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• NEWS

CO Towns and Counties in Boebert's District Pass Resolutions Supporting Biden's Oil and Gas Pause

By Sean Price
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Across Colorado towns and counties are passing resolutions supporting President Joe Biden's executive order to indefinitely pause new oil and gas leases on federal public lands.

Biden's moratorium, signed in January, was [praised by environmental advocacy groups](#) but [lambasted](#) by the oil and gas industry and by Republicans. In March, Wyoming announced that it was [suing the Biden administration](#), while in April U.S. Rep. Lauren Boebert (R-CO) made [several efforts](#) to revoke the ban, panning it as harmful to the U.S. economy and U.S. efforts to achieve energy independence.

In a [press release](#) after Biden signed the order, Boebert released a statement criticizing the Biden administration.

"Blocking future oil and gas leases on 700 million acres is an unlawful attack on the livelihoods of the people in my district," Boebert said in her statement. "COVID lockdowns have created enough unemployment and economic challenges without Joe Biden delivering more pink slips to thousands of Coloradans. People are losing everything they have and the only thing this president cares about is appeasing extremist environmentalists."

Two of the counties to pass resolutions supporting Biden's leasing ban, Pitkin County and San Miguel County, are part of Colorado's 3rd Congressional District, which Boebert represents.

Of the 29 counties within Boebert's district, Pitkin and San Miguel were the two where Boebert [performed the worst](#) in the 2020 election, losing by almost 50 points in each county.

Basalt was one of the towns to pass a resolution supporting the moratorium. At a [Town Council meeting in March](#), council member Bill Infante explained why he raised the issue.

“It is completely consistent and supportive of our Declaration of a Climate Emergency and underscores our role in helping protect federal lands,” Infante said.

A study by the [U.S. Geological Survey](#) found that one-fourth of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions come from fossil fuel development on public lands.

The resolutions call for a plan to phase out fossil fuel production completely while ensuring support for communities that currently have fossil fuel-dependent economies. Read the Pitkin County resolution [here](#) and the San Miguel resolution [here](#).