

January 14, 2007

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1-17-07

Environmental Quality Council
Herschler Building, Room 1714
122 West 25th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am writing to urge you to heed the rule-making petition before you regarding water discharge volumes relating primarily to coalbed methane development in our state.

I was raised on a ranch near Cody, and have lived in Wyoming nearly all my life. Although I now live in town, I have several ranching friends who are dealing with huge amounts of water being discharged on their lands. Hay fields are being rendered sterile due to salt deposits, as well as top-soils being stripped away. Drainages that for millenia have supported only Spring run-off now must support hundreds of thousands of gallons of water being dumped into them...gone forever downstream. Wyoming is an arid land, and making a living here has always been a struggle. The idea that we are wasting and misusing a most precious resource with such abandon is unthinkable!

Please consider taking steps to change what is happening on the ground in the Powder River Basin. Ranching is who we are, it defines us as a state. The legacy we give our children must reflect the love we have for our land. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Sarah Mentock

Sheridan

1081 Airport
Sheridan, WY 82801