

**Subject:** FW: Your Comment Submitted on Regulations.gov (ID: BLM-2018-0001-0001)  
**Date:** Monday, April 23, 2018 at 9:07:50 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
**From:** Adrian Miller  
**To:** Shantha Ready Alonso

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**From:** Regulations.gov [mailto:no-reply@regulations.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 23, 2018 5:06 PM  
**To:** staff@cochurches.org  
**Subject:** Your Comment Submitted on Regulations.gov (ID: BLM-2018-0001-0001)



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**Agency:** Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

**Document Type:** Rulemaking

**Title:** Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resource Conservation: Rescission or Revision of Certain Requirements

**Document ID:** BLM-2018-0001-0001

**Comment:**

Dear Secretary Zinke,

The Colorado Council of Churches has been publicly on the record in support of the Bureau of Land Management Methane Waste Prevention Rule since 2016. One again, we call on the Department of Interior to refrain from either rescinding or diminishing the Bureau of Land Management Methane Waste Prevention Rule.

The Colorado Council of Churches serves 13 covenanting denominations of politically diverse backgrounds, united in our Christian commitment to the common good. Public lands of all kinds are important to our community. Our signature annual event is an Easter Sunrise Service at Red Rocks Amphitheatre which is attended by thousands of people each year. Lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, as well as tribal lands, deserve protection from natural gas waste, methane pollution and its accompanying toxic air contaminants. We know these contaminants have devastating impacts on the health of children, older adults, communities of color, and people who are poor. These vulnerable communities have the least ability to physically and financially cope with the dangerous hazards methane pollution pose to their health.

Furthermore, in western states, oil and gas tax revenue pays for important public services. When methane is wasted rather than sold, our communities lose much-needed tax revenue. Lastly, we were aware of an extensive comment period and public hearing process during the making of the Bureau of Land Management Methane Waste Prevention Rule. It is a disservice to our democracy, and particularly to the people of the West, to withhold opportunity to publicly express disagreement with the rollback of this important rule. We call on the Department of Interior to lengthen the comment period and allow for public hearings in western states.

Regards,

Adrian Miller  
Executive Director  
Colorado Council of Churches

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