

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

By e-mail / fax: Attn: Kim McGee

January 25, 2007

To the Environmental Quality Council:

We are writing in support of adopting the rule change to Chapter 2 of the Water Quality rules (Appendix I) being proposed to address the problem of CBM discharges.

As ranchers in the Big Horn Basin, we agree that there is a need to put greater restrictions on the volume of water discharged from CBM wells, since the amounts of coal bed methane-produced water impacts native grasses as well as other pasture and of course soil. Ranches currently dealing with CBM water are seeing erosion, sedimentation, siltation, and flooding. There is such a thing as bad water, and there is such a thing as too much water. We believe that it is the job of the EQC to address this issue, since it is currently causing environmental and pollution problems in the Powder River Basin – and “CBM technology may soon be coming to a Basin near you.”

We support the requirement that water be put to actual beneficial use. Drainages that are used to discharge CBM water are seeing native vegetation destroyed, trees killed, and bottomland soils permanently damaged. Please do not assume that water is beneficially used, when often it is just being wasted, changing the current use of the land, devastating native soils and grasses, and polluting other waters. We are concerned that we are all downstream users at one point or another.

Please implement the proposed rule change, since our own Department of Environmental Quality has tied its hands in helping protect Wyoming’s ranches, citizens, and environment.

Thank you,



Chris Pfister and Susan Lasher
3900 Gooseberry Road
Worland, WY 82401
(307) 868-2592

FILED

JAN 26 2007

Terri A. Lorenzon, Director
Environmental Quality Council