

March 16, 2015

Mr. Steven A. Dietrich  
Administrator, DEQ/AQD  
Herschler Building 2-E  
122 W. 25<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002



Dear Administrator Dietrich:

As a business person who makes a living from helping people enjoy Wyoming's great outdoors I was pleased to see the Wyoming Air Quality Advisory Board adopt new rules addressing existing source regulations for the Upper Green River Basin ozone nonattainment area. I now urge the Environmental Quality Council to follow the Air Quality Advisory Board's recommendation and finalize these rules.

I am the owner of Taylor Outfitting. I have long been concerned about the impacts air pollution can have on our citizens, environment, and wildlife of Wyoming. There is overwhelming scientific evidence linking ozone pollution with adverse health impacts. Taylor Outfitters offers guided wildlife tours and natural history trips. People who are active outdoors are susceptible to air pollution impacts. It also impacts children, older adults, and those with asthma and emphysema limiting the number of people who can enjoy everything our state has to offer.

Wyoming boasts the most scenic views in the nation. Air pollution threatens this. Ozone is created when pollution from oil and gas development mixes with other gases to create smog and thus limits visibility. Our customers expect to be able to enjoy and photograph the magnificent landscapes that we love. Ozone hurts our business.

Air pollution, in the form of ozone, also affects vegetation and ecosystems, especially during the growing season. Ozone exposure can also increase susceptibility of plant species to disease and insect damage.<sup>1</sup> The effect of ground-level ozone on trees is cumulative and affects forest ecosystems. Ozone can also kill or damage leaves, decreasing the natural beauty of the area.<sup>2</sup>

It is time to address air pollution in the Upper Green River Basin. Rules should be as strong as possible and effective as soon as possible. I ask the Environmental Quality Council to adopt the proposed Upper Green River Basin existing source regulations in Section 6 of the Wyoming Air Quality Standards and Regulations, Chapter 8, Nonattainment Area Regulations. Improving air quality is not only fundamental to protecting the health of Wyoming citizens and the environment it is critical to our business.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, 

Meredith Taylor, Owner, Taylor Outfitters  
6360 US Highway 26  
Dubois, WY 82513

<sup>1</sup> Accessed via <http://www.epa.gov/groundlevelozone/ecosystem.html>. November 6, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> Accessed via <http://www.epa.gov/rqytgrnj/air/quality/o3health.htm>. November 6, 2014.