



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

One DesCombes Drive • Broomfield, CO 80020 • 303.438.6300 • www.broomfield.org

May 11, 2017

Office of the Governor
Honorable John W. Hickenlooper
136 State Capitol Bldg
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Governor Hickenlooper,

As Mayor and City Council for the City and County of Broomfield, we are elected to represent the interests of Broomfield's citizens. Of particular concern to us is our duty to protect the health, safety, and welfare of Broomfield's residents and the environment in which they live.

A recent decision of the Colorado Court of Appeals, Martinez v. Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, held that the COGCC improperly balanced the interests of public health, safety, welfare, and the environment against the interests of fostering development and extraction of oil and gas. The Court of Appeals emphasized the importance of considering public health, safety, and welfare, and environmental and wildlife impacts when the COGCC acts, including when it engages in rulemaking.

We share the Court of Appeals' concerns that public health, safety, welfare, and the environment should be paramount when considering regulation of the oil and gas industry. Recently, the COGCC announced its intent to appeal this decision by filing a petition for a writ of certiorari with the Colorado Supreme Court. We encourage you to exercise your power to direct the COGCC not to seek additional appeal. Absent any additional appeal, this matter will be returned to the COGCC so that it may properly factor public health, safety, and environmental concerns into its decision-making, as guided by the opinion of the Court of Appeals.

Because the Broomfield City Council unequivocally supports the protection of Broomfield's residents and environment, we ask that you direct the COGCC to abandon any effort to appeal the Martinez case to the Supreme Court.

Sincerely,

Randal E. Ahrens
Mayor