

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF BASALT, COLORADO, IN SUPPORT  
OF PRESIDENT BIDEN'S TEMPORARY PAUSE ON OIL AND GAS LEASING ON  
FEDERAL PUBLIC LANDS**

**Town of Basalt  
Resolution No. 15  
Series of 2021**

RECITALS

- A. The Town of Basalt (the "Town"), acting by and through its Town Council, declared a "climate emergency" pursuant to Resolution No. 34, Series of 2019.
- B. The nation's vast network of federal public lands offer abundant natural beauty, a wealth of natural resources, a vital economic engine for local communities, and a sought after unique quality of life for residents of communities adjacent to them. It is critical that public lands and waters are managed responsibly and sustainably so they can remain open and accessible to present and future generations.
- C. Town Council wishes to express its support for the legal requirement that federal lands be managed under the 'multiple use' standard to best meet the present and future needs of the American people; and believes that the federal land management policies should be developed with input from local communities and public land users, and incorporate the best available science.
- D. Town Council believes that federal public land policy should ensure that the companies extracting natural resources provide a fair return to federal and state taxpayers while also protecting wildlife and providing the opportunity for the development of sustainable economic non-extractive activity such as outdoor recreation.
- E. Colorado is experiencing the devastating impacts of a warming climate including severe heat and drought, which are making wildfires more frequent and extreme; an increase in emissions of methane, a powerful greenhouse gas emitted on our public lands; extremes in precipitation; and dust on snow, which causes snowfall to evaporate prematurely.
- F. In 2018 pollution caused by the burning of fossil fuels cause 8.7 million or one in five deaths globally.
- G. As elected leaders, Town Council believes it is its responsibility to take and support prudent and pragmatic steps to reverse climate change and mitigate its devastating impacts by reducing the amount of greenhouse gases and other forms of pollution that contribute to climate change.

H. Accordingly, Town Council wishes to express its support for President Biden's pause on oil and gas leasing on federal public lands as set forth herein.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Council of the Town of Basalt, Colorado as follows:

1. Recitals. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as findings of Town Council.
2. Support for Pause in Oil and Gas Leasing. Town Council applauds and supports the Biden administration's executive order that temporarily pauses new oil and gas leasing on federal public lands and encourages the administration to:
  - a. Modernize the federal oil and gas leasing program to ensure the oil and gas companies that hold leases and extract natural resources provide a fair return to federal and state taxpayers; and
  - b. Develop a plan to phase out the production of fossil fuels, which are a major contributor to climate change, in a way that also supports the workers, communities, and states that currently have fossil fuel dependent economies:

READ AND ADOPTED on March 23, 2021, by a vote of  5  to  0 .

TOWN OF BASALT, COLORADO

By:   
William G. Kane, Mayor

ATTEST

By:   
Pamela K. Schilling, Town Clerk

