

**BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL**

**IN RE: OBJECTION TO WILSON  
BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION  
APPLICATION TFN 56/125**

**Docket No. 18-4804**

**Stephen Freeman's Initial Witness List:**

**Witness**

**Stephen Freeman.**

Even though I am a member of the Diamond View Homeowners Association I will be speaking for myself. I am a retired Battalion Chief and Hazardous Material Specialist for the San Francisco Fire Department. I will speak about the human health hazards associated with operating a bentonite mine in a residential area.

I have reviewed many material safety data sheets from numerous companies who either mine and/or handle bentonite to include Black Hills Bentonite Company, Casper, Wyoming and Black Hills Bentonite, LLC, Mills, Wyoming. I have reviewed data from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Library of Medicine, International Programme on Chemical Safety (IPCS), New Jersey Department of Health and Human Services, Wyoming State Geological Survey, Digital Fire.Com library, and the Clay Minerals Society.

I will speak about the technical data that supports the fact that putting a bentonite mine in a residential area, especially one that has high velocity swirling winds (at times exceeding 50 mph), will produce adverse health effects on the residents.

I will talk about the carcinogenic effect of crystalline silica quarts that is found in bentonite.

I will talk about the hazards of bentonite fugitive dust mixed with water on roadways and walkways.

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