

I am a retired environmental attorney. I have been a resident of Colorado for the past 5 years. I am filing this testimony to support SB22-198 | Orphaned Oil And Gas Wells Enterprise.

Colorado has many tens of thousands of orphaned oil and Gas wells. Currently these wells are an ongoing source of uncontrolled methane emissions and residential explosion hazards. They could cause and exacerbate wildfires in the residential communities where some are located. We do not need another Marshal fire fed by abandoned or poorly managed oil and gas Wells which no longer offer profit to their historical owners and operators.

We need this legislation to help Colorado avoid the Billions of dollars in costs that will have to be incurred if Colorado Tax payers are left with the legacy of closing these wells.

Colorado can help reduce its annual contribution to the climate crisis by assuring that its oil and gas wells are properly closed and adopting SB22-198 | Orphaned Oil And Gas Wells Enterprise.

Frank Hruby  
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I am a retired software architect. I have been a resident of Colorado for the past 25 years. I am filing this testimony to support SB22-198 | Orphaned Oil And Gas Wells Enterprise.

Colorado has a HUGE number of orphaned oil and Gas wells. I have many located within 2 miles of my house in Windsor. These wells leak methane emissions and increase the likelihood of both health and fire hazards. My daughter and granddaughter are hesitant to visit me in Windsor due to this ongoing threat to health. Bottom line -- the only ones that are fighting the regulation on oil and gas wells are the owners. It is time for the polluters to CLEAN UP THEIR ACT.

If we do not force the polluters to pay for their pollution - then Colorado will be subject to paying to clean up this mess and this means the Colorado tax payers will be penalized to cover the cost of closing these wells.

We need to reduce our emissions NOW -- it is essential that oil/gas wells are closed safely and quickly - and paid for by the profits made by these oil and gas companies. Please adopt SB22-198 | Orphaned Oil And Gas Wells Enterprise - do it for your children and grandchildren.

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Scott Simmons

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Climate Change Advocate

AAK School Board Member

Re: Approval of SB22-198. Orphaned Oil and Gas Wells Enterprise

I was born and raised in Weld County, Colorado, and feel strongly that SB22- 198 should pass. Weld County alone has thousands of abandoned oil and gas wells that are emitting methane and other toxic chemicals as we speak. This should not be the responsibility of Colorado taxpayers when the O&G industry has been making record profits in recent years and it is the industry that has created this problem. These wells contribute to the heating of the Earth by emitting greenhouse gases and must be properly "plugged". Methane is a powerful GHG - 80 times more powerful than CO2. It is also a GHG that can offer a quick reduction of emissions because it has a relatively short life span of about 12 years. So plugging these O&G wells is a great way to make strides in combatting climate change. The U.S. signed a treaty at COP26 that set a goal of reducing methane emissions by 30% by 2030. It is the Senate's responsibility to begin by ensuring oil and gas wells do not continue to emit methane even after they have been abandoned.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Pierce  
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