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**This project addresses three persistent challenges that exist in coal mining regions: methane gas leakage, site remediation, and ensuring a just transition.**

**COMMUNITY ENERGY FOR A RESILIENT NORTH FORK**

**NORTH FORK HEAT & POWER HUB**

**JUST TRANSITION RURAL INNOVATORS/SWITCHBACK COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE**

PAONIA, CO

**CHRIS CASKEY, SWITCHBACK RESTORATION**

Original member of the North Fork Coal Mine Methane Working Group

Vice-Chair of the CO Electric Transmission Authority

Past Board Chair of the Western Slope Conservation Center based in Paonia

Completed graduate research in chemistry at NREL.

**PETE KOLBENSCHLAG, COLORADO FARM & FOOD ALLIANCE**

Completed the NCSP's "Community Power Accelerator Learning Lab" course

25 years of community organizing and communications experience

Boardmember of 100-year-old domestic water co. with service area abutting project site

Skilled grant writer

**OTHER PROJECT PARTNERS INCLUDE DELTA BRICK & CLIMATE, MOUNTAIN WEST STRATEGIES**

Mirasol Agrivoltaics, Western Slope Conservation Center, The Nature Connection

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***Innovative Energy Solution***

**Use heat from the destruction of fugitive coal mine methane, paired with solar, to power businesses, community use spaces, and resilience services and facilities, centered at a reclaimed coalmine in a disadvantaged, climate-vulnerable community.**