



Senator John J. Hines  
Wyoming Senate  
Majority Floor Leader

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Terri A. Lorenzon, Director  
Environmental Quality Council

Terri Lorenzon  
Director, Environmental Quality Council  
Room 1714, Herschler Building  
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

RE: Environmental Quality Council rules, Chapter 2, Appendix H, Coal bed methane, Citizen Petition for Rulemaking

Dear Ms. Lorenzon:

I have asked that the Environmental Quality Council rules on the coal bed methane (citizen petition for rulemaking), be removed from the consent list and discussed at the next meeting of Management Council. I have read the rules and statement of principal reasons for adoption, but would like additional information on the exact effect of the rules. Specifically, what would be the status of regulation of water discharges from both coal bed methane operations and non-coal bed methane oil and gas operations, if the proposed amendments are adopted and if they are not? Also, the statement of reasons references an Attorney General opinion regarding the EQC's jurisdiction in this matter, but it is not clear to me what that opinion held or the effect of that opinion on the EQC's actions in this matter.

The rules must be filed with the Secretary of State by May 2, in order to become effective. I do not know if Management Council will meet before May 2, but the statute would allow the Governor to act on the rules as early as April 5 if he has not received a Council recommendation. I would like to receive additional information on the rules as requested above at your earliest possible convenience in order to allow for discussion at the next Council meeting. Depending on whether I have additional questions, I may ask that a representative of the EQC attend the Council meeting.

I appreciate any information you can provide. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
John Hines, Senator

cc: Governor Freudenthal

Committees:

*Management Council*  
*Rules and Procedure*