

House Energy & Environment

02/25/2026 Upon Adjournment

HB26-1112 Regulation of Underground Injection Control Wells

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Leslie Glustrom Amend Clean Energy Action	<p>Dear Members of House Energy and Environment</p> <p>Clean Energy Action is very concerned about HB26-1112--the regulation of Underground Injection Control (UIC) wells and asks that it either be postponed or amended to avoid giving more authority to the Energy and Carbon Management Commission until absolutely necessary given its very poor track record in regulating Colorado oil and gas wells.</p> <p>In particular, the Energy and Carbon Management Commission (ECMC) has not been doing a very good job of protecting our air and environment from spills and leaks from the oil and gas sector and it seems unwise to give the ECMC more authority when it is not doing a very good job with the tasks it has already been given.</p> <p>Data on spills and inspection frequency from a 2025 webinar based on ECMC data are at the link below</p> <p>https://corfc.org/spills/.</p> <p>. Wells are very seldom inspected and spills are a too common occurrence.</p> <p>Please review the link above and confirm the data with ECMC before voting on HB26-1112.</p> <p>Below are the key findings from the State Audit Report issued in December 2025 and found at</p> <p>https://content.leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/documents/audits/2464P_oil_and_gas_reporting_production_emissions_severance_taxes.pdf</p> <p>Key Findings</p> <p>â€¢ ECMC collected a majority of required production reports for Calendar Year 2023; it approved about 674,000 oil and gas production reports. However, about 32,000 of these reports contained errors and ECMC reported that there were still</p>

	<p>about 11,600 reports missing for Calendar Year 2023, as of March 2025. We identified an additional 4,436 missing production reports for 2023 that were not reported by ECMC.</p> <p>â€¢ ECMC did not collect more than 200 conservation levy payments on 1.7 million barrels of oil and 310 million MCF (one thousand cubic feet) of gas sold in Calendar Year 2023.</p> <p>â€¢ CDPHE has not established a systematic process to determine the population of oil and gas owners or operators that are required to submit annual emissions data so that it can effectively determine which emissions reports are missing.</p> <p>If there is concern about changes at the federal level and the impact on the Environmental Protection Agency, please amend the bill to not grant the authority to the ECMC until the EPA UIC regulations have been repealed.</p> <p>Thank you for not giving more authority to the ECMC before it is absolutely necessary given its very poor performance in regulating Colorado's oil and gas industry.</p>
<p>Leslie Glustrom Amend Clean Energy Action</p>	<p>Please Amend HB26-1112 to only allow ECMC and the Mined Land Reclamation Board to take primacy over Underground Injection Control wells if and when the federal Environmental Protection Agency rescinds their UIC regulations. I don't believe ECMC will do a good job of regulating UIC wells given their poor track record with their existing authorities.</p> <p>This Desmog blog story at the link below describes the risks of Underground Injection wells and helps explain why I am not in favor of ECMC gaining more authority as proposed under HB26-1112.</p> <p>If the EPA rescinds its rules, then Colorado can decide what to do at that point....but I don't see any reason to believe that the ECMC will put a priority on protecting Colorado's air and water from the risks of underground injection wells....</p> <p>https://www.desmog.com/2026/02/12/the-oil-industrys-latest-disaster-trillions-of-gallons-of-buried-toxic-wastewater/</p> <p>The Oil Industry's Latest Disaster: Trillions of Gallons of Buried Toxic Wastewater Industry and regulators knew decades ago that injecting drilling's toxic liquid leftovers underground wasn't safe.</p> <p>Profile portrait of Justin Nobel.</p>

	<p>ByJustin NobelonFeb 12, 2026 @ 03:30 PST</p> <p>Excerpt:</p> <p>The documents show there may be little scientific merit to industry and government claims that injection wells are a safe means of disposal “ putting drinking water and other mineral resources in communities across the country at risk of contamination, and jeopardizing local economies and public health.</p> <p>Full story at the link</p> <p>The Oil Industry’s Latest Disaster: Trillions of Gallons of Buried Toxic Wastewater - DeSmog</p> <p>Thanks for your consideration!</p> <p>Leslie Glustrom</p> <p>720-341-3154-cell</p>
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