

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/11/2018 2:09:07 AM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Ruby Oil and Gas

Home to me is the Great Basin. I was raised in Salt Lake City, and have had many unforgettable experiences in our unique, uncrowded, underappreciated part of the world. I remember the first time I saw the Rubies from I-80 near Elko. It was a grey winter day near dusk, with most of the surroundings looking their damp greenish-brown that perhaps only we locals can appreciate. I knew of the Rubies from my plastic 3-D map of Nevada I had hanging in my bedroom, next of course to a Utah version of the same.

I'd heard of how unique they were among ranges in the region, featuring true alpine climes and shaped significantly by recent glaciation. I hadn't seen them yet and was hoping I would, but I was afraid it may be too dark. But there, off in the distance to the southeast they were, towering above the sagebrush plain and reminding me instantly of the Wasatch Mountains that were the background to my childhood.

They, unlike my Wasatch, I knew were lesser known, and lesser impacted. They're not known to the world as much as they are to Nevadans and their neighbors with good taste. A less crowded, unspoiled Wasatch appealed to me greatly. For those lucky enough to have been raised in the area, they hold an even greater appeal, and that should be respected.

There is no clean, unobtrusive way to drill for gas anywhere. It's zero sum. The gas firm's gain is everyone else's loss. Indeed horizontal drilling makes less of a footprint, but the roads and pads and possibly the groundwater can be impacted long after the well runs out.

I am all for working class jobs and private enterprise-that's how I was raised. But I was also taught that some things are sacred, and that we inherit this earth from the people who have not been born. We must act with them in mind, and in so doing respect their wishes to have a pristine and beautiful place like the Rubies to create lasting memories. Please do not permit any drilling there.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Warm regards,

Jeff Dixon

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