



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor
1120 Lincoln St. Suite 801
Denver, CO 80203
Phone: (303) 894-2100
FAX: (303) 894-2109
www.colorado.gov/cogcc

February 11, 2010

To Pew Charitable Trust:

I am writing on behalf of the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) to express our interest in the Colorado School of Public Health (CSPH) proposal for a Health Impact Assessment (HIA). We have met with Dr. Roxana Witter and the other team members from the Colorado School of Public Health and as presented to us this HIA would describe the baseline of and evaluate potential effects to public health from natural gas development in the vicinity of an existing residential community near Parachute, Colorado. The establishment of the baseline health of these residents could prove to be a useful tool for the COGCC in our efforts to determine whether future natural gas development in this area is impacting the public. In addition, it might provide the residents with a level of comfort and confidence that their concerns about potential impacts to their health will be considered as the COGCC reviews well specific permit applications and potential broader scope plans that may be submitted by operators.

Based on our discussion with Dr. Witter and the team, it appears that they are committed to using the best available scientific data to conduct the HIA. Furthermore, they are committed to an open process, as demonstrated by their plan to invite all stakeholders to participate in the HIA development.

Regards,

Dave Neslin
Director
Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission