

Wyoming Environmental Quality Council
Herschler Building, Room 1714
122 West 25th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002
Cc Gov. Freudenthal
Cc Wy. Attorney General

January 12, 2007

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Terri A. Lorenzon, Director
Environmental Quality Council

To Whom it May Concern:

I am disgusted with efforts of the Governor to usurp the power of the people to petition for what citizens deem as needed and necessary changes to the WYOMING ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT, an act promulgated during Gov. Stan Hathaway's term in the sixties.

The basic purpose of the law is to initiate controls that protect the environment...relating to air, water, land, forests, wildlife, aquatic life and the possible impairments by pollution. Also included are enhancements relating to agriculture, industry, recreation, reclamation, preservation and to secure cooperation between agencies of the state and other states, interstate agencies and the federal government.

The current water management for coal-bed methane discharges, administered mostly by the DEQ IS NOT ALWAYS BENEFICIAL USE. Millions of gallons of water many polluted are being discharged by CBM companies. The huge amounts are causing erosion damage, flooding, sedimentation and silt, in fields, ponds & streams. This in turn causes great harm to the natural ecology of the region and to agricultural interests by negatively effecting residents' livelihoods. And what about citizens' concerns for the near & far distant future?

The Powder River Basin Resource Council, representing residents negatively affected by these corporate floods has petitioned the Environmental Quality Council to continue necessary actions that regulate these serious water problems resulting from CBM production. I urge you to help correct these problems.

This summer I visited the Ucross Foundation Art Gallery north of Buffalo, to see THE NEW GOLD RUSH; IMAGES OF COAL BED METHANE, an excellent educational photography exhibition developed by Ucross Foundation and PRBRC. Photos illustrated agricultural lands and drainage, torn up and put at great risk by CBM water "run wild" (my words) and ruptured landscapes. What really angered me were the most recent satellite images of the entire region from Sheridan to Decker, MT that illustrated the huge and unnatural increases of water in the region. I need not describe my feelings when viewing the spider webs of roads desecrating our beautiful state.

I must add that this exhibition scheduled for the Nicolaysen Art Museum for Sept. and Nov. was canceled in March because it was TOO graphically educational and could put at risk big donor bucks from corporate patrons.

Sincerely,



Mary Lou Morrison, 845 East Third, Casper, WY. 82601