

April 22, 2018

Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20240

Secretary Ryan Zinke:

We write to you today regarding the BLM Methane and Waste Prevention Rule. As executives in the outdoor recreation industry we approach this issue from both the business and the environmental perspective.

Our companies are part of the \$887 billion outdoor industry and we are bringing jobs to communities across the country in many ways. Recreation visitors bring needed dollars to cities and towns that have recreation assets like rivers, trails, and other outdoor spaces where fishing, hunting, boating, hiking, biking, climbing and a long list of other outdoor activities take place. Second, companies like ours, both large and small, are choosing to locate in these communities because our employees want to live in places with access to the great outdoors.

Across the country, communities that have previously depended primarily upon resource extraction have begun to diversify their economies into the recreation sector, and it is regulations like the 2016 Methane Rule that make this possible. By implementing best practices and using newly developed technologies we can:

- Improve air quality in oil fields across the country
- Create jobs that can never be exported overseas
- Bring needed royalty revenue to county budgets
- Support the growing recreation industry

Across the country, we are seeing that healthy public lands lead to healthy economies. Many companies in the oil and gas industry support the 2016 Methane Rule, and have developed improved ways to trap fugitive emissions during both drilling and the life of the well pad.

We understand the need for energy production, but it is time to acknowledge both the costs and benefits to local communities. Allowing oil and gas operators to use old technology will damage air quality and prohibit communities from diversifying their economies. A win-win solution is available by requiring operators to use best practices to protect air quality and the outdoor recreation economy.

Our businesses and the Western communities we serve need more revenue and cleaner air. We urge you to maintain and uphold the original 2016 BLM Methane and Waste Prevention Rule.

Sincerely,

Nick Brayton/**Woolrich**
Woolrich, PA

Darren Bush/**Rutabaga Paddlesports**
Monona, WI

Auden Schendler/**Aspen Skiing Company**
Aspen, CO

Daniela Perdomo/**goTenna**
Brooklyn, NY

Scott Newton/**Poison Spider Bicycles**
Moab, UT

Sarah Tingey/**Alpacka Raft**
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Brett Sutteer/**Moab Cliffs and Canyons**
Moab, UT

Herm Hoops/**Oneway Boatworks**
Jensen, UT

Nazz Kurth/**Petzl America**
Salt Lake City, UT

Kevin Boyle/**Kuhl**
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Charlie Butler/**Wasatch Touring**
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Kirstin Peterson/**Rim Tours**
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Bill Carver/**Carver Brewing Co.**
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Jonathan Lantz/**La Sportiva**
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Pete Eschallier/**Kokopelli Bike and Board**
Cortez, CO

Ken Meidell/**Dakine**
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Haley Miller/**Upper Missouri River Guides**
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Christina Sloan/**The Sloan Law Firm**
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Jeff Mobley/**Colorado Love Outdoors**
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Maggie Wilson/**Magpie Cycling**
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Ashley Korenblat/**Western Spirit Cycling**
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Paul Fish/**Mountain Gear Inc.**
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Dan Nordstrom/**Outdoor Research**
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Tracy Bentley/**Chile Pepper Bike Shop**
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Alison Dance/**Cyprus Cafe**
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Hans Cole/**Patagonia**
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Becky Arreaga/**Mercury Mambo**
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Tim Gaylord/**Holiday River Expeditions**
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Brian Merrill/**Western River Expeditions**
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David Knowles/**Lost River Trading Co.**
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David Mackay/**Colorado River and Trails Expeditions**
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