

STATE OF COLORADO

Colorado General Assembly

Natalie Castle, Director
Legislative Council Staff

Colorado Legislative Council
200 E. Colfax Ave., Room 029
Denver, Colorado 80203-1716
Telephone 303-866-3521
Facsimile 303-866-3855
Email: lcs.ga@coleg.gov



Sharon L. Eubanks, Director
Office of Legislative Legal Services

Office of Legislative Legal Services
200 E. Colfax Ave., Room 091
Denver, Colorado 80203-1716
Telephone 303-866-2045
Email: olls.ga@coleg.gov

MEMORANDUM

TO: Paul Culnan and Patricia Nelson

FROM: Legislative Council Staff and Office of Legislative Legal Services

DATE: April 18, 2023

SUBJECT: Proposed initiative measure 2023-2024 #45, concerning discontinuing the issuance of new oil and gas permits

Section 1-40-105 (1), Colorado Revised Statutes, requires the directors of the Colorado Legislative Council and the Office of Legislative Legal Services to "review and comment" on initiative petitions for proposed laws and amendments to the Colorado constitution. We hereby submit our comments to you regarding the appended proposed initiative.

The purpose of this statutory requirement of the directors of Legislative Council and the Office of Legislative Legal Services is to provide comments intended to aid proponents in determining the language of their proposal and to avail the public of knowledge of the contents of the proposal. Our first objective is to be sure we understand your intent and your objective in proposing the amendment. We hope that the statements and questions contained in this memorandum will provide a basis for discussion and understanding of the proposal.

This proposed initiative 2023-2024 #45 was submitted with proposed initiative 2023-2024 #44. The comments and questions raised in this memorandum will not include comments and questions that are addressed in the memorandum for proposed initiative 2023-2024 #44, except as necessary to fully understand the issues raised by the revised proposed initiative. Comments and questions addressed in the review and comment memorandum for proposed initiative 2023-2024 #44 may also be relevant, **and those comments and questions are hereby incorporated by reference in this memorandum.**

Purposes

The major purposes of the proposed amendments to the Colorado Revised Statutes appear to be:

1. To phase out and discontinue the issuance of new oil and gas operation permits by the Colorado oil and gas conservation commission (COGCC) by December 31, 2030; and
2. To require the COGCC to promulgate rules for the phase-out and discontinuance of the issuance of such permits.

Substantive Comments and Questions

The substance of the proposed initiative raises the following comments and questions:

1. Article V, section 1 (5.5) of the Colorado constitution requires all proposed initiatives to have a single subject. What is the single subject of the proposed initiative?

Technical Comments

This memorandum incorporates by reference the technical comments in the memorandum prepared for proposed initiative 2023-2024 #44.