



November 7, 2014

Boulder County Commissioners
1325 Pearl Street
Boulder, CO 80302

Re: Boulder County Fracking Moratorium

Dear Commissioners:

We, the undersigned individuals and groups, are writing to officially request that you extend the current moratorium on fracking in Boulder County for a minimum of three additional years. Our organizations collectively represent over 15,000 Boulder County residents who are concerned about the effects of fracking in their community.

As described in Sierra Club's May 1, 2013 memorandum to the county in support of the existing moratorium (a copy of which is attached), fracking presents serious risks to property, public health and a safe environment. Not only will extending the moratorium continue to protect the citizens of Boulder County from these harms, it will enable the county to obtain the results from several pending studies and potentially revise the county's regulations. These include the EPA study on the "Potential Impacts of Hydraulic Fracturing on Drinking Water Resources" due in late 2014, an interim report on the 15 year National Science Foundation Study being led by the University of Colorado at Boulder, and the multi-year study by the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment and Colorado State University.

We take this position first because we care deeply about the health of our citizens and our environment, including our air, soil, water and climate. Additionally, extending the moratorium would bridge the time needed to obtain the results of the appeal of the industry's lawsuit against the Ft. Collins moratorium and the appeal of the industry's fracking ban lawsuit against Longmont, both of which are now pending in the Colorado Court of Appeals. As described in Sierra Club's June 17, 2013 memorandum to the county (attached), we believe moratoriums are legally defensible. Also, industry and the COGCC recently dismissed their lawsuit against the City of Longmont, which means their local ordinance stands. Under the circumstances, it is reasonable for the county to await guidance from the Court of Appeals on the extent of local government authority over fracking, which could help clarify the best approaches for future protection of Boulder County's citizens. If necessary, we encourage you to join with our

neighbors in those other Front Range communities to assure that Boulder County maximizes its chances for full community protection, and to prevent new drilling in the interim.

Thank you for your persistence and hard work in striving to protect the health, environment, democracy, and prosperity of the residents of Boulder County. You can expect an extension of the county moratorium to be met with much gratitude from us and the community at large.

Sincerely,

Kaye Fissinger
Our Health, Our Future, Our Longmont

Harv Teitelbaum
Beyond Oil and Gas Team
Sierra Club Rocky Mountain Chapter

Micah Parkin
350 Boulder County

Sam Schabacker
Food & Water Watch