



To: COGCC

From: John Lesh
Ph 970-876-0552
jlesh@sopris.net

Legal Description: SE1/4 NW1/4 NE1/4
Section 35, Township 5
Range 92 West of 6th P

Doc.1101-SP-02

ORIGINAL

We are semi-retired and live at 561 Co Rd 266 Silt Colorado 81652
I am 58 years old and we are life long residents of Colorado, growing up in Glenwood Springs. We bought 10 ac. and built a new home on Silt Mesa 6 years ago because of the area's beauty and the lifestyle it affords. A great bit of our wealth is in the value of our home and land which we take great pride. Now things are changing due to gas exploration.

We do understand that we need energy to run our homes. We also know that exploration and development can be done in two ways: Responsibly or Irresponsibly! The gas extraction techniques are new and ever changing. Because of my community's concerns for pollution of our air, contamination of hundreds of domestic wells, local springs, and rivers, the changing demographics, I request that you take a responsible approach to the exploration. There is no reason to grant an increase in well density on Silt Mesa at this time. It seems logical to progress slowly and evaluate the impacts as we proceed. The futuristic impacts may or may not be tolerable or reversible to the inhabitants to man or animal. The gas and the well heads will still be there for future directional drilling provided there are no adverse effects. The slower approach in populated communities such as Silt Mesa will be able to adjust if extraction procedures are truly safe as proclaimed. It doesn't seem right to put the burden of proof that these methods are safe on the residents. If we are to be lab rats for the industry, it would be more tolerable to know we are proceeding with caution and concern. A ten acre density is a whole lot of earth cracking, diesel and chemical smells in a small residential area. The requested well density will be 4 times the amount now allotted for exploration for methods that are relatively new and yet to be proven safe. For these reasons **I am requesting that the COGCC deny the request** to increase the well spacing on Silt Mesa at this time.

I might add that for all my life I have been so proud of being from Colorado. We have been met with envy throughout the world when people find out where we were raised and live, and rightfully so. The western slope of Colorado is a special place... I feel as if a close friend is being raped and I am tied up watching. It is such a horrible feeling! Please go slow and responsibly so as we can evaluate what is happening to our land and lives.

Thank You

John & Laurie Lesh

John Lesh 12/30/2010
Laurie Lesh 12/30/10