

To: Mr. Mark Gordon
Chairman
Wyoming Environmental Quality Council
122 W. 25th St.
Herschler Bldg., Rm. 1714
Cheyenne, WY 82002

FILED

JAN 29 2007

Terri A. Lorenzon, Director
Environmental Quality Council

RE: Citizen Petition for Rulemaking – WQD Chapter 2
By: The Powder River Basin Resource Council

Dear Mr. Gordon:

This letter is in regards to the Citizen Petition for Rulemaking Filed 1-05-07.

I make my "living" in the methane play around Sheridan WY and Decker MT.

I strongly oppose this petition as the DEQ states it will shut in 99% of all surface discharges. This would put thousands of people, hundreds of businesses out of work and hundreds of mineral royalty owners without a check.

The standards already in place are below Human drinking water standards for many of the limits. The standards do not need lowered for livestock or wildlife.

The State Engineers Office (SEO) issues the UW5 – appropriation permits with the beneficial use listed of pumping the water to surface to get the gas out of the coal. Livestock and wildlife uses are secondary beneficial uses.

I see many fields of irrigation using methane water producing two cuttings of alfalfa each summer.

I know of many ranchers that would be devastated in Sheridan County without the water in ponds, tanks for livestock and on hay fields to support their operation in this 20 plus yearlong drought.

Thank you for reading my comments and I strongly urge you to vote NO on this petition filed to circumvent the SEO and the WOGCC. This petition is not for the better good of the people or the land.

Cordially,

Nick Auf

P.O. BOX 577

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