



MESSAGE FROM MARSHA

CLEANING UP COAL

This year Governor Ritter announced the creation of the Carbon Sequestration and Storage Task Force to assist members of the General Assembly in understanding many of the technologies and policies associated with capturing and storing carbon dioxide (CO₂) produced during the generation of energy.

Representatives from the utility, coal, oil, gas and agriculture industries along with individuals from environmental organizations have been working with me and other task force members studying the complexities, liabilities and ownership issues of capturing, storing and using CO₂ for future uses. Scientists state that capturing CO₂ and storing it safely is one technique used to clean up environmental toxins produced during the coal generation process.

In my opinion, *private property rights and water quality* are at the epicenter of this discussion. Over the next 6-8 months the task force members will be discussing ownership of the underground “pore” space; environmental benefits and risks; and liabilities associated with Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS). Those interested in learning more about the issue are invited to visit the CO. Dept. of Natural Resources at <http://dnr.state.co.us> for additional information.

These discussions and policy changes must be grounded in our constitutional rights and I remain committed to protecting our property rights, water quality and ensuring an open and transparent process on this critical issue. Thank you for the honor to serve in the Colorado House of Representatives and contact me personally if you have any questions or comments on this or any other state issues.

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