Valentine, Velvet, EMNRD

From: Terri Cole <tcole@greaterabq.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 6, 2021 3:07 PM

To: Davidson, Florene, EMNRD
Cc: Scott Darnell; Sara Fitzgerald

Subject: [EXT] ABQ Chamber Methane Rules Written Comment

Attachments: OCC Methane Rules Letter_01.06.21.pdf

Hi Florene,

It's Terri Cole with the Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce. Please find attached our written comments on the proposed methane rules.

Thanks, Terri



January 6, 2021

Dear Members of the Oil Conservation Commission,

We write in support of the revised, proposed methane rules currently under your consideration. Over the last few months, the changes made to these rules have sought to achieve an important and appropriate balance between the goal of improving our state's environment and air quality and the economic and fiscal imperative of ensuring that we have a thriving, productive energy sector in New Mexico. We also appreciate the extension of much-needed flexibility to the industry as it works to reach ambitious emissions reduction goals.

As you know, oil and gas production is incredibly important to New Mexico: it sustains our public education system, powers much of our healthcare system, funds our roads, and pays for a significant portion of state government operations. While we believe in the conservation of our state's resources and natural beauty, we also urge you to continue to recognize the dangers in taking action that could jeopardize the operation of the oil and gas industry in New Mexico.

We are pleased and grateful that New Mexico's state agencies heard the feedback of the Chamber and others and incorporated it into the rules you are considering now. We urge you not to adopt any last-minute changes that would represent a step backward – anything that would make these rules more burdensome to the industry, more inflexible and onerous, and less achievable – and thereby jeopardize our state budget and the programs it supports.

Thank you for your consideration and your continued service to our state's greatest resource: its people.

Sincerely,

Kyle Beasley

Chair, GACC Board of Directors

Senior Vice President, Bank of Albuquerque

Terri Cole

President and CEO

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Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce

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Norm Becker Chair-Elect, GACC Board of Directors President and CEO, New Mexico Mutual Group Mike Canfield

Immediate Past Chair, GACC Board of Directors President and CEO, Indian Pueblo Cultural

Center