

**FILED**

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To Whom it May Concern:

Terri A. Lorenzon, Director  
Environmental Quality Council

Kenny Claybaugh is not the only rancher who has been over run by CBM water. Fourmile creek, which drains over 200 square miles, ends up on our place. The Cat Creek prong feeds into Fourmile. Both have been running water for over three years. Cottonwoods have been continuously soaked and are dying. There is a CBM reservoir built on Fourmile catching this water. The reservoir is backed up in a wide stream that has drowned five cows.

Parallel to this drainage are solar, windmill and electric stock wells. Of what beneficial use is the CBM water? . It has attracted many ducks and weeds and unpalatable grass.

Before CBM activity green grass grew in the Fourmile bottomlands. Now water, runs wall to wall over this, our most productive grassland. .

We, and the land men, knew that the beneficial use statement was a hoop to jump through, a necessary sham. We tried to negotiate the best deal although we had little leverage. Who gave beneficial use its weighty status?

If a regulatory agency could control the production of water, it would immeasurably help control the speed of CBM development and. at the same time, maintain Wyoming ranch land in a healthier way. The gas is not going anywhere. All ranchers' need is adequate control. A few stock tanks are of beneficial use to us, beyond that the water is a damaging nuisance.



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P. S. We have other issues, such as two acres of sacks, full of ziolite . These huge sacks are on their third year of slowly rotting in the sun and snow; unusable it seems, for a once considered beneficial water treatment project.