



Colorado Supreme Court Confirms Death of the 2017 Severance Tax Ballot Initiative

By: Malinda Morain

On Wednesday, June 20, 2017, the Colorado Supreme Court confirmed that a ballot initiative which sought to increase severance taxes on oil and gas development would not appear on the 2017 ballot.

Proposed Ballot Initiative #20 sought to increase the severance tax rates on oil and gas, which currently range from 2% to 5% depending on gross income, up to 7% to 10%. The Title Board denied setting title on Initiative #20 on April 28, 2017, and the proponent of the initiative appealed. In an extremely short opinion, the Court affirmed the actions of the Title Board denying setting title on the initiative. The Court's June 20, 2017 decision assures this initiative will not be in front of voters in 2017.

A full copy of the Court's Order is available <u>here</u>.

For more information, please contact Karen Spaulding or Malinda Morain.