

**FILED**

JAN 29 2007

Mr. Mark Gordon, Chairman  
 Wyoming Environmental Quality Council  
 122 W. 25<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Herschler Bldg., Room 1714  
 Cheyenne, WY 82002

Terri A. Lorenzon, Director  
 Environmental Quality Council

January 29, 2007

Dear Mr. Gordon:

As a homeowner and parent of two high school aged youth, and since resigning from the teaching profession after 22 years of service, my livelihood is now dependent on the Coal Bed Methane Industry. I am writing to oppose the Citizen Petition for Rulemaking – Powder River Basin Resource Council et al-WQD, Chapter 2. This petition seems to be an extreme assault on the Coal Bed Methane Industry with dramatic negative impacts for citizens, landowners and the economy in Wyoming. The petition seems to be without regard for other arenas of resolution or negotiation to find a balanced outcome and a healthy win/win for our state.

Please consider some of the more positive environmental impacts of Coal Bed methane water in our state as well as the obvious economical ones.

The photo below shows a reservoir that was designed with habitat islands for water fowl. Live stock water tanks are in the left and bottom of the photo, which provide freshwater for livestock and wildlife. Reservoirs placed in plains and desert areas can support grazing in grasslands that would otherwise be underutilized.



This photo provide courtesy of Lowham Engineering LLC.

May I suggest the following article as a read to show how the industry is making efforts towards research and projects: [Salty methane water may quench timber's thirst](#), by PETER GARTRELL, in the (Gillette) News-Record Wednesday, August 30, 2006. I will attach a copy or you can read it online at: <http://www.caspertribune.net/articles/2006/08/30/news/wyoming/a45d381f8f953359872571d700201639.txt>

This article covers how this particular oasis of trees wouldn't exist without the use of Coal Bed Methane water. It is a pilot project with ecolotree (<http://www.ecolotree.com>). With projects like these, three acres of thriving poplar trees is a step toward demonstrating the beneficial use of coal bed methane water and of lowering some of the carbon dioxide in our environment as a movement towards managing global warming.

I urge consideration of protecting existing and future uses of CBM water by ranchers, livestock and wildlife and to investigate the positive impacts the CBM industry is making in our state. Both Montana State University, in Bozeman, and the University of Wyoming, in Laramie, are our keenest resources for research and negotiations in the arena of Coal Bed Methane water and these resources should be a part of a healthy conflict resolution process.

Sincerely,

Deryle Matland (Industrial Technologist - Technical Services Specialist)  
 Health and Safety Coordinator / Staff Development  
 307-330-6349 cell

[dmatland@low-water.com](mailto:dmatland@low-water.com)

Lowham Engineering LLC, 205 South 11th Street, Lander, WY 82520

307-335-8466, FAX 307-335-7343 <http://www.low-water.com>