

**TOWN OF SILT  
RESOLUTION NO. 38  
SERIES 2006**

**A RESOLUTION REITERATING SUPPORT FOR PROTECTING THE TOP AND CLIFFS OF THE ROAN PLATEAU FROM DRILLING, AND ENDORSING THE OFFICIAL COMMENTS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY OF RIFLE IN RESPONSE TO THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE ROAN PLATEAU.**

**Whereas**, the Town of Silt has long supported a balanced plan for the Roan Plateau that opposes drilling on the public lands on top, so that these lands can remain available for other uses such as backpacking, hunting, mountain biking, camping, fishing, wildlife viewing, scenic drives and encounters with solitude.

**Whereas**, there has been overwhelming public support for protection of the Roan Plateau, illustrated by over 74,000 comments that were submitted during the comment period for the Roan Plateau Environmental Impact Statement, supporting protection of the top and cliffs of the Roan and responsible development of area that had already been leased.

**Whereas**, oil and gas activity is booming all over Garfield County, with over 3,750 wells currently in production, over 1,000 new wells permitted each year, and over 15,000 wells expected in the next 10 years.

**Whereas**, the traditional economy of Garfield County is based on tourism and recreation, with undeveloped public lands providing a huge draw for tourists as well as residents.

**Whereas**, while Garfield County provides gas resources for the nation's energy needs, it is imperative that we protect some undeveloped public lands in the County, in order that we can survive the economic loss that will ensue when the resources have been recovered and the oil and gas industry moves out of the area.

**Whereas**, the City of Rifle – which sits at the base of the Roan Plateau – will bear much of the impact of drilling the Roan Plateau, including loss of these public lands from other traditional uses, as well as traffic, dust, noise, visual scarring of the landscape and watershed impacts.

**Whereas**, the City of Rifle, as a cooperating agency to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) during the Roan Plateau planning process, submitted comments to the BLM reaffirming their opposition to drilling the public lands atop the Plateau and outlining details about how drilling should occur in other areas already leased.

**Now, therefore, let it be resolved that the Town of Silt, Colorado, Board of Trustees** reaffirms its support for protection of the undeveloped top and cliffs of the Roan Plateau.

**Let it be further resolved,** that the Town of Silt endorses the City of Rifle's position concerning drilling on the Roan Plateau, as stated in their official comments to the BLM submitted Sept 7<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

**Let it be further resolved,** that the Town of Silt urges Colorado's elected representatives to support sound management for the Roan plateau, joining with the Town of Silt and other area governments to urge full protection of the Roan's important natural resources.

**Introduced, read, passed and approved,** at a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Town of Silt, Colorado, held on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of August 2006.

TOWN OF SILT

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Mayor, David C. Moore

ATTEST:

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Town Clerk, Sheila M. McIntyre