

Daily Camera

Support methane rule

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Last week, President Obama and Prime Minister Trudeau made a joint announcement on climate change and took a major step in curbing methane gas emissions.

The announcement came just a week after the BLM came to Lakewood, on March 1 to hear comments on its new proposal to reduce methane emissions on public lands. Before the hearing, I made phone calls to educate the public about the issue of methane emissions as a dangerous contributor to climate change. Nearly 60 speakers came and thanked the BLM for their actions.

I encourage the BLM and EPA to work quickly to finalize rules that regulate all sources of oil and gas methane emissions. Now that President Obama has directed EPA to propose a rule that regulates methane emissions not just from new oil and gas operations, but from existing ones as well, the EPA should work swiftly to write and propose these critical safeguards. Delaying the proposal of these new rules until the next president is sworn in could be very detrimental. The world needs to see the U.S. as pro-active leader in combating climate change, not as a complacent contributor.

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