



For Immediate Release
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The Unintended Environmental Consequences of Increased Setbacks **Arbitrary setback distances ignore the impacts to the environment**

Denver, CO – In a previous release, a diverse group of stakeholders articulated the real-world effects of increased oil and gas setback distances. Today, we present an additional fact sheet explaining the perhaps unintended but realistic impacts to the environment when increased arbitrary setbacks are imposed. Action 22 has joined the diverse stakeholder group.

There are many parties with an interest in the distance from an oil and gas facility to buildings. These include the surface owner, the mineral owner, adjacent landowners, the local government, and the oil and gas operator. Many elements play into this calculation: the property line, the mineral property boundaries, surface and lease agreements, development plans, encroachment on existing facilities, lease lines, drilling spacing orders, access, centralization of facilities, technical limitations, and location of the resource.

Proposals for 1,000-foot setbacks will ultimately result in more land being disturbed to access resources and private property mineral rights, thus increasing drilling times, distances, resource requirements, and development footprint. Current regulations provide flexibility for an efficient use of land when there are multiple interests regarding the siting of an oil and gas facility.

“As technology has advanced, oil and gas development has decreased its footprint and land disturbance,” says **Tisha Schuller, President & CEO, Colorado Oil & Gas Association**. “However, increasing setbacks to an arbitrary 1,000 feet reverses those advances and actually increases environmental degradation.”

“Colorado's family farmers and ranchers have been leaders in conservation for generations. To discourage workable solutions through arbitrary setbacks is unreasonable and detrimental to our land and wildlife habitat,” says **Troy Bredenkamp, Executive Vice President, Colorado Farm Bureau**. “We look for sensible solutions that continue development in a reasonable manner.”

“Action 22 is opposed to the setback of 1,000 feet because one size does not fit all,” says **Cathy Garcia, President/CEO, Action 22**. “Setbacks must remain flexible for the stakeholders involved so they best determine ways to reduce environmental impacts.”

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