October 2, 2017

Dear Senator Cory Gardner,

The Colorado breweries, wineries, and distilleries listed below urge you to protect and preserve the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge by leaving the Refuge closed to oil and gas drilling. Colorado's breweries, wineries, and distilleries are an important economic engine in our state that creates jobs and revenue from farm to tasting room to tap and glass for many Colorado communities throughout the state.

According to the Colorado Brewers Guild, as of June 2016, Colorado has 350 craft breweries licensed in 94 different cities. Colorado craft brewers recorded total economic benefits of $1.7 billion in 2015 and the industry employed 7,776 people in the brewery and restaurant sides of the business. It's estimated that direct state and local fiscal impacts are approximately $134 million.[1]

Today, there are over 90 distilleries in Colorado which is the 4th largest concentration of distilleries in the country[2] and that number is growing. It's estimated that the Colorado distilling industry puts more than $68 million into Colorado's annual economy and employs over 400 Coloradans.[3]

According to the Colorado Wine Industry Development Board, the Colorado wine industry has more than 140 licensed commercial wineries and had $33 million in sales in 2016. With the impact of wine tourism, Colorado wine's economic impact reached $144 million in 2013 and contributed more than 1,885 jobs to the state.[4]

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is one of America's last undeveloped frontiers and has stood for decades as a symbol of our public lands heritage. Drilling and the related industrial infrastructure that would come with fossil fuel development would have devastating impacts.

Drilling in the Arctic Refuge would disrupt the wildlife that inhabit the area such as polar bears, caribou, wolves, musk oxen, and hundreds of species of birds that migrate to all 50 states and six continents and negatively impact the native people who rely on the wildlife and land to survive.

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is unique and unspoiled, and we have a moral responsibility to preserve and protect it for future generations. Please listen to our substantial business voice in our state and do not allow drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Sincerely,

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Animas Brewing Company
Scott Bickert and Anna Swanson, Owners
Durango, Colorado
81301

Bigsby's Folly Craft Winery
Marla Yetka, Owner
Denver Colorado
80216

Augustina's Winery
Marianne Walter, Sole Owner
Nederland, Colorado
80466

Black Sky Brewery
Lila Mackey, Owner
Denver, Colorado
80204

Avalanche Brewing Company
Casie & Austin Lashley, Owners
Silverton, Colorado
81433

Boathouse Distillery
Jerry Mallet, President
Salida, Colorado
81201

Bristol Brewing Company
Shana Yates, Events/Promotions Manager
Colorado Springs, Colorado
80905

Carboy Winery
Kevin Webber, Director of Operations & Sales
Littleton, Colorado
80120

Cerebral Brewing
Sean Buchan, CEO
Denver, Colorado
80206

Colorado Gold Distillery
Mike Almy, Head Distillery
Colorado Springs, Colorado
80907

Dead Hippie Brewing
Cheryl and Dean Edmundson, Owners
Sheridan, Colorado
80123

Decadent Saint Winery
Carolee Corey, Co-Owner
Michael Hasler, Co-Owner
Boulder, Colorado
80304

Elevation 5003 Distillery
Loren Matthews, Owner
Fort Collins, Colorado
80525

Elevation Beer Company
Carlin Walsh, Founder/CEO
Poncha Springs, Colorado
81242

Factotum Brewhouse
Laura Bruns, Owner
Denver, Colorado
80211

Horse & Dragon Brewing Company
Carol Cochran, Co-owner
Fort Collins, Colorado
80524

I HOP IPA
Sunit Gajula David Jamison CO-Owners
Broomfield, Colorado
80020

The Intrepid Sojourner Beer Project
Ben Gettinger and Andrew Moore, Co-Owners
Denver, Colorado
80204

Jagged Mountain Craft Brewery
Randy Stinson, COO
Denver, Colorado
80210

Mad Jacks Mountain Brewery
Jack Hansell, Owner
Bailey, Colorado
80421

Laughing Leprechaun Meadery
Guy McConnell, President & Meadmaker
Loveland, Colorado
80537

Marble Distilling Company
Michelle Marlow, Spirit Liaison/Co-Owner
Carbondale, Colorado
81623

Longtucky Spirits
Jason Kraft, Brand Manager
Longmont, Colorado
80501

McClellan's Brewing Company
Graeme Hirstwood, Brew Master
Fort Collins, Colorado
80526

Moonlight Pizza & Brewpub
Heather Adams and Brenna Eaker, Owners
Salida, Colorado
81201

Old Town Distilling Co.
Jeremy Kempter, Founder and Chief Distillery
Fort Collins, Colorado
80524

Mountain Tap Brewery
Rich Tucciarone, Owner / Brewmaster
Steamboat Springs, Colorado
80487

Pagosa Brewing Company & Grill
Tony Simmons, Owner
Pagosa Springs, Colorado
81147

Odell Brewing Company
Corey Odell, Sustainability Coordinator
Fort Collins, Colorado
80524

Purpose Brewing and Cellars
Zach Wilson, Owner/Brewer
Fort Collins, Colorado
80525

Rails End Beer Company
Dale Reeder, Owner
Broomfield, Colorado
80020

snowbank brewing
fort collins, colorado

Snowbank Brewing
Sarah Barlow, Taproom Manager
Fort Collins, Colorado
80524

Ratio Beerworks
Jason ZumBrunnen and Scott Kaplan,
our Co-Founders
Denver, Colorado
80205

Soul Craft Brewing
Eric Ramsey, Marketing Manager
Salida, Colorado
81201

Sanitas Brewing Company
Michael Memsic, Co-Founder, CEO
Boulder, Colorado
80301

Spirits of the Rockies Distillery
Scott Farmer, CEO
Pueblo, Colorado
81005

St. Vrain Cidery
Cindy Landi, co-founder/CEO
Longmont, Colorado
80501

Still Cellars
Jason Houston
Longmont, Colorado
80501

Steamboat Whiskey Company
Jessica & Nathan Newhall, Owners/ Operators
Steamboat Springs, Colorado
80487

Strongwater
Nicholas Andresen, Owner
Denver, Colorado
80211

Stem Ciders
Courtney O'Rourke, Director of Marketing & Cider Relations
Denver, Colorado
80205

Telluride Brewing Company
Tommy Thacher and Chris Fish, co-owners
Telluride, Colorado
81435

Twenty Brew Taphouse
Matt Mascarenas and David Jamison
CO-Owners
Westminster, Colorado
80020

Upslope Brewing Company
Henry Wood, Director of Sales and Marketing
Boulder, Colorado
80301

Vino Colorado Winery
Alecsandra Servin, Owner
Colorado Springs, Colorado
80904

Wibby Brewing
Ryan Wibby and Ted Risk, Co-Founders
Longmont, Colorado
80501

Wild Cider
Michelle Heath, Office Manager
Firestone, Colorado
80504

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[1] https://coloradobeer.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Colorado-Brewers-Guild-Economic-Impact-Study-Final-Report-061416-1.pdf

[2] http://www.denverpost.com/2017/03/23/whiskey-distilleries-to-tour-in-colorado/

[3] http://kdvr.com/2016/07/04/craft-distillery-industry-booming-in-colorado/

[4] http://coloradowine.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/CWB-143-Fact-Sheet-R1_2017.pdf