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Environmental Quality Council:

This letter is to affirm my support of the petition submitted by the Citizen's United For Responsible Energy Development organization from Sublette County. The petition specifically requests that this county be designated to have the maximum air content changed to a level of 65ppb rather than the current EPA maximum of 75ppb of atmospheric ozone. It has already been recommended by the Governor as an ozone non-attainment area and this change will make our air safer. I think it unnecessary to repeat the human/animal health dangers of this substance.

I understand that the current level was reached through a compromise of the scientific evidence that supports 60-70ppb and the political pressures to leave it at 85ppb. I find it strange that politics can override hard science.

I encourage a decision that the recommended level of 65ppb be implemented!

You should be aware that ozone is not the only local hazardous air pollutant. There is an ongoing study in eastern Sublette County to measure ozone and many other hazardous air pollutants, hitherto unrecognized, and to determine any potential health hazards. The first quarterly results are already on record. There are a number of monitoring stations surrounding the area from Pinedale to Bondurant to Farson and west to Big Piney. This study should be completed within one year.

Another pressing health hazard monitoring need is that of the ground water for domestic consumption. There are now many instances of wells contaminated with hydrocarbons in areas around drilling and extraction activities. A comprehensive source identification and monitoring program is lacking, thus human/animal health is potentially at risk.

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Sublette County Public Health Officer

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