

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Natural Resources
Washington, DC 20515

September 25, 2023

Dr. Barbara Vasquez
Citizen Scientist and Advocate
Western Organization of Resource Councils
220 South 27th St.
Billings, MT 59101

Dear Dr. Vasquez:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources at an oversight hearing titled, "*Examining the Biden Administration's Mismanagement of the Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Program*" on Tuesday, September 19, 2023.

Your testimony was extremely helpful in defining the Subcommittee's understanding of the issue and I appreciate the effort you took to prepare and present your testimony. While many questions were asked during the hearing, the Subcommittee has additional questions, attached, for your reply.

Please forward your responses to Lonnie Smith, Clerk of the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, at Lonnie.smith@mail.house.gov by October 9, 2023. Your assistance in meeting this deadline is requested, as failure to meet it will be noted in the printed transcript.

Sincerely,



Pete Stauber
Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources
Chairman

Enclosure

**Committee on Natural Resources
Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources
Oversight Hearing
1334 Longworth House Office Building
September 19, 2023
10:30 AM**

“Examining the Biden Administration’s Mismanagement of the Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Program.”

Question from Rep. Susie Lee for Dr. Barbara Vasquez, Citizen Scientist and Advocate,
Western Organization of Resource Councils:

1. How do unused oil and gas leases on public lands influence the management of those lands for other uses — e.g., clean-energy deployment, recreation, or wildlife?

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“Examining the Biden Administration’s Mismanagement of the Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Program.”

Questions from Rep. Grijalva for Dr. Barbara Vasquez, Scientist and Advocate, Western Organization of Resource Councils

1. How will the updated bonding requirements under the proposed rule speed up the reclamation of idled wells?
2. What are the impacts of idled wells on federal land?