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**Cross-industry partnership drives innovative
abandoned well clean up;
Sen. Hickenlooper tours clean-up site, touts unique
collaboration and IRA support**

Adams County, CO – Colorado has thousands of abandoned oil and gas wells sprinkled throughout the state, many leaking methane and other hazardous emissions that pollute the air, impact groundwater and add to the impacts of climate change.

Now, a new and unique partnership is employing an innovative, market-driven approach to clean up these sites.

Sen. John Hickenlooper toured an abandoned well site in Adams County with company representatives today to get a hands-on demonstration of the methods and technology used to permanently plug these wells.

The partnership includes CarbonPath, which created a carbon offset registry and methodology to help finance the permanent closure of abandoned and orphan gas wells; Civitas Resources, Colorado's first carbon neutral oil and gas producer; and Greenfield Environmental Solutions, which focuses on decommissioning energy sites and reclaiming the land. To date, they are working collaboratively on nearly 4 dozen sites in northeastern Colorado that are high on the state's clean up priority list.

Sen. John Hickenlooper (D-CO), a champion for orphan and abandoned well clean up in Colorado and across the country, praised the unique partnership and touted provisions of the Infrastructure and Reinvestment Act (IRA) he authored that will provide federal dollars to supplement private sector actions. The Senator was also joined by officials from Adams County and the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, and representatives from Environmental Defense Fund and Conservation Colorado.

“This collaboration is a prime example of a public-private partnership that advances cutting-edge, market-driven solutions to solve big issues that benefit all Coloradans, under the careful watch and strong support of the state government,” said **Tyler Crabtree, CEO of CarbonPath**. “Closing these abandoned wells using CarbonPath’s methodology will prevent

methane, as well as numerous toxic chemicals and heavy metals that have been seeping into the air and groundwater. The well closures will also support well-paying, local jobs for the work necessary to plug and inspect the wells. We are thrilled to be working with Colorado officials, Civitas and Greenfield on this project.”

“Doing the right thing is always a team effort and as a Colorado-based company, Civitas is proud to do its part because our employees live, work and enjoy the outdoors here too,” said **Civitas Chief Sustainability Officer Brian Cain**. “As Colorado’s first carbon neutral oil and natural gas company, we have also committed to plugging 42 orphaned wells in partnership with the State to further improve our air quality and safeguard our communities.”

“Greenfield is excited to be a part of the restorative decommissioning work Civitas is performing. Our methane quantification and well plugging solutions will ensure that these orphan wells are plugged properly and no longer emit methane into the atmosphere,” said **Michael Rigg, the company’s CEO**.

"This orphan well represents just one of the nearly 1,800 documented orphaned wells in Colorado and as many as 1 million likely orphaned wells nationwide," said **Adam Peltz, Director and Senior Attorney for energy transition at Environmental Defense Fund**.

"Thanks to the great work of Senator Hickenlooper and his colleagues, who helped make the climate and community investments in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act a reality, we are at the forefront of a boom of stable, well-paying jobs that will help protect communities from the harmful pollution leaking from these abandoned wells."

"When wells are left unattended, it is the nearby low-income communities of color in Colorado that suffer the most severe health consequences. Fortunately, Senator Hickenlooper's efforts to pass the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act provide a glimmer of hope for our most vulnerable communities," said **Lorena Gonzalez, Communities & Justice Manager at Conservation Colorado**. "It is imperative that we prioritize environmental justice in our clean-up efforts. This means holding the industry accountable for their obligations, ensuring effective communication and risk mitigation by the government, and ensuring that the newly created jobs benefit Black and Brown communities that have historically been deprived of livable wages.

About CarbonPath

CarbonPath is a carbon offset registry focused on industrial carbon and methane solutions. CarbonPath's methodologies prevent carbon and methane from ever entering the atmosphere by providing a framework that permanently shuts down low-producing, orphaned & abandoned oil wells. <https://www.carbonpath.io/>

About Civitas Resources

Civitas is leading Colorado's oil and gas industry in its commitment to sustainable operations. As the state's first carbon neutral operator, we believe that caring for our environment, our employees and our communities is critical to our role as an energy producer. <https://civitasresources.com/>

About Greenfield Environmental Solutions

Greenfield Environmental Solutions Group is a leading energy infrastructure decommissioning company offering comprehensive P&A, methane quantification, remediation and land reclamation solutions. Founded in 2022, we enable commercial operators as well as state, local and federal agencies to reduce emissions and meet ESG mandates.