

Switch to DISH. Get over 100 top channels.\* Save \$31/mo. over cable. Based on FCC report dated 12/27/06. GET DISH. Including Disney Channel.

Advertisement

It carries the knowledge from 28,000 race victories. And anything else you need to put in the back. PORSCHE

1-800-PetMeds Click Here! Save on your pet's medications

GET GROCERY COUPONS HERE! LLOYDS

HOME > NEWS > LOCAL

Salazar wins delay in Roan Plateau plan

By Todd Hartman, Rocky Mountain News August 4, 2007

Federal land managers agreed Friday to put off oil and gas leasing on the Roan Plateau for at least four months, acceding to demands from top Colorado Democrats for more time to study drilling plans.

The turnaround by the Bureau of Land Management translates to a victory for U.S. Sen. Ken Salazar who stared down the agency when he put a hold on confirmation of its incoming director unless it gave Colorado more time to review and comment on the Roan plan.

Gov. Bill Ritter had sought more time for his new administration to familiarize itself with the proposal in June but was rebuffed when the BLM moved ahead to open the area to drilling.

The Roan Plateau in northwest Colorado has become the focal point of an increasingly volatile debate between industry interests that covet its enormous stores of natural gas, and environmentalists and outdoor groups that want to see some parts of the state - including the wildlife-rich Roan - protected from the ongoing boom in fossil fuel extraction.

Salazar's move to delay leasing on the Roan pitted him against Interior Secretary Dirk Kempthorne. The two discussed the matter many times in recent weeks, Salazar said. "At the end, what I ended up getting from the BLM, they will give the state of Colorado their undivided attention," Salazar said.

Ritter spokesman Evan Dreyer said the administration would "conduct a thoughtful review of the proposed management plan, and the issues surrounding it. We expect that the federal government will seriously consider any views that we have at the end of the 120 days."

Under the existing BLM plan, drilling up to 1,570 wells would be permitted on portions of 73,602 acres of federal lands on the Roan. Companies could only disturb 350 acres at any one time, and would have to drill directionally, clustering wells together to minimize well pads.

Greg Schnacke of the Colorado Oil & Gas Association said the 120-day extension "ought to show (the) plan, as it was devised over seven years, is the most restrictive resource management plan ever released by the BLM." He said it was already "a difficult plan for industry to embrace."

But Elise Jones of the Colorado Environmental Coalition said the group "applauds (Salazar's) leadership . . . and we think it's great news that this administration is finally starting to listen to the near-consensus of local governments, sportsmen and citizens about the need to protect this special place."

hartmant@RockyMountainNews.com or 303-954-5048



Ken Salazar says BLM will now give state its full attention.

STORY TOOLS

Email this story | Print

MAP MY NEWS



MORE STORIES

- Search plane crashes; 3 killed
Salazar to endorse ex-aide in 4th CD race
Stranded stepbrothers plucked off fourteener
Longs Peak hiker rescued after 200-ft. fall
NASA exhibit begins Colorado tour Friday
Broncos' Kircus in court today
Ft. Collins restaurateur detained after standoff
Airlines waiving fees to rebook
Energy boom takes toll on safety
Honoring one who served
EXTRA!, August 21
Schaffer denies conflict in Denver charter school vote
Shots, hot sales greet bulletproof kids' backpack
State's leak probe doesn't hold water, aquarium says
Restaurateur taken into custody
Rx-related deaths go unchecked
CU team finds key evidence of Mayan crop
New water rates have Aurorans fit to be tied
Death leaves hole in family
CU crosses 50-yard line in athletic dept. reforms
CU team finds key evidence of Mayan crop
Suspect lived at scene of alleged attack
Meetings to focus on changes in zoning code
Woman who preyed on Jeffco elderly gets 32 years
Council holds nose, puts pot on Nov. ballot
'Craziest child' on trial in Westminster slaying
New water rates have Aurorans fit to be tied
Story of rattlesnake murder plot unfolds from jail
Mayor's ex-aide in line for rich RTD legal job
Denver to vote on a second pot measure

SEARCH
Subscribe | E-mail alerts | Electronic edition | RSS
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
Visit a county or city Web site
Full list of local districts and departments
VIDEO, AUDIO AND MULTIMEDIA
SPECIAL REPORTS
GOVERNMENT SERVICES
LEGISLATIVE BILLS

Advertisement

WELCOME
APPLICATIONS SECURITY
IT SECURITY CONSULTING
EASY-TO-MANAGE SERVERS
COLLABORATION SOFTWARE
ONLINE BACKUP
ONLINE FILE SHARING
MEDICAL IMAGING STORAGE
RFID SERVICES

SPONSORED LINKS

- World Travel
Lasik Denver eye surgery
Cash Advance
Denver Real Estate
Juarez Mexico Guide
Compare Prices
Telecommunications Expense
Free Online Dating
Fundraisers
Attorney Finder
Online Shopping
Whole House Fans
Lingerie
Personal Loan
Direct Mailing Lists
Colorado Real Estate
Juarez Mexico Forum

Advertisement

LENNAR.COM
Homes from the mid \$100s - \$500s
Visit live chat

- . this fall
- . Hiker rescued on Longs Peak
- . A true friend to the end, Billy rests in peace
- . Crash into semi kills Denver man, 100
- . CU team finds new twist in Mayan diet
- . Penthouse at downtown Four Seasons goes for \$10 million
- . Health Council to distribute \$7.5 million
- . Tancredo to murder victim families: Sue Newark

**ACCOUNTING SCHOOL**

We provide skills necessary to get a job, raise or start a business.  
www.postnewsads.com/educationleads

**Affordable Medical Career Training**

Short-term training; Long-term success. Get the skills that get the jobs at PMI!  
www.pmi.edu

**Hangout Homeschool Center**

HLC is a drop in facility just for homeschoolers & their families.  
www.hangoutlearningcenter.com

**Manage Type 2 Diabetes!**

You may be eligible to participate in a clinical trial. Click Here!  
http://postnewsads.com/mountainview



Scripps Newspaper Group — Online  
© 2007 The E.W. Scripps Co.  
[Privacy Policy](#) | [User Agreement](#)



[ARCHIVE](#) | [ABOUT US](#) | [CONTACT US](#) | [RSS FEEDS](#) | [SUBSCRIBE](#) | [SITE MAP](#) | [PHOTO REPRINTS](#) | [CORRECTIONS](#)

Questions? Comments? [Talk to Us.](#)

Comparison shop at [Shopzilla](#) and [BizRate](#) | [uSwitch.com](#) compares **gas & electricity**, **home phone**, **mobile phones**, **broadband**, **credit cards**, **loans** and **car insurance**

Looking for a Great  
New Job? Register  
Your Resume on  
**postnewsjobs.com**