

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 30, 2017

The Honorable Ken Calvert  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Interior and Environment  
House Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2007 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Betty McCollum  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Interior and Environment  
House Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1016 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member McCollum:

As your subcommittee prepares the Fiscal Year 2018 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, we request that you include legislative language defunding the implementation, or enforcement, of the rule finalized by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to regulate the use of hydraulic fracturing on federal and tribal lands.

On March 20, 2015, the Department of Interior released a final rule regulating hydraulic fracturing on federal and tribal lands. In the year since the release of the proposal, it is clear that the rule interjected federal regulations into regulator space already occupied competently by the states. Indeed, the state's most impacted due to high federal land ownership have led the nation in updating their drilling and wellhead standards to accommodate for increased deployment of horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing, which revolutionized American energy production.

The federal government is a latecomer to hydraulic fracturing regulations, and the proposed rule adds duplication, costs, and bureaucratic uncertainty for energy production on federal lands, which continues to lag behind production on state and private land. The federal hydraulic fracturing standards are unnecessary, unfair, and beyond the authority of the Bureau of Land Management. The U.S. District Court for the District of Wyoming issued a preliminary injunction while considering a challenge to the rule, but it is paramount to cease funding for any hydraulic fracturing rule that exceeds the BLM's statutory jurisdiction and unlawfully interferes with state regulations. While the current Administration has claimed that they are working to rescind this dangerous rule, we must still block funding until necessary action is taken.

Accordingly, we ask that you include language similar to the following:

*Sec. \_\_\_\_\_. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to implement, administer, or enforce the final rule entitled 'Hydraulic Fracturing on Federal and Indian*

*Lands' as published in the Federal Register on March 26, 2015 and March 30, 2015 (80 Fed. Reg. 16127 and 16577, respectively).*

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Steve Pearce  
Member of Congress



Bruce Westerman  
Member of Congress



Kevin Cramer  
Member of Congress



Paul A. Gosar D.D.S.  
Member of Congress



Jody Hice  
Member of Congress



Ted S. Yoho, DVM  
Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn  
Member of Congress



Don Young  
Member of Congress



Tom McClintock  
Member of Congress



Brian Babin  
Member of Congress