From:
 Peggy K. Bryant

 To:
 Waring, Kim

 Subject:
 Docket #09-1101

 Date:
 Friday, August 14, 2009 11:50:53 AM

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Environmental Quality Council, 122 W. 25th St. Herschler Bldg., Rm 1714 Cheyenne, WY. 82002

Regarding Docket #09-1101

Dear Sirs,

I live in Cora Wyoming and have attended most of the DEQ meeting regarding the ozone problem in Sublette County. My home is here and I plan to remain in this county. My husband and I have a significant financial and emotional investment in this community. We plan to stay here for years and we want to stay healthy and not develop preventable respiratory problems due to ozone exposure. We take care of ourselves and need our state agencies to ensure that the current clean air and water conditions are prevented from deteriorating.

I am writing to you regarding my concerns about the effect of ozone on our community and to ask you to review the petition by other community members in lowering the level to 65 ppb as recommended by the scientific panel from the Haub School and hosted by the county commissioners to inform the public of the facts and effects of ozone, NOx, and particulate matter in our air.

We attended that specific meeting. THE EXPERTS ON THE PANEL TOLD US WHAT IS THE BEST SAFETY LEVEL FOR OZONE AND THAT THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION DID NOT FOLLOW THE BEST ADVICE PROVIDED TO THEM FROM THESE KNOWLEDGEABLE PEOPLE Now is the time for the state to respond to our requests for healthy air.

I have talked with my neighbors regarding the issue and they expressed similar concerns but are busy with having right now to write to you directly.

Everyone in the community is affected by the air we breathe and we need to know that it is as safe as possible given the deleterious effects on respiratory health of people, livestock, and wildlife.

Adults need to know that conditions are safe for children and family members. As a teacher I know that kids need recess and a chance to exercise outdoors during the school day. Keeping kids cooped up does not help them learn. Day care workers need to know that the air is safe for the youngsters they tend. Parents expect that their children will not be harmed.

People who coach kids in outdoor sporting activities and group leaders in 4H, Scouts and other groups need to know in good faith that they are providing a safe environment for kids to train, work, and compete outside and not compromising their health while learning to develop and practice their skills.

Winter tourism is important for this community. We have a viable Nordic and downhill skiing. White Pine Ski area hosts many events that attract people from western Wyoming. We have the dog sledding event in January and a developing winter sports event for seniors. There are local fishing, snowmobiling and other outdoors events that help support the community in cohesive and financial benefits.

My friends work outside for their jobs, either as agency people for the forest service, game and fish, or feeding elk. They deserve the right to work in safe conditions.

My neighbors include health professionals, elderly people, and people who work in the gas fields. I had surgery once and depended on the oxygen and supplies provided by Lincare, so I learned how many others in the community are able to stay in their homes and participate in the community with supplemental oxygen. They do no need the ozone or particulate matters to add to their health conditions.

My neighbors include ranchers and ranch who have to be outside in the winter to feed their livestock. For many ranchers, cattle are currency and pregnant cows and their calves are as affected by ozone as people and other forms of life; it influences life at the cellular level.

This part of Wyoming has wonderful wildlife reserves in the herds of deer, elk and antelope. They too are affected by NOx, ozone and pollutants. We need to consider and protect all resources in the area.

I have neighbors who work and supervise others in the gas fields. They are bothered that they may subject their crews to unhealthy air and want safe working conditions. Why spend time providing mandated safety training if the air the workers have to breathe is a hazard. People need their jobs to support their families; it is not a choice for many people.

Now that there is recoverable oil in addition to gas in the Jonah fields, the companies will make more money than planned, so they can afford to invest in the best technologies to ensure public safety. The same resources may be available as the Pinedale Anticline is developed. I have attended the EIS meetings where field development was mentioned as possibly extending for +50 years.

Thank you for reading my letter. These are my concerns regarding air pollutants. I have made and effort to learn from the experts the facts of the situation. Now I have had a chance to tell you what I see as the potential influences on the community and friends around me.

Sincerely,

Peggy Bryant