

1. For 100 years in western states, oil companies have attempted to melt a rock known as oil shale into oil by superheating it to 700 degrees or more over a period of months or even years. Oil companies say this process will help lead us to energy independence and create jobs. Critics say oil shale mining could require enormous amounts of electricity and billions of gallons of water, create toxic pollution, and put western waters such as the Colorado River at serious risk.

The federal government is considering a plan for oil shale development which would require companies to prove the economic viability of oil shale and that it can be produced in a way that will not harm water and air resources in Colorado and other states.

Do you favor or oppose a plan that would require oil companies to complete successful research of oil shale technologies and know its viability and potential impacts to western water prior to commercial development on public lands? [Is that strongly or just somewhat?]

Strongly favor	43
Somewhat favor	27
Somewhat oppose	5
Strongly oppose	12
Don't know	11
Refused	1
Total Favor	70
Total Oppose	17

2. Let's say there are two candidates running for office, and one candidate supported a proposal to require oil companies to prove that oil shale is feasible and won't harm western water before commercially occurs on public lands -- and the other candidate said oil companies should be able to get started developing oil shale right away to create jobs and energy. Which candidate are you more likely to support? [Is that definitely support, or just probably?]

Prove it won't harm environment – DEFINITELY	37
Prove it won't harm environment – PROBABLY	23
Allow oil shale development right away – PROBABLY	12
Allow oil shale development right away – DEFINITELY	8
Neither of these	4
Don't know/Undecided	14
Refused	1
Total – Prove it won't harm environment	60
Total – Allow oil shale development right away	20

3. Let's say one of the candidates had a plan to improve the economy that you supported, and on the issue of energy and oil the candidate said, quote: "in the West, we know how important water is. We must protect our waters like the Colorado river. If an oil company wants to pursue oil shale, it's just common sense to have them do their homework first, know the feasibility of oil shale, and prove they won't ruin our beautiful rivers and streams here in Colorado" end quote. Would that statement make you more likely to support the candidate, less likely to support the candidate, or would you not care what they said about energy and oil if you agreed with their plan for the economy?

More likely to support the candidate	61
Less likely to support the candidate	15
Don't care what they say about energy/oil	12
Don't know	9
Refused	2

4. Even though there are a lot of important issues on the agenda this election year - how important would you say the issue of protecting our rivers, mountains and air here in Colorado is to your vote this year? Would you say it is one of the most important issues, fairly important, only somewhat important, or not that important at all?

One of the most important	39
Fairly important	38
Only somewhat important	19
Not at all important	2
Don't know	*
Refused	1

5. How important do you think it is that the government help protect our community's rivers and lakes for family recreation and the overall well-being of the environment? [Rotate front to back: Very important, somewhat important, Only a little important, Not at all important?]

Very important	74
Somewhat important	21
Only a little important	4
Not at all important	1

6. Our state and others in the West face drought and water shortages today. What do you think the priority should be for our government in dealing with this challenge? [Read and rotate: Divert more water out of our local rivers and lakes so we can use it; OR being more careful and efficient with the water we already have?]

Diver more water so we can use it	11
Being more careful and efficient	84
Don't know	4

A total of 400 Latino registered voters in Colorado were interviewed September 29-October 4, 2012 by Latino Decisions for *Nuestro Rio*. Interviews were conducted in English or Spanish, at the preference of the respondent, all conducted by bilingual interviewers at Latino Decisions calling center, Pacific Market Research. The survey has an overall margin of error of 4.9% on results that approach a 50/50 distribution. All respondents confirm that they are Hispanic or Latino and currently registered to vote.