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Arapahoe County denies proposed oil and gas regulations in favor of more coordination with the Colorado Oil and Gas Commission *Staff will continue to address local oil and gas concerns through the Colorado Oil and Gas Commission*

Littleton, Colo. – Today, the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners voted not to amend the County’s Land Development Code with the proposed oil and gas regulations, citing that many of the regulations were duplicative of the regulations adopted by the State Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, which have been known as some of the most comprehensive in the Country. Instead the Board voted for staff to continue to work on local land-use concerns to protect the community and environment through the following avenues:

- 1) Work with the Colorado Oil and Gas Commission, an agency managed by the State of Colorado, to consider the creation of a Memorandum of Understanding that would allow for increased oversight of local land-use issues such as: inspection of permitted oil and gas operations, closed-loop systems, etc.
- 2) Continue to work on County-specific land use issues: transportation plans, roadway infrastructure, Grading/Erosion/Sediment control, building and access permits, notification requirements, etc.
- 3) Use the Colorado Oil and Gas Commission’s local government designee process and the County’s use by special review process to address County-specific concerns for each permit application.
- 4) Appoint a committee of industry experts to meet with County staff monthly to work through County-specific concerns to create appropriate solutions. The meetings will be posted and open to the public.

The proposed oil and gas regulations that were reviewed today will be used as a guide to begin more in-depth conversations and agreements with the Colorado Oil and Gas Commission.

Over the past few months, the County has held numerous meetings and open houses to gather stakeholder input on proposed land-use regulations within Arapahoe County. Since the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission oversees statewide oil and gas regulations and is responsible for issuing state drilling and oil and gas exploration permits, the County will continue to work with the agency to minimize duplicity while allowing the County to address local land-use issues.

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