# EH&S PERSPECTIVE

FROM A
COGCC COMMISSIONER

Observations and Trends in Regulatory Oversight



## WHO IS THIS PERSON?

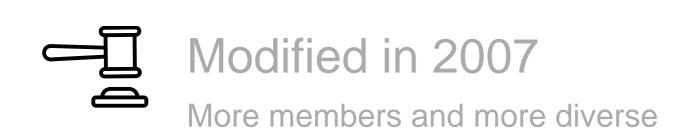


- Commissioner since October 2016
- B.S. and M.S. in geology
- Vice President of Regional Offices for LT Environmental, Inc.
- 16 years in environmental consulting in San Juan, Raton, Piceance, Bakken, Uintah, Permian, and Delaware basins
- Technical background in overall environmental compliance:
  - Soil and groundwater assessment and remediation
  - Baseline groundwater monitoring
  - Due Diligence
  - Fugitive methane seep investigations
  - Risk assessment
  - Negotiations with regulators and stakeholders
  - Federal, state, tribal, and local applicability

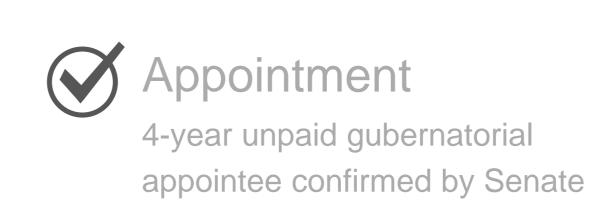
"The truth is I have a hard time saying no...."

Commissioner	2 Executive Directors	2 West of Continental Divide	3 With Substantial O&G Experience	2 out of 3 with degree in Petroleum Geology or Petroleum Engineering	1 Local Government Official	1 with Substantial Environment or Wildlife Protection Experience	1 with Substantial Soil Conservation or Reclamation Experience		Maximum of 4 from Same Political Party (excluding directors)
Ashley Ager		X					X		D
John Benton			X	X					R
Howard Boigan			X						D
James Hawkins			X	X					D
Tommy Holton					X				R
Kent Jolley		X						X	R
Erin Overturf						X			D
Bob Randall	X								
Larry Wolk	X								

# COMMISSION MAKEUP









Other

No more than 4 appointments from one political party
2 from Western Slope

### PURPOSE

### MISSION

Foster responsible development of Colorado's oil and gas natural resources, resulting in:

- Efficient exploration and production of resources in a manner consistent with public health, safety, and welfare
- Prevention of waste
- Protection of mineral owners' correlative rights
- Prevention and mitigation of adverse environmental impacts

### VALUES

- Earn the trust of the People of Colorado every day
- Conduct work with integrity, technical excellence, and a commitment to innovation
- Be as committed to protecting public health and the environment as we are to fostering development
- Provide exceptional customer service (responsive, fair, and consistent)
- Accountable to one another
- Improve every day

## COMMISSION AUTHORITY



### Oil and Gas Act

Jurisdiction over all persons and property, public and private, necessary to enforce the provisions of this article, and has the power to make and enforce rules, regulations, and orders pursuant to this article, and to do whatever may reasonably be necessary to carry out the provisions of the article.



a: power to influence or command thought, opinion, or behavior

b: freedom granted by one in authority

Foster development; prevent significant adverse impacts and protect public health, safety, welfare, including environment and wildlife, taking into account cost-effectiveness and technical ffeasibility;

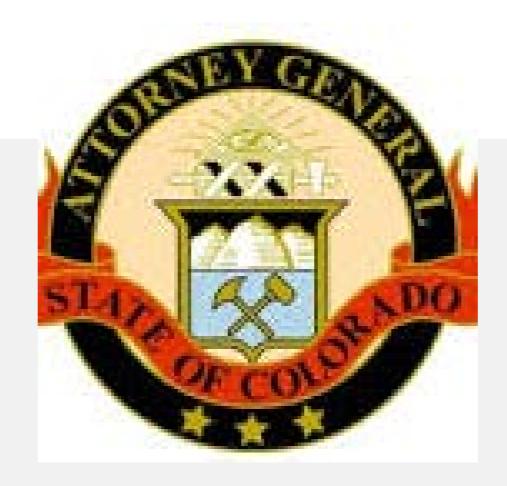
Prevent waste; Protect Correlative Rights

## COMMISSION AUTHORITY



Different than Legislation

Different than Judge and Jury



Attorney General is our Legal Advisor



The Act does not preempt county home-rule authority to enact land-use regulations

When operational conflicts exist, yield to the state

## HEARINGS



Any person, or the AG on behalf of the state, may apply for any hearing before the commission, or the commission may intiate proceedings upon any question relating to the administration of the Act, and jurisdiction is conferred upon the commission to hear and determine the same and render its rule, regulation or order with respect thereto...



### **QUASI-JUDICIAL**

An individual or organization which has powers resembling those of a court of law or judge, able to remedy a situation or impose a legal penalty on a person or organization

## HEARINGS

### **FREQUENCY**

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About 9 per year

### **TOPICS**

Spacing and Pooling Enforcement/NOAVs/Fines Protests Rules and Regulations





### HEARING AGENDA (AS OF 01/26/2018)

COGCC offices
The Chancery Building
1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 801
Denver, CO 80203

Please silence all cell phones and personal communication devices during the hearing.

Please note that all beverages should have a spill proof lid.

The times associated with each docketed item are subject to change. The Commission reserves the right to call any and all agenda items out of order. The Hearing Agenda is a guidance document and not part of the record for purposes of Notice.

#### Monday, January 29, 2018

#### **General Session**

© 9:00 a.m. Roll Call of Commissioners

Approval of Minutes

9:10 a.m. Report from the Director – Staff Report available

**9:40 a.m.** Commissioner Comments

10:00 a.m. Audience Comments

12:00 p.m. <u>Lunch Break/Executive Session:</u> LOGIC Petition for Rulemaking - To receive

legal advice and analysis, as authorized by 24-6-402(3)(a)(II), C.R.S., on the December 6, 2017 petition for rulemaking from the League of Oil and Gas

Impacted Coloradans.

1:00 p.m. Consent Agenda

**90** Hearing Officer Recommendations under Rule 511.

#### <u>General</u>

**Group A (12)** 

ConocoPhillips

Group B (4)

Great Western

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# TRENDS

### First to File

Volume, protests, complicated







ORPHAN WELLS DRILLING
NEAR
POPULATION
CENTERS

DELIQUENT OPERATORS

FINANCIAL ASSURANCE/ BONDING

Additional funding for wells

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND PERCEPTION

Report: Living near oil and gas wells could increase risk of cancer, other health problems

By LAURA SANTHANAM Published: April 9, 2018



Proposed Oil and Gas Operation Causes Tension



Published: October 24, 2017

Colorado oil and gas regulators face flak from communities as they refine pipeline rules

By Bruce Finley
Published: January 9, 201

THE DENVER POST

Colorado AG, oil and gas industry groups urge state Supreme

Court to relax rule for protecting public health and the

THE DENVER POST environment

By Bruce Finley Published: August 3, 2018 "Orphaned' oil and gas wells are on the rise

By Joshua Zaffos

Published: January 21, 2018



Garfield County to study sources of air pollution

By Dennis Webb

THE DAILY SENTINEL

Draft environmental assessment for potential oil drilling near Colorado Sand Dunes doesn't say much

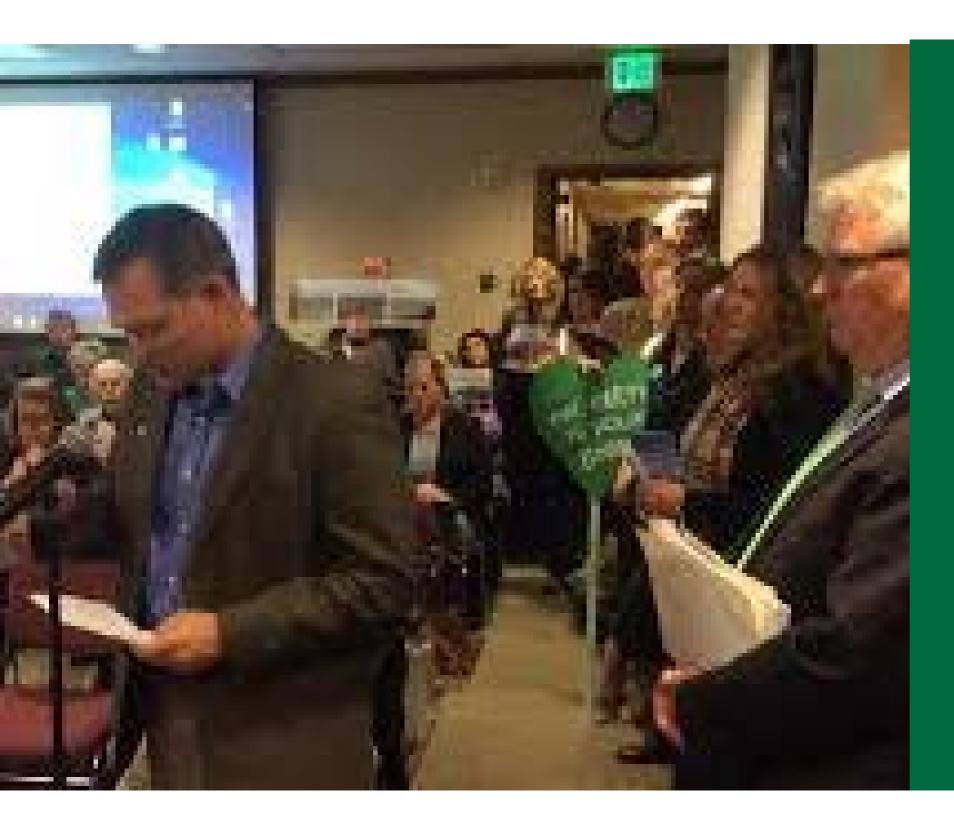
By Rae Ellen Bichell Published April 10, 2018

Three Colorado Democrats debate fracking as they run for governor of Colorado



By Corey Hutchins Published: April 12, 2018

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION



New Process and Interface for Public Comments



Up to three hours of public testimony each hearing, aggressive, organized, and certain; elected officials; affected individuals

# NEW PARTICIPANTS & NEIGHBORS

NOTIFICATIONS

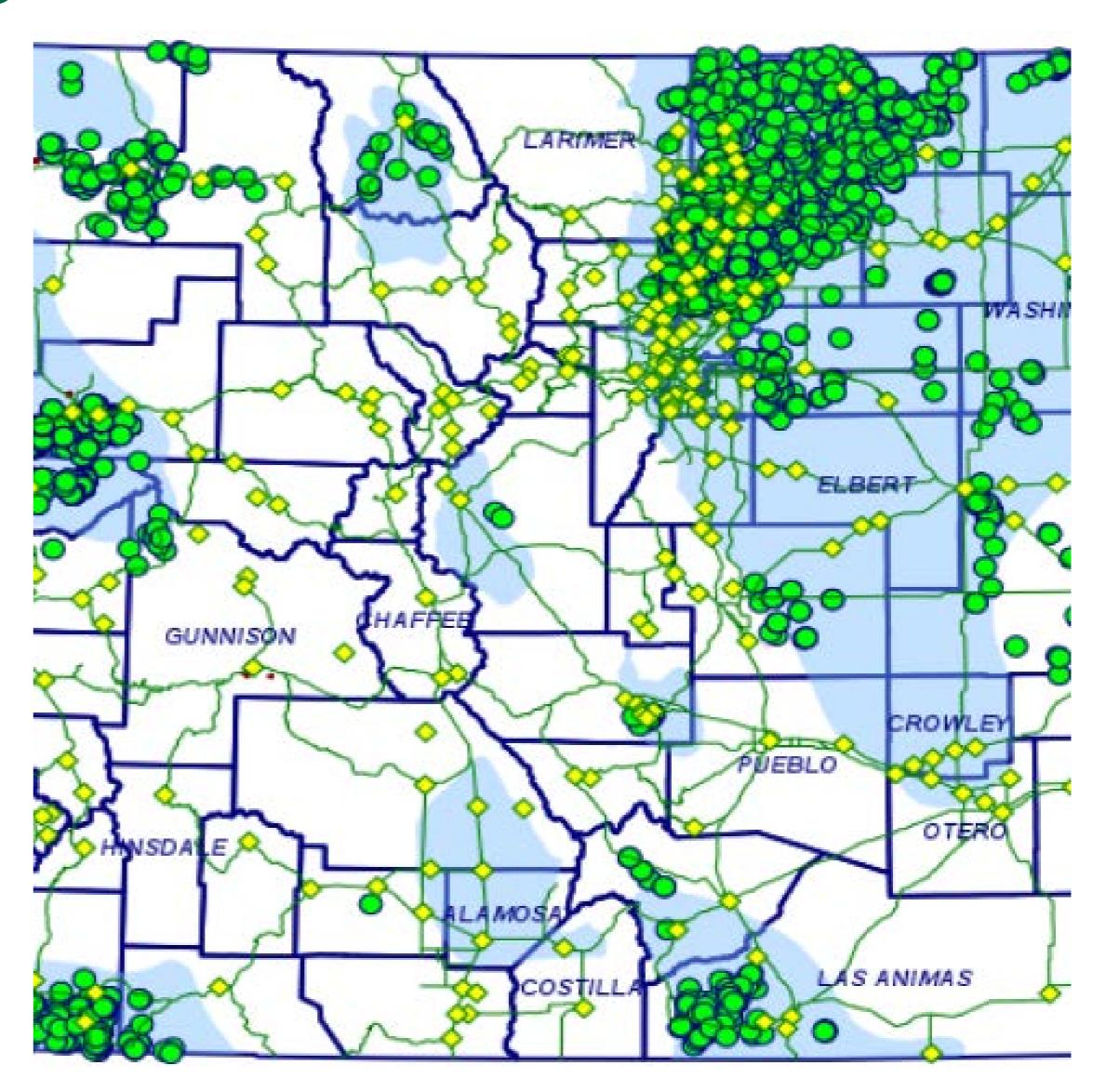
HIGHER EXPECTATIONS

FORCE POOLING

**DETAILS** 

## LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Local Governments will continue to play a larger role



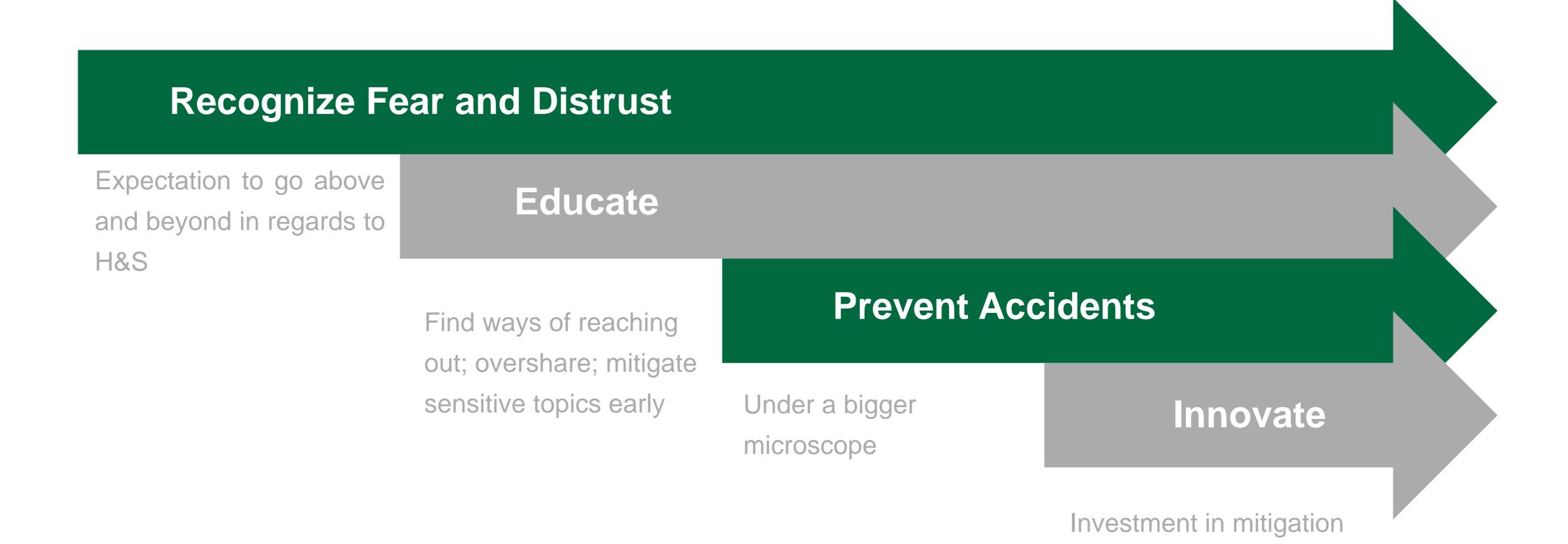
# CONCERNS



### **H&S CONCERNS**

- AIR
- ODORS
- FIRES
- NOISE
- EXPOSURE
- ALLERGIES
- DUST
- GROUNDWATER
- SURFACE WATER

## MITIGATION



# THANK YOU!