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BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL
OF THE STATE OF WYOMING

_____)	
IN THE MATTER OF:)	
BASIN ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE,)	AFFIDAVIT OF
DRY FORK STATION,)	WAYNE F. GILBERT
AIR PERMIT CT-4631)	
_____)	

I, Wayne F. Gilbert, declare as follows:

1. The facts set forth in this affidavit are based upon my personal knowledge. If called as a witness, I could and would testify to these facts. As to those matters which reflect an opinion, they reflect my personal opinion and judgment on the matter.
2. I am a resident of 831 St. James Street, Rapids City, South Dakota, 57701.
3. I am a member of Sierra Club and have been since 2003. I am generally familiar with the Sierra Club's mission and objectives.
4. Sierra Club is the nation's oldest grassroots environmental organization. Sierra Club and its members are dedicated to promoting the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources, and to educating people to protect and restore the natural and human environment. The organization's members, totaling more than 750,000 members nationwide, further seek to enjoy and protect the wild places of the earth. To meet this goal, Sierra Club recently made curbing global warming emissions one of its main priorities. As part of this campaign, the Sierra

Club has taken the lead in fighting many of the dirtiest proposed coal-fired power plants in the U.S. that threaten to degrade air quality and contribute to global warming.

5. Sierra Club has been intimately involved with efforts to inform the public, elected officials, and the Air Quality Division of the Department of Environmental Quality about less polluting alternatives to building the coal-fired power plant proposed for the Dry Fork Station. Sierra Club filed extensive comments on the proposed air permit and submitted testimony aimed at reducing emissions that threaten public health and contribute to global warming. Sierra Club offered testimony from members of both its Wyoming Chapter and South Dakota Chapter, noting that members in both states will be negatively impacted by the pollution anticipated from this plant. In addition to challenging this plant, Sierra Club has challenged numerous other plants, consistently advocating for the use of renewable energy and the application of the best available pollution controls, including IGCC and a supercritical or ultra supercritical boiler.

6. I offered personal testimony at the air permit hearing for the Dry Fork Station on June 28, 2007. I testified to state that Basin Electric should adopt a state of the art scrubbing mechanism for the Dry Fork Station. Additionally, I testified that the power plant should be adopting state of the art technology to control emissions, especially in light of Massachusetts v. Environmental Protection Agency, where the Supreme Court determined that the Environmental Protection Agency could regulate carbon dioxide emissions.

7. I spend a lot of time in Badlands National Park, visiting at least twice per year. I enjoy hiking in the Park and appreciate the scenery and multiple vistas throughout the Park. I enjoy taking pictures of the views from high elevations, especially on clear sunny days where the views extend for miles. I mostly enjoy Badlands National Park because it makes me feel like I am in a natural environment, free from pollution, traffic, and the hustle and bustle of everyday life. I

plan to return to Badlands National Park often, with my most recent planned visit being next April.

8. Jewel Cave National Monument offers wonderful scenery, beauty which I appreciate so much that I visit the Monument about five times each year. Jewel Cave is the second longest cave in the world, and it is filled with gorgeous calcite crystals that are beyond comparison. I have been visiting this Monument for about thirty years or so, and plan to return several times next year.

9. I similarly visit Hells Canyon and Gillette Canyon in South Dakota about four or five times per year. The canyons offer unmatched scenery and I enjoy hiking through the canyon lands. The fresh air, beautiful vistas, and various wildlife have drawn me to the area for about thirty years, and I plan to return several times per year for as long as I am able.

10. Wind Cave National Park is one of my favorite places to visit, and I go about four or five times every year. I enjoy the unique features the Park has to offer, including the winding caves and beautiful scenery. I plan to return to the Park several times next year.

11. I also enjoy visiting Devils Tower National Monument, and generally visit the Monument about once a year. The scenery the area has to offer is one of a kind, and I enjoy the distinctive characteristics the landscape provides. I plan to return to Devils Tower National Monument some time next year.

12. I am less likely to travel to these scenic areas in the future if they are harmed by air pollution, haze, or acid rain from the Dry Fork power plant. If haze inhibits the ability to enjoy the scenic vistas offered by these areas, especially in Badlands National Park, Hells Canyon and Gillette Canyon, the experience will be much less enjoyable. I visit these places for their scenery, fresh air, and wildlife, all of which may be negatively affected by the Dry Fork plant.

The National Park Service has additionally predicted that the plant's emissions may have a profound impact on visibility at Wind Cave National Park, especially in conjunction with the extensive development around the WCNP. As this is one of my favorite places to visit, I would be negatively impacted if the plant were to harm visibility or air quality of the Park.

Furthermore, the additional deposition of nitrogen and sulfur could affect the ecological health of these magnificent areas.

13. While I am not entirely opposed to the use of coal for energy production, I am concerned that the Dry Fork power plant will emit much more pollution than is necessary to effectively burn coal. I spoke at the hearing in Gillette on June 28, 2007 regarding the proposed air permit because I want WYDEQ to impose state of the art emission controls on this plant. Apparently my comments were unconvincing, because Basin Electric is still proposing a subcritical boiler, one of the dirtiest forms of plant technology on the market.

