

EXHIBIT B

BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL
STATE OF WYOMING

In re Brook Mining Co., LLC coal mine)	
permit – PT0841)	
)	EQC Docket No. 20-4802
)	
)	

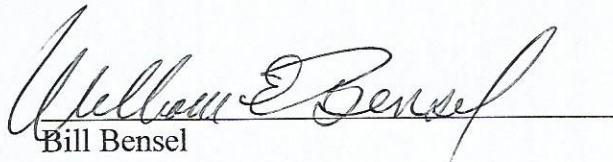
DECLARATION OF WILLIAM “BILL” BENSEL

I, Bill Bensel, declare as follows:

1. I reside at 32 River Road, Ranchester, Wyoming and have lived there for the last 22 years. My home and ranch is 2.6 miles South and West of the Ramaco proposed mining boundary
2. I have been a member of Powder River Basin Resource Council for over 33 years, and my wife, Kris, and I currently have a family membership. We contribute money each year to the organization to renew our membership and to stay involved in the issues that matter to us.
3. I have also been on staff for the organization for close to 12 years and now I volunteer my time to help out on various issue campaigns and activities of Powder River. Most years, my wife and I attend the annual membership meeting and we always enjoy getting together with fellow members and seeing the staff at that event. I personally care deeply about the mission of the organization and the work Powder River staff and members do to protect our natural resources in Sheridan County and throughout Wyoming.
4. The organization’s involvement of its members is one of the reasons that drew me to Powder River. I donate to other conservation groups, but few organizations really involve their members in governance the way Powder River does. Helping members like me use our voice is a very important part of Powder River’s mission that means a lot to me.

5. My wife and I are very concerned about the proposed Brook Mine and have been since it was proposed several years ago. Due to the proximity of the mine boundary to our property, the potential for blasting and subsequent air quality degradation can have negative impacts upon my land, agricultural operation and to the health of my family.
6. I am a hunter and our family loves to recreate. We hike, boat, float, run the dogs, and overall just like to get out and be in the natural and scenic areas near our place. We spend a lot of along Tongue River and the Tongue River Valley has tremendous personal significance and value to me. Some of the areas we like to go to include the walk-in areas within and near the mine boundary. I know enough about mining to know you can't safely recreate on a mine site and as the mine progresses outside of the initial strip mine area we will lose some of these recreational opportunities.
7. I regularly commute to Sheridan from Ranchester along state highway 345. I like that route because it is more scenic and less busy than the interstate so it makes for a more pleasant drive. But I worry that the increased traffic and mining haul trucks using our state and county roads will be a danger for travelers like me as well as a costly wear on roads.
8. I am also concerned about DEQ's proposal to allow the company to submit information later on, without the ability of people like me to be able to comment. I have and will continue to provide input into permits and other proposals affecting me, my family and the state of Wyoming. DEQ must not take that right away to speak out.
9. I support Powder River's case before the EQC and believe that if the legal issues are resolved in the organization's favor my concerns about traffic, loss of recreation areas, and losing the right to comment can be addressed.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief and that this declaration was executed in Sheridan County, Wyoming on October 14, 2020.


Bill Bensef