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**Wyoming Environmental Quality Council**

**JUL 31 2013**

The Wyoming Environmental Quality Council (EQC) will consider proposed revisions to Chapters 9, 10 and 11 of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Land Quality Division (LQD), Noncoal Rules and Regulations addressing requirements for small mining operations, limited mining operations and in situ mining operations at a public hearing to be held on September 12, 2013 at Herschler Building, Conference Room 1699, 122 W. 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Cheyenne, Wyoming, commencing at 1:00 p.m.

The LQD, pursuant to the authority vested in it by the Environmental Quality Act, Wyoming Statutes §35-11-101 to 1803 et seq., proposes to amend and revise multiple chapters of the LQD Noncoal Rules and Regulations. The proposed revisions are contained in two separate rule packages. The first proposes revisions to Chapters 9 (small mines) and 10 (limited mining operations) and is intended to provide consistency with new legislation that became effective July 1, 2013. The second proposes revisions to Chapter 11 (in situ mining) and is intended to address an EPA deficiency related to delineating aquifer exemption boundaries and provides additional consistency with EPA regulations while promoting efficient application processing.

The EQC is seeking comments on the LQD proposed revisions beginning July 27, 2013. That comment period closes on September 9, 2013. Written comments will also become a part of the public record if they are signed by the commenter and submitted the following address: DEQ/Land Quality Division, 122 West 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Herschler Building – 3W, Cheyenne, WY 82002. Copies of the Proposed Rules and Statement of Principal Reasons are available for review at: <http://deq.state.wy.us/lqd/>. Persons may also request a copy of the proposed rules by contacting Kim Pandullo at (307) 777-7756, fax: (307) 777-5864 or email at: [kim.pandullo@wyo.gov](mailto:kim.pandullo@wyo.gov). Questions regarding the proposed rules may be directed to Craig Hults at (307) 777-7066 or email at [craig.hults@wyo.gov](mailto:craig.hults@wyo.gov).

The LQD will file an analysis of comments on September 10, 2013. The EQC has scheduled the public hearing on September 12, 2013. The EQC will consider the proposed rules, written comments, and the analysis of comments, along with any modifications proposed by the LQD to the draft rules. At the public hearing, oral statements that focus on the written comments, the DEQ's analysis of comments and issues raised by the analysis will be accepted. Comments submitted during the comment period can be viewed at the EQC website: <http://deq.state.wy.us/eqc/docket.htm> under the links titled "13-4101" and "13-4102".

The Council will determine if the record will remain open beyond the close of the scheduled hearing. The Council may close the record and make a final decision at the conclusion of comments. Therefore, those wishing to comment on these proposed regulations should submit comments pursuant to the schedule given above.

Any person wishing to use a digital presentation during their testimony before the EQC must provide a digital copy to the EQC no less than 3 days prior to the hearing unless you contact the EQC and request an extension for good cause. Failure to submit a timely digital copy will result in the person not being allowed to use the presentation during their testimony.

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