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Terri A. Lorenzon, Director
Environmental Quality Council

To: Mr. Mark Gordon, Chairman
Wyoming Environmental Quality Council
122 W. 25th St.
Herschler Bldg, Room 1714
Cheyenne, WY 82002
Fax 307-777-6134

I would like to respond to the Powder River Basin Resource Councils Petition for rule on water quality, Chapter 2, appendix H. I would like my comments considered with as much emphasis as those submitted for change of the Wyoming Water Quality Rules. I personally oppose the Citizen Petition for Rulemaking.

I would like to speak from two different points of view. First, from the aspect as an employee of CBM industry and also from the view as member of a homestead ranching family and mineral owner.

As a employee of the CBM industry I see these rule changes as stoppage of all water discharges. Consequently this would eliminate my livelihood and have devastating economic consequences for myself and my family. Who knows how widespread this economic impact would be to me or the thousands of employees that touch this industry thru goods or services directly or indirectly.

From a ranching land owner family and mineral owner I would like to address these aspects. First, I would like to speak of beneficial use. It has greatly increased the utilization of our pasture ground by cattle due to water being more plentiful and placed in strategic locations. Also if it had not been for CBM water discharges in the past six years my cattle would have to travel great distances to seek daily water. Also over this period of time cattle has utilized this water in pasture grazing and confinement with no ill health effects. I have asked both producers on our property to maintain total containment of this water as I want it and see beneficial use of it. Wild life, especially deer, has also increased on our 1800 acres in the recent past due to this abundant water storage. It has been my experience that when you work with the production companies they will diligently strive to accomplish your goals also. As for being stewards of the land we know the problems associated with our property to address SAR, water quality, and quantity problems and have been highly successful in working together. If water discharge were to stop this would require downsizing our herd capacity and impact the family economically.

This industry has also greatly helped our family by finally seeing some of the mineral ownership that has been there for 80 years with royalty income. To eliminate water is to eliminate this also.

As you can see we are opposed to this petition. I don't think people understand the economic magnitude this would have on the State, Counties, and individual. It would be devastation of a great magnitude that would be felt for long term. I also have concerns

that these changes would also affect conventional water wells with over flows associated with stock tanks, etc.

William D. Gustafson

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William D. Gustafson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the printed name.

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