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Wyoming Environmental Quality Council
122 W. 25th St.
Herschler Building, Room 1714
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Terri A. Lorenzon, Director
Environmental Quality Council

To Whom It May Concern:

I recently heard of the EQC and area ranchers' attempt to have a law passed to regulate coal bed methane water. This petition is going to require the methane water that it is discharged to be at 200 parts per billion. I, for a fact, know that this is impossible to do, as I am an operator for a methane work over rig. If this regulation is put into effect it will shut down all coal bed methane production. Therefore I will lose my job, as the company I work for will be ruined. I will have to watch my friends and coworkers struggle to feed their families.

Not only will this effect me on a very personal level; it will effect this town by removing the largest percentage of jobs. The coal bed methane industry provides 75% of the jobs in Gillette, Wyoming. Not to mention the jobs it provides for the entire county and surrounding counties. I do not feel that is right to eliminate the jobs of over 17,000 people just to please a few ranchers. I myself was raised on a ranch in South Dakota and I do not feel that these Wyoming ranchers are putting anything but their own bank accounts in mind. They seem to have waited until the methane industry had lined their pockets before fighting against it. Agriculture is a major industry in Wyoming, but so are the natural resources found here. The water discharge from coal and oil are not regulated like they are trying to do with coal bed methane. So why should the methane industry have to follow these laws and not other natural resource industries?

In conclusion, I want it to be stated that I very strongly oppose this petition and feel that is not in the best interest of the entire state to allow it to become a law. I am thankful to you for allowing me to state my opinion and I hope that you will take it into consideration.

Sincerely,



Tony V. Hanson
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