## Statement of Chris Bliley, SVP, Growth Energy Listening Session for Colorado's GHG Pollution Reduction Roadmap October 20, 2020

My name is the Chris Bliley and I'm the Senior Vice President of Regulatory Affairs for Growth Energy. Growth Energy is the world's largest association of biofuel producers, representing 89 U.S. plants, including Colorado's 3 biorefineries, that each year produce more than 7.5 billion gallons of cleaner-burning, renewable biofuel.

Together, we're working to bring better and more affordable fuel choices to consumers, improve air quality, and protect the environment for future generations. We appreciate your attention and hard work to reshape Colorado's fuel mix and make it more sustainable.

Even as new alternative technologies flourish, liquid fuels will continue to play the dominant role in the transportation sector. Therefore, it is imperative to explore more ways to improve the availability and affordability of more sustainable fuel options in today's vehicles, and in future internal combustion engines traveling on Colorado's roads for decades to come.

One of the most efficient options to decarbonize transportation is adding readily available, renewable biofuels, like ethanol, to the fuel supply. Today's plant-based ethanol reduces lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 39 percent compared to gasoline, and can soon achieve reductions of 55-70%. Ethanol also reduces air toxics such as carbon monoxide, benzene, and other harmful particulates from vehicle emissions that contribute to poor air quality and increased health risks.

Today, biofuel blends can be used in most vehicles to achieve immediate carbon reductions, reduce harmful air toxics, and lower prices at the pump. E15, a blend consisting of 15% ethanol, is approved for all passenger vehicles model year 2001 and newer – more than 95% of the cars on the road today, and is now sold at more than 2200 locations in 29 states – including 36 locations in Colorado.

We urge the state to develop policies that recognize the realities of today's fuel market and examine how homegrown biofuels can immediately contribute to achieving greenhouse gas reductions. The state should consider real-world emissions modeling and encourage cleaner biofuel blends – like E15 – that can speed the state toward significant CO2 reductions.

We look forward to working with you to make Colorado's fuel mix more sustainable and help the state achieve its climate goals through expanded use of low-carbon, renewable biofuels.