



County of Eddy
State of New Mexico

February 7, 2017

The Honorable Rob Bishop
Chairman, House Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Bishop:

I am writing on behalf of the Eddy County Board of Commissioners to express our strong support for the resolution of disapproval of the final rule titled "Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties and Resource Conservation", also known as the "Venting and Flaring Rule". The Department of Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) published the final rule on November 18, 2016.

The Venting and Flaring Rule imposes unrealistic requirements such as requiring producers to access pipelines and processing capacity that does not even exist. BLM's arbitrary "exemption" for wells that are more than 50 miles from a processing plant ignores the true reality that in many cases no pipelines exist to transport gas to the plant or no processing plant has sufficient capacity to take the gas. The additional costs that the Rule would add will only create more financial burden on an already depressed economy due to the oil and gas downturn in this area.

In addition to the added financial burden, the Venting and Flaring Rule would disrupt existing oil and gas operations and deter any new development activity, thus reducing vitally needed tax revenues that support important state and local governmental services in Eddy County and the State of New Mexico.

On behalf of all the citizens of Eddy County who vitally depend on a vibrant oil and gas industry and our local community that depends on the oil and gas tax base and employment to maintain governmental services, we urge Congress to approve the resolution of disapproval of the Venting and Flaring Rule under the CRA.

Thank you for your efforts on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Stella Davis
Commission Chairman
Eddy County Board of Commissioners

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