

Andrea Gyger

From: Christopher Getzan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, December 14, 2011 3:27 PM
To: Andrea Gyger
Cc: Daniel Gonzales
Subject: New Era Colorado Testimony on Proposed Rule Changes
Attachments: new era comments.doc

To Whom It May Concern:

I will be giving testimony on the Secretary's proposed rule changes tomorrow morning. Find attached my statement. Please make sure that this is entered into the official record.

Many thanks.

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"Words are never 'only words'; they matter because they define the contours of what we can do." - Slavoj Zizek

Hello, my name is Christopher Getzan. I live at [REDACTED] in Denver Colorado. I am here this morning to make comments on proposed campaign finance rules on behalf of New Era Colorado.

New Era Colorado is committed to ensuring that high school and college age Coloradans are participants at every level of the political process, and that they are central to making sure issues important to young Coloradans are heard by decision-makers.

As young people involved in politics, New Era's interns and volunteers have to work twice as hard to be heard. So they traffic in information, and depend on the promise of a transparent process where all stakeholders can make an educated choice.

Indeed, transparency was fundamental to New Era's recent, successful campaign for clean energy options in Boulder. When we knocked on doors or telephoned Boulder voters, so many said to us that their decision in that election was going to be based on which interests were supporting which position. Taken together or separately, under Proposed Rules 1.12, 4.1, and 1.18, those voters would be at a complete loss.

When an intern at New Era registers a classmate on campus, she does so with the belief that new voter's vote counts just as much as the head of a natural gas company does. Taken separately or together, these rule changes say loud and clear that the game is rigged. This message will drastically impact the willingness and ability of Colorado's young people to fully participate in the system. I ask today that the proposed rules 1.12, 1.18, 4.1 be rejected.