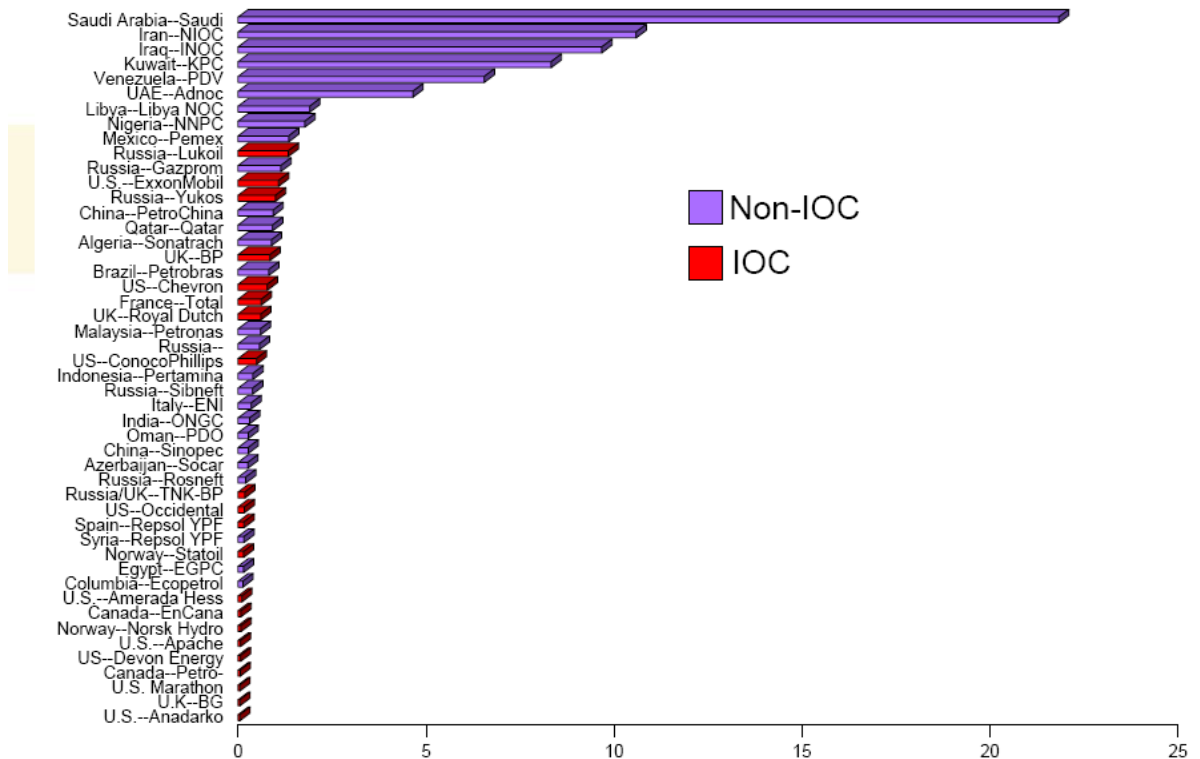
Discussion

Option 1: Produce more American energy and less foreign energy. This is the preferred alternative for Americans for American Energy and, as has been shown time and again by public opinion research, is the preferred approach of the vast majority of Americans. This option argues strongly for environmentally sound exploration and production in places like the U.S. Naval Oil Shale Reserve (NOSR), which was set aside for the specific purpose of providing more American energy to America, and where there is enough clean-burning American gas to heat every Colorado home for the next 20-25 years. In addition to the NOSR, Americans for American Energy is also working to encourage greater production of American energy from places such as the Outer Continental Shelf, the coastal Arctic areas of Alaska and other areas where America is blessed with ample supplies of American oil and natural gas..

Option 2: Continue to an even greater degree on foreign energy supplies. This option is overwhelmingly opposed by the vast majority of the American people, because

they know intrinsically that this path weakens our national security and strengthens foreign terrorists who are partially funded by our energy dollars that go overseas. Consider, for example, this compelling fact with regard to how increasing our dependence on foreign energy weakens our national security: Ten of the 12 largest oil companies in the world are controlled by foreign governments. See the chart below.

World's largest oil companies based on liquid reserves



Option 3: Continue with the status quo. This requires more drilling here at home (to keep pace with the declining production of virtually all gas wells), but also forces us into a continued reliance on foreign energy, with all of the economic and national security damage this does to our nation.

Option 4: Drastically reduce demand through rationing and/or recession. This would hurt millions of Americans and should be unacceptable in any case.

Given these facts and information, we would ask you, as mayors, which of the above four options do you support as our nation’s energy policy with regard to meeting our growing demand for clean-burning natural gas?

The U.S. Naval Oil Shale Reserve Plan

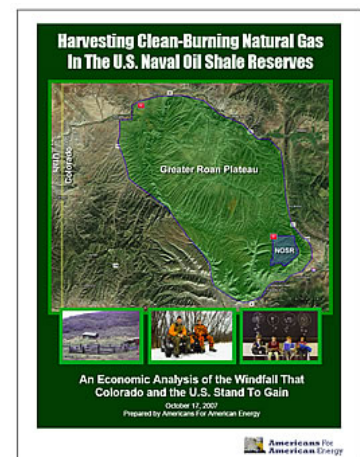
Though we assume you are aware of these facts, since some of your communities were at the table during the many years of negotiations leading to this plan, we find it necessary to

reiterate to you some of the details of the Bureau of Land Management's proposed development plan for the U.S. Naval Oil Shale Reserve. If you all were to review this plan in detail, you will recall that it is one of the most environmentally restrictive such plans ever proposed, including these features:

- Only 350 acres of disturbance or a maximum of 1 percent of lands atop the plateau could be in an unreclaimed state at any one time. Operators would be required to reclaim lands before more permits are issued.
- The plan puts 38,427 acres off-limits to surface development of any kind. That land includes nearly 23,000 acres of wildlife security areas identified by the Colorado Division of Wildlife.
- No ground disturbance would be permitted on 52 percent of federal acreage, with other access restrictions on an additional 42 percent.
- Drilling and related activities are limited from December through April in thousands of acres of critical big-game winter range below the rim.
- Development would proceed in a planned, phased manner, so that only one of six geographic areas would experience drilling at any one time. Drilling would be restricted to the tops of ridges, away from sensitive valley bottoms.
- Clustered development and directional drilling of multiple wells from common pads would be conducted. The density of well pads would be approximately four per square mile. Typical distance between well pads would be approximately a half mile. Existing roads would be used to the maximum extent possible. Existing, unnecessary roads would be reclaimed.
- No new roads or pipelines would be allowed on the sides of the plateau visible from Interstate 70.
- Protection of valley bottoms, trout habitat and scenic waterfalls is required.

Taxpayer Benefits Of The NOSR Project

We strongly encourage you to review the economic study we conducted several weeks ago that shows that the State of Colorado, and local units of government like yours', collectively stand to receive more than \$1 billion in new revenues, paid by oil and gas companies, as part of the bonus bids expected to be generated by the NOSR leasing process. This funding would come in addition to the several billion dollars that will accrue to state and local governments in Colorado from royalties and taxes related to this project.



You can download the study here:

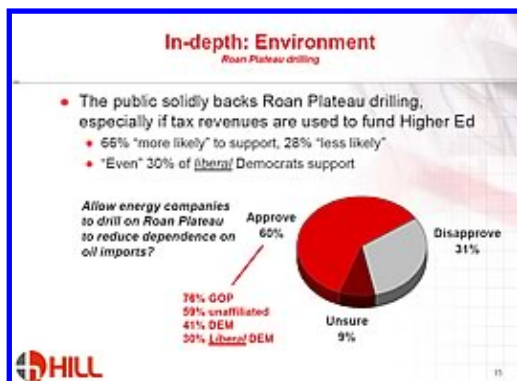
http://www.americansforamericanenergy.org/Portals/AAE/Roan_Economic_Analysis_Oct2007.pdf

We note that some anti-American energy groups have dismissed this analysis because it was conducted “with input from industry.” This is ironic given that the best methodology for such an analysis is to secure information regarding the likely bids by industry on the project leases and comparing those against comparable lease sales. This is precisely the methodology employed by our study.

It is also important to note that public statements (such as your letter to us) increase the perceived political risk associated with the NOSR development and will almost certainly lead to reduced lease bonus bids in the NOSR project. Those reduced bids will reduce in significantly less revenue to Colorado and to local communities such as yours’. **To put it more directly, your letter to us will almost certainly result in costs to the taxpayers in your communities in terms of lost revenue to the government.**

Nonetheless, we hope you will read this analysis, as it contains some powerfully good news for each of your communities.

Coloradoans’ Strong Support For The NOSR



It is not accurate to state, as you do in your letter, that there is overwhelming opposition to environmentally sound harvest of clean-burning natural gas in the NOSR lands. **In fact, research shows that the opposite is true.** A recent statewide public opinion survey, conducted by Hill Research Consultants for the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce (not us, by the way), shows Colorado residents favor – by nearly a 2 to 1 margin – the federal government’s plan to allow highly limited natural gas development of the U.S. Naval Oil Shale Reserve (NOSR) lands of the

greater Roan Plateau in Western Colorado. You can see details of this poll here:

<http://www.americansforamericanenergy.org/News/PollShowsBroadSupportForRoan/tabid/1104/Default.aspx>

Colorado Schools’ Stake In The NOSR

It is also important to note that Colorado schools – and students across our state – have a very large stake in the outcome of the NOSR development. According to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, more than half of the revenues that go to Colorado from federal mineral leases go to State School Fund for distribution to districts throughout the state. In

2005, the latest year for which figures are available, the school fund and school districts received \$59.6 million out of a total of \$110.7 million from federal mineral leases.

Please see the attachment to this letter, from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, outlining how funds from the federal mineral leases make their way into the Colorado education system.

We also would note to you a recent testimonial from one Colorado educator expressing very strong support for environmentally sensitive harvest of natural gas in the NOSR lands. You can see streaming video of this testimonial here: www.americansforamericanenergy.org. You may also find this press release of interest on this matter helpful: <http://www.americansforamericanenergy.org/News/EducatorSpeaksOutForTheNOSR/tabid/1298/Default.aspx>

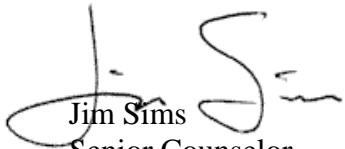


Summary

We are pleased to be able to provide you with these facts and information in response to your letter. We sincerely hope this information helps you better understand why we feel so strongly at Americans for American Energy that increased domestic energy production in places like the U.S. Naval Oil Shale Reserve is the right option for Colorado and for America – **and why those extremists groups that oppose nearly every environmentally sound development of natural gas in Colorado contribute directly, in point of fact, to a weaker and more vulnerable America.** We would be glad to provide you with additional information if you wish. Please feel free to contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,


J. Greg Schnicke
President and CEO
Americans for American Energy


Jim Sims
Senior Counselor
Americans For American Energy

REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR A CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMY

MISSION:

The Regional Energy Partnership works to accelerate the transition to a clean energy economy, increase energy independence and produce solutions to global warming.

The Partnership connects nonprofits, businesses, citizens and governments to provide the tools and resources needed to meet aggressive targets for resource efficiency, green building, renewable energy, sustainable transportation, smart growth, recycling, and local food options in the Roaring Fork and Colorado River valleys.

By collaborating between sectors region-wide we can create an integrated framework for maximum effectiveness in reaching energy and climate protection goals, while tapping multiple solutions to create a more sustainable, more prosperous region.

CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITY:

From the oil and gas fields of western Garfield County to the headwaters and ski slopes of the upper Roaring Fork, our valleys embody the challenges of current energy policy. At the same time, our region is host to internationally acclaimed organizations working on solutions to these energy challenges. By joining forces and building on a long history of energy innovation and successes, we can turn energy challenges into enormous economic opportunity, creating a New Energy Economy and sustained economic prosperity, here in the Colorado and Roaring Fork River Valleys. Leaders and energy organizations active in energy and climate issues are joining together to design and implement a partnership to advance the following goals and programs.

TEN YEAR VISION GOALS:

Advance the Clean Energy Economy: Create green jobs and significantly increase the energy efficiency of our regional economy, creating multiple economic benefits.

Energy Efficiency: Retrofit 50% of all existing buildings; increase operations of commercial/institutions region-wide by 30%.

Renewable Energy: Receive 50% of energy from renewable sources.

High performance buildings: All new buildings will use at least 50% less energy to operate than current conventional construction.

Transportation system efficiency: Stabilize then reduce vehicle miles traveled through shifting trips to transit, carpooling, tele-commuting, biking, and walking.

Smart Growth: Implement best practices for community design to encourage energy efficient land use patterns and increase mobility options.

Vehicle efficiency and fuels: Convert the entire regional fleet to 20% greater efficiency. 50% of fueling stations will offer fuel from renewable sources.

Waste Diversion: Reduce landfilled waste below 2007 levels by 30%.

PROPOSED SERVICES & PROGRAMS:

Develop, coordinate, market and track regional energy initiatives and programs

- Regional 1000 Solar Roofs and intensive energy efficiency programs.
- Membership program supporting households and businesses to implement energy and climate protection solutions across energy sectors.
- One-stop-shop clearinghouse of technical assistance and financing for efficiency & renewables.
- Stepped-up recycling options, with creative reduce & reuse promotions.
- Regional Green Fleets, Green Streets program.

Financing and investments in sustainable economic development

- Create a robust Clean Energy and Green Jobs Investment Fund.
- Provide financing for energy efficiency small-scale renewable projects.
- Target energy efficiency and renewable energy programs for small businesses & households.
- Encourage and leverage additional funding partners in creating energy efficient infrastructure, such as transit facilities and implementation of Bus Rapid Transit.
- Design services and programs to maximize job creation.
- Market region as a hub of green economic activity.

Communications and outreach

- Comprehensive website for climate protection, energy efficiency & energy security efforts in the region.
- Monthly e-newsletter tracking energy projects, achievements, policies and trends.
- Presentations to civic, faith and neighborhood groups.
- Publicize emissions and solid waste reduction goals; offer an online calculator so households, businesses and institutions can track their progress.
- Yearly progress report on emissions totals and reductions.
- Yearly awards programs.
- Market energy efficiency programs.
- Stepped up regional program to increase energy independence by through biking, walking, transit ridership, carpooling.
- Serve as a clearinghouse for best practices in climate and energy efforts, i.e. building codes, climate action plans, emissions inventories, renewable energy technology, policies to encourage less car dependent communities, etc. tailored and accessible to our region.

Policy development and advocacy

- Align shared energy and climate goals and targets throughout the region to increase effectiveness in reaching targets.
- Work to implement and advance policies through coordination with the Governor's Energy Office and with counterparts in other communities.
- Provide technical assistance for adoption of climate-friendly & energy security policies.
- Work as a valley to advocate for policy improvements on the state and national level.

Education

- K-12 energy curricula and programs.
- Ongoing Safe Routes outreach and programs for valley schools.
- Training for new energy economy workers.
- Workshops for do-it-yourselfers.
- Conferences, symposia, workshops on special topics or with guest speakers.
- Foster and promote energy and climate awareness actions and special events.
- Civic leadership training on climate and energy security issues.

DOLA Smart Growth Proposal - Update

HMC prepared and submitted a \$50,000 regional grant proposal to the Office of Smart Growth on Dec. 1 on behalf of local governments in the region. The proposal focuses on financing tools for creating affordable housing, predevelopment of specific a transit oriented project, and reducing the region's reliance on fossil fuel energy.

Project Name:

Affordable, Energy-Smart Communities Initiative

Project Partners and Local Match

Local match secured so far includes:

- Garfield County \$15,000
- Pitkin County \$7,000
- Aspen \$10,000
- Aspen Pitkin Housing Authority \$5,000
- Basalt \$3,000
- Carbondale \$5,000
- Silt \$1,000
- Glenwood Springs \$5,000
- Snowmass Village \$3,000
- RFTA \$15,000
- Rifle (letter of support - they are sending in a separate proposal)

TOTAL = \$69,000 in local match

Project Deliverables:

The proposed project will take an integrated approach to creating affordable, sustainable communities in our region through a package of tools, training, and technical assistance. Housing, transportation, and energy are the three largest monthly expenses of households in our region. This project will provide the tools for communities in our region to address these three interrelated issues in a comprehensive manner.

The proposed project will accomplish the following:

- Developing a Regional Affordable Housing Financing Strategy, which will include local, countywide, and regional tools and approaches to facilitate the creation of more affordable housing [An elected official steering committee will be critical to this process.]
- Creating a Transit Oriented Development Pilot Project [To help catalyze partnerships with RFTA on a specific property.]
- Developing a menu of model policies, codes, and tools for creating affordable, energy smart communities as well as technical assistance for implementation and adoption of codes and policies among communities throughout our region. [Topics covered will be affordable housing, energy efficient building techniques, and tools to encourage efficient community design and transit oriented development.]

- Establishing Training academy/course/series of workshops for citizens and professionals to increase skills and knowledge for creating affordable, transit-oriented, energy smart communities.

We will here from DOLA in March about the grant.