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To Whom it may Concern:

My dad came to New Mexico to pursue a future in the oil and gas industry some seventy years ago. He experienced many challenges throughout his life including the national and international influences causing the unpredictable prices of oil and gas. On top of an unpredictable market, there have been hurdles to overcome in ever-changing technology, turnover of personnel, volatile government regulations, and of course the geological mystery of New Mexico itself. The oil and gas industry has many moving parts and is difficult at best. We should admire those who have the stomach to continue down this path.

New Mexico has recently experienced more financial success than almost any other area of the country. The OCD has the opportunity to endorse or punish its strongest industry. Which will it be?

The state of Texas endorses oil and gas, working to help the industry solve critical issues. The OCD has an opportunity today to show support for the industry that has enabled the state to improve its school systems, educate the population, encourage other industries, and provide excellent jobs for its people. When New Mexico punishes the oil and gas industry, it punishes everyone in the state.

Our industry is one that evolves slowly over time. Decisions made today will have long-term effects on everyone in the state. Will the OCD endorse or punish with more regulations? The OCD is presently in a position to make good decisions for a strong state future. I urge you not to bite the hand that feeds you – endorse the oil and gas industry and step forward to help New Mexico continue to thrive. Adding burdens to a strong industry will leave long lasting scars to our state's economy. New Mexico and its people will reap benefits for many years to come if we can work together for our state's future. It is our responsibility to keep New Mexico the Land of Enchantment.

Sincerely,


Carolyn Read Beall