



April 3, 2019

The Honorable Dominique Jackson, Chair
House Energy and Environment Committee
200 E. Colfax Ave.
Denver, CO 80203

RE: House Bill 19-1261

Dear Chairwoman Jackson and Committee Members:

On behalf of the members of the Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado (AGNC), we would like to voice our opposition to HB19-1261, known as the "climate change" bill.

AGNC members are concerned about the unfettered authority HB1261 will provide the Air Quality Control Commission (AQCC) under the provisions of this bill. The lack of legislative oversight, or any oversight for that matter, will result in the AQCC's ability to disadvantage rural businesses that rely on fossil fuels or emit greenhouse gases further delaying the long needed economic recovery in Northwest Colorado.

While our communities are all in attainment with federal EPA air quality provisions, the AQCC could promulgate rules that will restrict businesses in our communities and burden our citizens with costs in the name of preventing climate change.. Climate change is an international challenge and if Colorado moves forward aggressively on its own it will disproportionately impact our rural communities whose economies rely on fossil fuel extraction and electricity generation..

The AQCC has unilateral authority to mandate the adoption of costly technologies and climate change "solutions" that rural communities can ill afford. The bill provides a second "De Facto" regulatory agency for energy development and does not clearly provide for local or citizen input or a clear understanding of the true costs of compliance. Our members are inundated with "unfunded mandates" and HB1261 will create yet another state bureaucracy to levy questionable regulations.

We urge you to vote "no" on HB19-1261 and to work with communities across the state and protect rural economies from collapsing under the weight of measures designed to solve an international problem.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Ray Beck'.

Ray Beck
AGNC Chairman
Moffat County Commissioner

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Andy Key'.

Andy Key
AGNC Vice-Chairman
Rangely Town Councilman