

Mr. Mark Gordon
Wyoming Environmental Quality Council
122 West 25th Street, Herschler Building, Room 1714
Cheyenne, WY 82002

FAX: 307-777-6134

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Terri A. Lorenzon, Director
Environmental Quality Council

RE: Appendix H of section 20, Chapter 1 Wyoming Water Quality Rules and Regulations

Mr. Mark Gordon,

I am writing to provide comments **opposing** the proposed rule change(s) with respect to Section 20, Chapter 1 Wyoming Water Quality Rules and Regulations. It is clear that the proposed changes will do little more than harm the State of Wyoming on multiple levels. Simple cow calf ranching operations will literally dry up and blow away, as such minute elements as windmill or water well operated stock tanks will no longer be permissible means to water livestock. Their overflowing discharges will not meet the proposed standards. Furthermore, similar instances where the overflow fills and associated reservoir will no longer be permissible either. This state has been in a prolonged period of drought and were it not for CBM discharge water, many small ranching operations would have already gone under.

The Powder River Basin Resource Council is trying to stop CBM development and in turn ruin the ability of the Wyoming farm and ranch community to raise and care for their crops and livestock operations. In one motion, the PRBRC stands to kill both industry and agriculture all together. For too long the voice of a vocal minority has been dictating the actions of the silent majority. The views of the petitioners are not the views of the people of Wyoming who choose to make it their home. I am one of many University of Wyoming graduates (I personally have a Master's Degree in Environmental Economics) who want to remain in their home state and invest their productive lives into making it their home. I make a good income, pay all of my bills on time, and I pay my taxes. How do the petitioners expect the economy of Wyoming to remain intact if their proposed rule changes get adopted? Are they going to make up the fiscal difference out of their own pockets? You and I both know the answer to that.

The water produced from CBM benefits both the agricultural industry and the Wyoming wildlife. Water is put to good use as stock and wildlife water and irrigation. The science is in place allowing land application of this water with proper oversight and management. The soils are treated and enhanced and life goes on. Wildlife and livestock have flourished in the presence of CBM produced water. You can even discuss this with the BLM wildlife biologists if you like.

Thanks for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Gates - Lifelong Wyoming resident
191 Fish Hatchery Rd.
Story, WY 82842