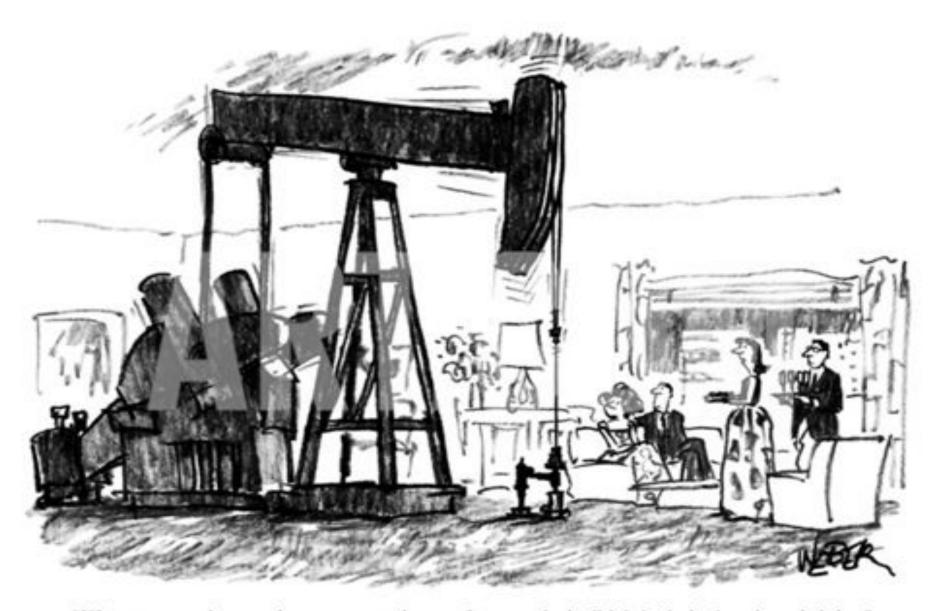
#### NW Colorado Council of Governments - QQ Quarterly Board Meeting

#### Governor Hickenlooper's Oil and Gas Task Force

Matthew Sura
Attorney at Law
(720) 563-1866
mattsura.law@gmail.com



"We got a great buy on the apartment, but, unfortunately, it didn't include the mineral rights."

# Oil and gas development is a highly-industrialized activity

# that can be placed in ANY zoning district\*\*\*

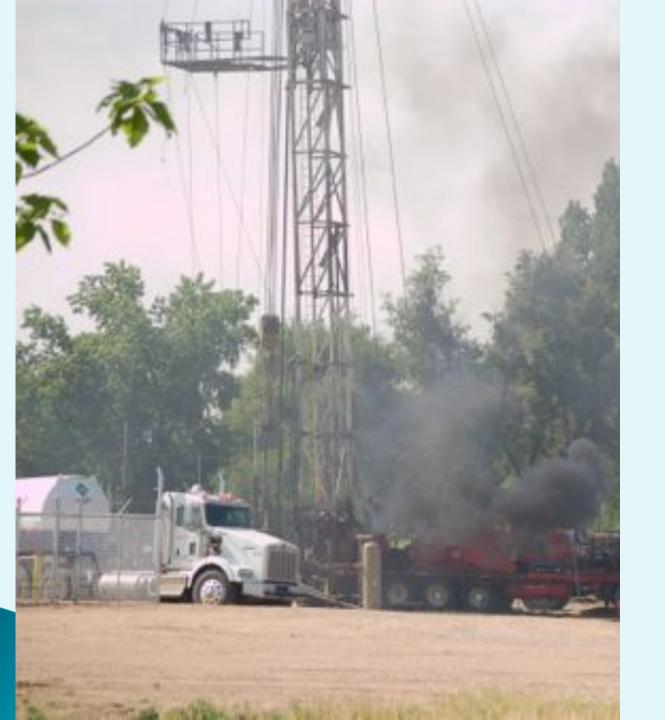


### Hydraulic Fracturing





Dust and emissions from heavy truck traffic



# Compressor Engines



# Condensate Tanks



# Glycol Dehydrators



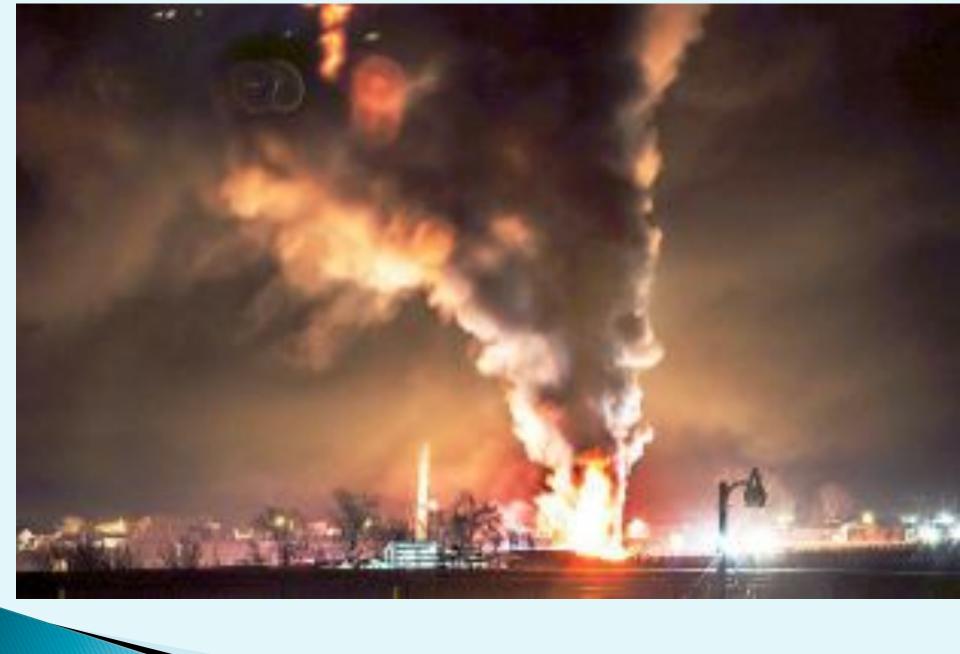


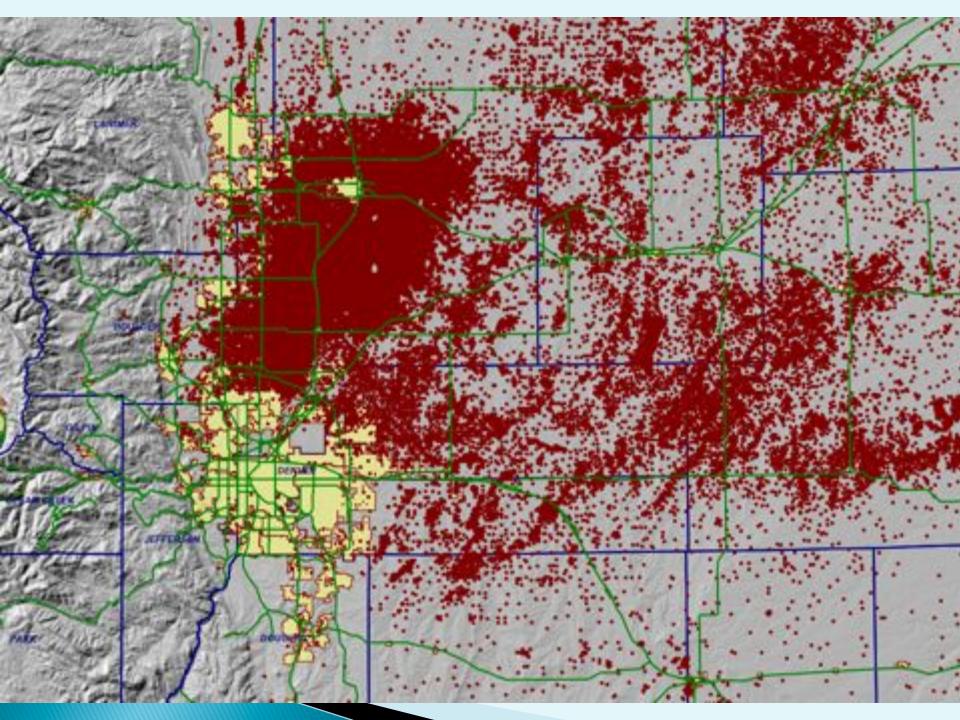
Well blow-out near Windsor, CO in February, 2013

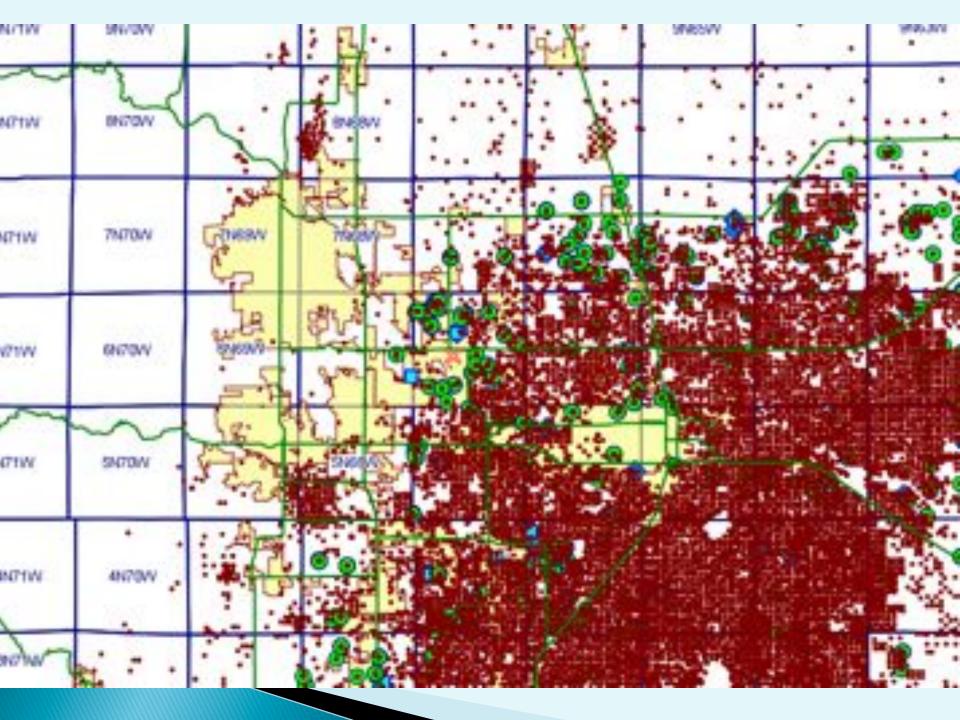
Six tank explosions and fires in the past two months

school told to "shelter in place"







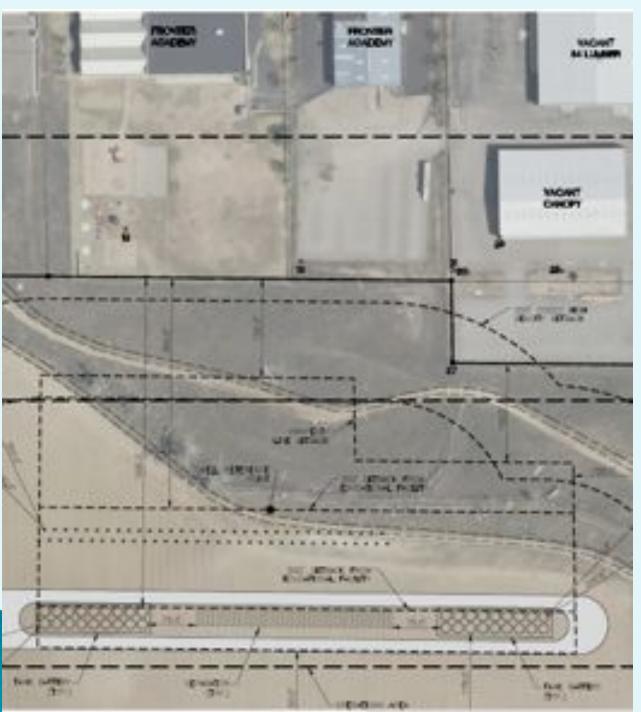


# Synergy Kelly Farms/Northridge



# Mineral Resources Midtown Directional Location 5/31/13





## South Greeley Directional

- > 67 wells and associated equipment were approved by COGCC
- > 600 feet from the Frontier Elementary School
- > 350 feet from the playground



Midtown Directional - 37 wells and associated equipment have been approved less than 400 feet from an apartment complex

#### Windsor



# Framework of Regulations

Local government regulations may not be in operational conflict with the COGCC regulations.

Operational conflict means: "materially impede or destroy the state interest" in oil and gas development.

Voss v. Lundvall Bros., Inc., 830 P.2d 1061, 1066 (Colo. 1992).

# Other states allow local governments to regulate oil and gas locations

- New York
- Pennsylvania, New Mexico, Ohio and Oklahoma allow local zoning
- Even Wyoming and Texas allow cities more control over oil and gas locations



#### Bans and Moratoria

- Longmont
- Broomfield
- Ft. Collins
- Boulder County
- Lafayette

#### Two Initiatives on the Ballot

1) 2,000 ft setback from homes

2) Allow local control

#### MULTI- MILLION DOLLAR CAMPAIGN WAS GETTING UGLY



## Withdrawn for the following:

- Industry-initiatives withdrawn
- Enforce existing setback regulations
- Oil and Gas Task-Force
- 4. State withdrew lawsuit against Longmont

# Governor's Oil and Gas Task Force

www.dnr.state.co.us/ogtaskforce

# State Regulations

Governor's Task Force on Local and State Regulation of Oil and Gas Development

```
    Oct 9–10......Durango
```

- Nov 20–21.....Longmont
- Dec 10......Rifle
- Jan 15–16.....Greeley
- ∘ Feb 2–3.....Denver
- Feb 24......Denver

### TWO MAJOR ISSUES

The large-scale multi-well facilities and their proximity to homes

Local Government Authority

#### Task Force Recommendations

- 1) Require new rulemaking to address siting and additional mitigation requirements for "large scale multi-well facilities"
- 2) Require operators to meet with LGDs prior to selecting a location for a "large-scale multi-well facilities" within "Urban Mitigation Zones". If a mutually-agreeable location cannot be found, then the parties may enter into 45 days of mediation. If there is still no resolution, then the permit can be requested and it can go to a COGCC hearing.

#### Task Force Recommendations

- 3) By January 1, operators within a municipality must submit a "good faith estimate" of the number of wells the operator intends to drill within the next five years.
- 4) Municipalities have the ability to provide the oil and gas industry a comprehensive plan map that depicts areas where it believes oil and gas development may be appropriate. Mediation may occur if there are disputes between local governments and operators.
- 5) Funding to conduct a human health risk assessment that would draw from research currently being conducted by Colorado State University.

# #1 Setbacks light

- Presumed 1,000 foot setback
  - Increased mitigations within 1,000 feet
  - Demonstrate need within 1,000 feet
  - Some right to due process for neighbors within 1,000 feet.

# #2 Local Authority light

- Have ability to engage in (semi) zoning of the oil and gas industry
  - Can produce maps that should direct future oil and gas development
  - Maps will have to be negotiated (possibly mediated)

#### Questions

- How Can produce maps that should direct future oil and gas development
- Have ability to engage in (semi) zoning of the oil and gas industry

## Next Steps

- COGCC Scoping process to begin in April
- Formal Rulemaking to start in July
- The formal hearing process is to take place in the fall.

# Thank-you!

Matthew Sura
Attorney at Law
(720) 563-1866
mattsura.law@gmail.com