



To: Interested Parties
From: Chris Keating, *Harstad Strategic Research, Inc.*
Date: September 15, 2009
Re: Support for the Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness Act, and the Clean Water Act protecting all bodies of water from a poll in Colorado's 3rd Congressional District

HARSTAD STRATEGIC RESEARCH conducted a telephone survey among 504 registered voters in Colorado's 3rd Congressional District. Interviews were conducted from July 28-30, 2009.

Key Findings

- **An overwhelming two-thirds majority of voters in Colorado's 3rd Congressional District favor the Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals (FRAC) Act, while only 22% of voters oppose it.**

Voters in Colorado's 3rd CD heard the following description of Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals (FRAC) Act:

Hydraulic fracturing – also known as fracking – involves the injection of water, sand and chemicals into oil and gas wells in order to release the oil and gas that is trapped inside. Some members of Congress are considering a new federal law called the Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals Act which would regulate fracking under the Safe Drinking Water Act, and it would require anyone using hydraulic fracturing to disclose the chemicals they are using in the fracking process.

After hearing this description, fully 67% of voters in Colorado's 3rd Congressional District favor the Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals (FRAC) Act, including 56% who *strongly* favor it.

The Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals (FRAC) Act receives majority support from voters from all political persuasions: Democrats (80% favor the FRAC Act), Independents (79%) and Republicans (51%).

Support for the Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals (FRAC) Act is consistently strong across the key voter groups in Colorado's 3rd Congressional District:

- Voters in the district's two more urban counties, Mesa and Pueblo (70% favor the FRAC Act), and voters in the remaining more rural counties (66%);
- Men (66% favor the FRAC Act) and women (69%);
- Young and old: age 18-39 (67% favor the FRAC Act), age 40-59 (67%), and age 60+ (68%);
- Households that work in farming or ranching (63% favor the FRAC Act);
- Voters who go fishing or hunting (61% favor the FRAC Act), and voters who consider themselves to be environmentalists or conservationists (82%).

▪ **In Colorado's 3rd Congressional District, nearly two-thirds of voters agree that the Clean Water Act should protect all bodies of water from pollution, while only one-fourth say the Clean Water Act should not apply to all bodies of water.**

Voters in Colorado's 3rd CD heard the following two contrasting statements concerning what the Clean Water Act should protect:

Some / Other people say that the Clean Water Act which was originally passed in the 1970's has always protected ALL bodies of water from pollution, and not just those defined as navigable. And the Clean Water Act should protect all streams, headwaters, waterways, and bodies of water from pollution that could contaminate drinking water, foul wildlife habitats, or make rivers, lakes and streams unusable for fishing and swimming.

Other / Some people say the Supreme Court recently ruled that the Clean Water Act only protects navigable waterways. And the Clean Water Act should NOT apply to all bodies of water, such as headwaters or other waterways that are not defined as navigable, because this would amount to over-regulation by the federal government on private property owners, businesses or developers.

After hearing these two contrasting statements about the Clean Water Act, a strong 64% majority of voters in Colorado's 3rd Congressional District agree that the Clean Water Act should protect all streams, headwaters, waterways and bodies of water from pollution.

Support for the Clean Water Act protecting all bodies of water includes majorities among all of the key voter blocs in Colorado's 3rd Congressional District.

- Voters in the district's two more urban counties, Mesa and Pueblo (66% say the CWA should protect all bodies of water), and voters in the remaining more rural counties (62%);
- Men (63% say the CWA should protect all bodies of water), and women (64% favor);
- Young and old: age 18-39 (66% say the CWA should protect all bodies of water), age 40-59 (61%), and age 60+ (65%);
- Households that work in farming or ranching (58% say the Clean Water Act should protect all bodies of water);
- Voters who go fishing or hunting (61% say the Clean Water Act should protect all bodies of water), and voters who consider themselves to be environmentalists or conservationists (76%).

The July 28-30, 2009 Colorado 3rd Congressional District Voter Survey was conducted by Harstad Strategic Research, Inc., the national public opinion research firm in Boulder, Colorado. The results of this survey are based upon 504 random telephone interviews among registered voters in Colorado's 3rd Congressional District, using a voter list. The random sample of 504 has a worst-case 95% confidence interval of plus or minus 4.4% about any one reported percentage.