

November 17, 2016

Nancy Vehr, Administrator  
Air Quality Division,  
200 West 17th Street,  
Cheyenne Wyoming, 82002

**FILED**

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Jim Ruby, Executive Secretary  
Environmental Quality Council

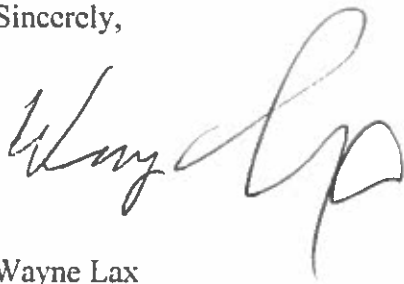
We thank the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, Air Quality Division's recommendation to adopt rules that would help reduce emissions from oil and gas development. This rule is much needed to protect Wyoming's air quality and our state's residents from harmful emissions.

However, given the significant increase of drilling permits in Laramie County over the last few years, we believe it would be in the best interest of Laramie County residents and all of Wyoming to implement the oil and gas requirements for the Jonah-Pinedale area statewide. Laramie County is already nearing the threshold for ozone and further drilling will likely cause the county to surpass that threshold. Strengthening these rules will prevent that from happening.

We also recommend the Wyoming DEQ expand quarterly leak detection and repair requirements to apply to existing sources statewide. Leaks are the second largest contributor of oil and gas emissions in the state, after flaring and venting. Applying this to existing sources would reduce harmful emissions even further.

We thank the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, Air Quality Division for proposing to adopt these new rules and ask that the Environmental Quality Council go even further to curb emissions from oil and gas facilities and protect the public health of Wyoming's citizens.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne Lax". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Wayne" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Lax".

Wayne Lax  
Vice President, Cheyenne Area Landowners Coalition