

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE
Resolution In Support of Protecting the Roan Plateau and for Alternative F as Listed on the Preliminary Alternatives Released to the Garfield County Commission on August 12, 2002.

WHEREAS the Roan Plateau area in western Garfield County provides outstanding opportunities for backcountry recreation, such as hunting, backpacking, camping and scenic drives, and also opportunities for solitude, and these uses contribute significantly to the local and national economy; and

WHEREAS the Roan Plateau area includes important mid-elevation wildlife habitat in a region already heavily impacted by existing gas development; and

WHEREAS the Roan Plateau includes an extremely high level of biological diversity, including several species of endemic plants, and is considered by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program to be one of the top four most biologically diverse places on the Western Slope; and

WHEREAS the Roan Plateau provides an undeveloped island of important public lands resources in the rapidly growing upper Grand Valley, and is the scenic backdrop for Rifle, Parachute and Battlement Mesa, Colorado; and

WHEREAS intensive gas development on the Plateau and Cliffs would harm these public resources; and

WHEREAS sufficient gas resources exist outside the undeveloped portion of the Roan Plateau to meet our nation's energy needs and allow companies to develop resources and to provide jobs and county revenue; and

WHEREAS oil and gas under the plateau can reasonably be recovered by drilling directionally from facilities at the base of the plateau.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of New Castle, Colorado:

1. The Town Council hereby adopts the foregoing recitals as findings of fact and determinations of the Council.

2. The Town of New Castle supports protection of the undeveloped portions of the Roan Plateau, and opposes additional gas development on the cliff faces and on top of the Plateau.

3. The Town of New Castle supports preliminary alternative F as the best of the alternatives presented (as described by BLM to the Garfield County Commission on August 12, 2002).

THIS RESOLUTION was adopted by the Town Council of the Town of New Castle, Colorado, by a vote of 5 to 2 on November 19, 2002.



Lisa H. Cain
Lisa H. Cain, Town Clerk

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE

Bill Wentzel
Bill Wentzel, Mayor

