



TO: Members of the House Transportation and Energy Committee

FROM: Douglas Holland, representing the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Sierra Club

REGARDING: House Bill HB 15-1319: PUC Membership Geographic Representation

Dear Committee members;

My name is Douglas Holland. I represent the Legislative Committee of the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Sierra Club. The Sierra Club has stood for conservation since 1892, with more than 50,000 members and supporters in Colorado. We support the passage of House Bill 1319. This bill would improve the representation of Coloradans by the Public Utility Commission, and enable the body to act more effectively when dealing with Colorado's energy and conservation issues.

Energy issues in Colorado are complex, and creating policies that benefit all of Colorado requires input from all the stakeholders, which include energy producers, businesses, farmers, ranchers, hunters, fishers, hikers, conservationists and outdoor enthusiasts. Through the inclusion of all these diverse voices, the PUC can tackle tough issues including meeting Colorado's energy needs, as well as conserving Colorado's beautiful wild spaces.

By creating geographic representation in the PUC, HB 1319 would enable it to be more responsive to local issues affecting Coloradans. The larger number of members would also enable a larger number of voices to be heard.

The Sierra Club welcomes this bill, which would enable the Public Utility Commission to tackle energy issues more effectively, to create policies that would be beneficial for all Coloradans, and for Colorado's beautiful wild spaces. For these reasons, we urge this committee to pass House Bill 1319. Chairman and members of the committee, I thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Doug Holland  
Sierra Club, Rocky Mountain Chapter  
1536 Wynkoop St, Suite 200  
Denver CO 80202