

November 30, 2012

White River National Forest
Attn: Scott Fitzwilliams, Forest Supervisor
P.O. Box 1919
Sacramento, CA 95812



RE: Oil and Gas Leasing DEIS

Dear Mr. Fitzwilliams,

I am writing on behalf of the Basalt Town Council to formally comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the White River National Forest – Oil and Gas Leasing DEIS. In general, the Town of Basalt agrees with the comments compiled by Pitkin County dated November 30, 2012 and supports the adoption of Alternative B.

As a community that is vastly dependent upon recreation and tourism, we feel that any extension or expansion of oil and gas leasing would degrade the socio-economic vitality of Basalt and its surrounding areas. Specifically, the Town is concerned about the impact that these activities will have on the air quality, water quality and fragile mountain landscapes of Western Colorado.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the draft DEIS and look forward cooperating with the White River National Forest on future issues that may affect our community.

Sincerely,



Jacque R. Whitsitt
Mayor of Basalt