

January 29, 2007

FILED

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Mr. Mark Gordon
Chairman
Wyoming Environmental Quality Council
122 W. 25th St, Herschler Bldg., Rm. 1/14
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Terri A. Lorenzon, Director
Environmental Quality Council

Dear Mr. Gordon,

As an employee of an engineering firm whose primary clients are those in the Coal Bed Methane industry, I feel compelled to write you with my concerns regarding the Petition to Amend Wyoming Water Quality Rules. I have read this petition and it strikes me as very arbitrary in its purpose. Holding CBM produced water to a higher standard than that produced by conventional oil & gas wells is unnecessary. Livestock & wildlife can't choose which water to drink and both sources should meet the same criteria. Additionally, the petitioners would like to halt all CBM discharge if there are any changes at all to the receiving water. This tactic is obviously intended to shut down the industry as there are no cases where the CBM produced water will match the receiving water exactly.

Our firm, Lowham Engineering LLC, has worked with companies in the PRB for more than eight years. We meet with landowners on a regular basis who appreciate the beneficial use of the produced water. The reservoirs we design serve two industries, Coal Bed Methane and Agriculture. There may be some unresolved issues with the petitioners, but changing water quality rules will not benefit the majority of the landowners and could only serve to hurt the area economy as a whole.

The economic benefits impact the entire state. Our firm has two locations, one in Gillette and the other in Lander. We pay competitive salaries to our Gillette employees and our Lander employees earn similar salaries that are hard to find in this area. These people are part of communities that benefit from higher wages. We elect to stay in Wyoming because we can afford to, we send our kids to school here thereby stabilizing school enrollment. As our state attempts to diversify itself economically, we need to keep the money flowing so we can invest in small business initiatives and large scale enterprises.

In closing I would like the Environmental Quality Council to know I think we provide the industry with a quality product (stock reservoirs & reservoirs) and the state with professional employees who enjoy living here. Thank you for the opportunity to comment and I can be reached at the following phone/email if you should have any questions.

Regards,



Gina Colovich
Technical Services Director
Lowham Engineering LLC
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