

April 11, 2008

Environmental Quality Council
Herschler Building, 1 W
Room 1714
Cheyenne, WY 82002

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Terri A. Lorenzon, Director
Environmental Quality Council

Dear Council Members:

Our organizations have been involved at all stages and particularly with the section addressing livestock watering, in the development of the proposed revisions to Chapter 1, Appendix H of the DEQ Water Quality Rules and Regulations. Most recently, we have provided input to the Water and Waste Water Advisory Committee on those livestock standards as they have developed their recommendations. That Committee has now forwarded those recommendations to your Council for further consideration.

Many of our members are dependent on produced water in their ranching operations. The continued availability of this water at acceptable quality standards is critical to their operations. In particular, livestock producers in the Big Horn Basin have been extremely concerned with the potential loss of livestock water under some versions of proposed revisions.

We anticipate that you will be scheduling Appendix H for Council discussion and public input at an upcoming meeting. It is critical that the Council hear from those directly impacted by the proposed changes. Our organizations are requesting that this meeting be scheduled in the Big Horn Basin where these producers live, to assure an adequate opportunity for affected ranchers to participate.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,



Jim Magagna
Executive Vice President
Wyoming Stock Growers Association



Bryce Reece
Executive Vice President
Wyoming Wool Growers Association



Ken Hamilton
Executive Vice President
Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation



Scott Zimmerman
Rock Mountain Farmers Union