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Terri A. Lorenzon, Director
Environmental Quality Council

Mr. Mark Gordon, Chairman
Wyoming Environmental Quality Council
122 W. 25th Street
Herschler Building, Room 1714
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Re: Petition to Amend Wyoming Water Quality Rule, Chapter 2

Dear Mr. Gordon:

I am a Civil Engineer living in Gillette, Wyoming. I have a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering and a Master's Degree in Mining Engineering. A large portion of my income is from engineering services provided to the Coal Bed Methane (CBM) industry. The other portion of my income is from services that support the employees of the CBM industries and mines in northeastern Wyoming, such as subdivision and infrastructure design. It has recently come to my attention that the Powder River Basin Resource Council and other petitioners are trying to amend the Wyoming Water Quality Rule, Chapter 2. I believe the changes they are proposing will have a detrimental effect on my livelihood by effectively prohibiting most of CDM water discharge and as a result, eliminate any chance of work for myself and many others in the area.

Aside from my own livelihood, I have other concerns about the proposed changes. I do not believe that rules holding CDM discharges to higher standards than other industries are fair and would most likely not hold up if challenged in court. For example, the coal mines in the area produce water from the same coal seams that CDM water originates from, and yet the proposed changes would not affect them. The water the mines use is applied directly to the roads with mag-chloride to control dust, in compliance with discharge regulations.

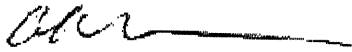
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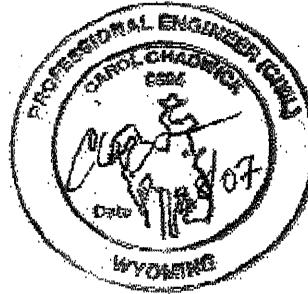
I have spent many days in the CBM fields. I have seen cattle and wildlife benefit from the water discharged from the CDM wells. Not to mention that the water discharged from wells drilled by the ranchers comes from the same source, in many cases, and they would not be held to the same standards as the CBM produced water. During the drought that we are in, I have to believe that any surface water is a benefit to the wildlife and cattle.

I am opposed to the proposed changes and am very concerned for my livelihood if it is approved. I believe that the economy in this area would be catastrophically affected by a proposed law that has no merit. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you,



Carol Chadwick, P.E.



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