



**For Immediate Release:**  
Monday, May 6 2013

## **Business and Citizens Energy Coalition Commends over 120 Local Elected Officials for Supporting State-led Energy Regulation**

**Denver, CO** - - Today, a diverse coalition of business and citizens groups commends the over 120 local elected officials for publically stating their support for Governor Hickenlooper's efforts to pursue reasonable oil and gas solutions. On February 20<sup>th</sup>, 98 local officials first conveyed their message to the Governor. The coalition agrees with the Governor and local officials in their recognition of the importance of state-led regulation of Colorado's energy sector. *(See attached for local officials press release.)*

"Oil and gas production is good for Colorado's economy," said **Kelly Brough, president and CEO of the Denver Metro Chamber**. "We look to all sides of these challenging issues to work together to find solutions that are unique to Colorado and work for our communities. And, we know that a strong oil and gas economy in Colorado leads to greater energy security for our country."

"Colorado plays a significant role in providing affordable energy to both our state and country. From the engineering labs to the refineries to our homes and businesses, we cannot forget where our energy is sourced and these officials are ensuring we can continue to move our state forward," says **Carly West, Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry**.

"I am proud of the elected officials in my area of the West Slope that are standing up for sensible energy policies. Oil and gas is a critical economic engine for this state and region and must be encouraged if we want to see our economy thrive," says **Diane Schwenke, President and CEO, Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce**.

"The oil and gas industry is a large supplier of jobs for the construction industry. For every one million dollars spent in construction it creates 17 new jobs, and returns \$2.31 million to the local economy and increases household income by \$800,000," says **Dave Davia, Executive Vice President and CEO, Colorado Association of**

**Mechanical & Plumbing Contractors.** “These local officials understand a stable and predictable regulatory climate is critical to the overall success of the economy.”

“We live in area of oil and gas resources and our connection between oil and gas and the way of life most Coloradoans have come to expect cannot be understated. These elected officials understand many of the products we enjoy, our economic success, and reliable and affordable energy is a result of oil and gas production,” says **David Ludlam, Executive Director, West Slope Colorado Oil & Gas Association**

“These officials understand that oil and gas production is vital to the state’s economy and numerous communities from Durango to Fort Lupton. Coloradoans are in a great position to benefit from proven resources that can be refined and distributed right here at home,” says **Stan Dempsey, President, Colorado Petroleum Association**

“Recent ODEIT meetings have been held implementing the Colorado Blueprint through Regional Sector Partnerships with the goal to expand regional workforce development, education and economic development. Almost all regions in Colorado received the data that proves energy jobs are providing the most jobs as well as the highest incomes. We live in area where oil and gas resources, salaries and jobs compliment the Governor’s goals to build a comprehensive economic development plan that aligns existing efforts and identifies opportunities for growth and focused investments.” says **Christi Zeller, Executive Director, La Plata County Energy Council**

“Most communities in Colorado understand the importance of energy production and are cognizant of each community’s deep interdependence with oil and gas resources. Confrontation is easy - however, successful collaboration takes effort and diligence. I appreciate that these community leaders recognize the importance of oil and gas in their communities and are mindful of state-led policy that will encourage economic and energy development opportunities,” states **Tisha Schuller, President & CEO, Colorado Oil & Gas Association.**

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