Chairman Porter, Vice Chairman Damschen and committee members,

For the Record, my name is Bob Skarphol from Tioga, North Dakota.

I am here today representing my wife's royalty interest comments and in my capacity as the founder of the Williston Basin Royalty Owners Association. I am a registered lobbyist for the Williston Basin Royalty Owners Association with badge number 1089.

My wife's royalty interests originate from one of the earliest unitization projects in North Dakota, the Beaver Lodge Royalty unit first developed by Amerada Petroleum Corporation in 1958. Then expanded in 1962 to include additional formations. 100% of the unit members, royalty owners and operators, were required to sign the original agreements. We have letters written to my wife's mother, signed by Amerada leadership, that assured her there would be no costs assessed to royalty owners for participating in the unitization.

Starting a citizen movement is difficult during normal times but it is nearly insurmountable in the middle of a pandemic. It is interesting to be able to relay to you that we have, without the advantage of going to the

constituents in public meetings, in excess of 200 members with a commitment to pursue corrective actions of abuses by the industry of royalty owner rights. I can assure you that you have some very frustrated and motivated voters waiting for action. And WBROA fully intends to grow the size of the membership with statewide meetings during the following interim.

I need to be perfectly clear that WBROA, and royalty owners, are NOT anti-development, they are very pro-development. The frustration for your constituents is that the only recourse they have to voice their objections is to hire an attorney and go to court. There has never been a legislative study of the issues, and a two-hour hearing is not adequate for the complexities involved. There may be solutions, but the opportunity to find them does not exist in today's environment.

Present slides:

Closing comments.

Request DO PASS as amended