

**BEFORE THE
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL
STATE OF WYOMING**

FILED

MAY 23 2011

*Jim Ruby, Executive Secretary
Environmental Quality Council*

**IN THE MATTER OF THE OBJECTION)
TO THE SMALL MINE PERMIT OF)
HIGH PLAINS VENTURES, LLC. TFN 5 6/170)**

Docket No. 11-4802

NOTICE OF HEARING AND ORDER

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT:

1. The Environmental Quality Council (the Council) will conduct a hearing on Monday, June 6, 2011 at the Herschler Building, 122 W 25thSt., Cheyenne, Wyoming, in Room 1699. The hearing will commence after the 1:30 p.m. motion hearing scheduled for EQC Docket 11-5601. This hearing may continue to Tuesday June 7, 2011. This hearing will be conducted as a contested case hearing under the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act. Dennis M. Boal, a member of the Council will serve as Presiding Officer.
2. This hearing is held pursuant to Sections 35-11-101 through 35-11-1904, W.S. 2010, as amended, regulations promulgated there under, and the Department of Environmental Quality Rules of Practice and Procedure.
3. High Plains Ventures, LCC, (High Plains) applied for a small mining permit from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).
4. High Plains and the DEQ contend the permit application is complete and should be granted.
5. The Protestants objected to High Plains' small mining permit. The particular statutes and rules upon which the Protestant base their objections have not been specified at this time.
6. This matter was scheduled in accordance with the time limitations set forth in Wyo. Stat. § 35-11-406(k). The schedule can only be adjusted at the request and the filing of a joint stipulation and motion for continuance.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT:

1. A prehearing conference in this matter will be conducted on Thursday May 26, 2011 at 1:30 p.m. via telephone conference call. The parties shall inform the EQC office of a direct telephone number and if possible an email address where they can be reached for

the prehearing on or before 4:00 p.m. May 24, 2011. Failure to appear at the prehearing conference may result in dismissal from this case.

2. The purpose of the prehearing conference is:
 - a. Identification of witnesses, their addresses, phone numbers, and the substance of their proposed testimony;
 - b. Clarification of the legal issues, both substantive and procedural, of all the parties, including identification of the statutory provisions and regulations that form the basis of the appeal;
 - c. Stipulation to uncontested facts;
 - d. Examination and marking of proposed exhibits and entering into stipulations to the foundation and admissibility of the exhibits and testimony; and
 - e. Motions.
3. In accordance with the DEQ Rules of Practice and Procedure, Chapter 1, Section 6, "Unless otherwise agreed to by the parties and consented to by the Council, all hearings, including all testimony, shall be reported verbatim by a competent reporter. The compensation of such reporter shall be paid as required by law and as ordered by the Council. The Council may direct any party or parties to assume the cost of the transcript." If the Parties do not file a waiver to this section, the DEQ should pay the costs of the transcript.

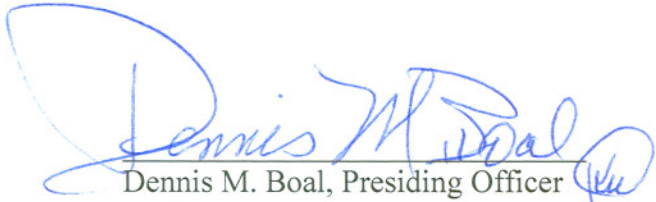
ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. All parties shall appear at the prehearing conference call on Thursday, May 26, 2011 at 1:30 p.m. The parties shall inform the EQC office of a direct telephone number and if possible an email address where they can be reached for the prehearing on or before 4:00 p.m. May 24, 2011. Failure to appear at the prehearing conference may result in dismissal from this case.
2. All parties shall appear on Monday, June 6, 2011 to present evidence. Failure to appear at the hearing will result in dismissal from the case.
3. A court reporter will transcribe the hearing. If the Parties have not filed a waiver for the prehearing on or before 12:00 noon May 24, 2011 a court reporter will transcribe the prehearing. The DEQ shall pay for the transcripts.

4. No continuances, concerning the prehearing conference, shall be granted unless a motion showing good cause for the continuance is filed with the EQC no later than 12:00 noon on May 24, 2011 and the Presiding Officer finds that good cause has been shown.
5. At the prehearing the Parties shall be prepared to discuss:
 - a. Identification of witnesses, their addresses, phone numbers, and the substance of their proposed testimony;
 - b. Clarification of the legal issues, both substantive and procedural, of all the parties, including identification of the statutory provisions and regulations that form the basis of the appeal;
 - c. Stipulation to uncontested facts;
 - d. Examination and marking of proposed exhibits and entering into stipulations to the foundation and admissibility of the exhibits and testimony; and
 - e. Motions.

DATED this 23rd day of May, 2011.


Dennis M. Boal, Presiding Officer
Environmental Quality Council

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Kim Waring, certify that at Cheyenne, Wyoming, on the 23rd day of May, 2011, I served a copy of the foregoing **NOTICE OF HEARING AND ORDER** by electronic mail to the following:

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