



October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014

The Honorable Sally Jewell  
Secretary of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington DC 20240

Dear Secretary Jewell:

We are writing to request your assistance in finalizing a legal settlement to govern Western Colorado's Roan Plateau. The land underlying the Plateau contains significant natural gas resources, while the Plateau also contains important habitat for elk, mule deer, and native Colorado cutthroat trout. These oftentimes competing resources have made the Roan a center of controversy for well over a decade.

Today, a unique opportunity exists to resolve that controversy. As you know, parties to the ongoing Roan lawsuit have proposed a settlement to protect the most ecologically sensitive parts of the Roan, while providing for the orderly development of the area's natural gas resources. This proposed settlement would resolve the ongoing lawsuit and end the uncertainty that has plagued the local communities and industry.

This agreement represents the collaboration of the oil and gas industry, environmental organizations, many local governments, the state of Colorado and our respective offices. While the settlement requires a temporary drawback of state and federal funds, collaborators and the state of Colorado have committed to ensuring that local governments will not ultimately lose any resources they realized through the initial lease sale that prompted the litigation. With this last important condition, the local governments in question support the proposed agreement.

We request that you take prompt action to finalize the proposed settlement agreement. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Three handwritten signatures in blue ink, corresponding to Michael F. Bennet, Mark Udall, and John W. Hickenlooper.

Michael F. Bennet  
United States Senator

Mark Udall  
United States Senator

John W. Hickenlooper  
Governor of Colorado

A handwritten signature in blue ink, corresponding to Scott Tipton.

Scott Tipton  
Member of Congress