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NEWS RELEASE

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CMA STATEMENT ON TENTH CIRCUIT DECISION UPHOLDING CLINTON ROADLESS RULE

Denver, CO - The Colorado Mining Association expressed its disappointment with today's ruling by the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals upholding the Clinton Administration's Roadless Rule. This regulation, said CMA President Stuart Sanderson, threatens to put off limits millions of acres of public lands for multiple and productive use. CMA continues to closely evaluate and explore the next steps to be taken in the case.

CMA is disappointed that the decision does not reflect a practical understanding of the impact that the Rule will have upon mining jobs or access to needed minerals here in Colorado and the U. S. It is important to develop high quality coal and other mineral reserves impacted by this regulation here in the United States and in Colorado, both to ensure our nation's energy security and reduce our dependence on minerals produced in other countries.

CMA has worked with stakeholders to support the implementation of a roadless rule specific to the needs and interests of Colorado and will continue to support a common sense effort to finalize a Colorado roadless rule, which is pending final action before the Secretary of Agriculture.

The Colorado Mining Association, founded in 1876, is an industry association whose more than 900 members include the producers of coal and other critical and strategic minerals, as well as individuals and organizations providing services, equipment and supplies to the industry.