

Vikkilyn Frank-Robledo

I am greatly concerned about the proposition by Aethon (Moneta Divide) to allow dumping of produced water from gas and oil fields into Boysen Reservoir. There is no doubt in my mind that this will negatively affect the water supply and the wildlife in the area.

Protect our clean water. All produced water from oil and gas fields must be treated to remove ALL toxic contaminants before being dumped into Boysen Reservoir and its tributaries. The water must be tested and evaluated to demonstrate that there are absolutely NO toxic contaminants in the water. If you recall, the Pavillion water supply was destroyed in a similar fashion, and we cannot allow that to happen again.

It's not worth the risk. Downstream communities like Thermopolis and Worland, and private landowners all along the river, rely on clean river water for drinking, municipal, and agricultural water. It's not worth risking water and soil contamination and other impacts to our communities, agriculture, tourism industry, and recreational opportunities. We are an agricultural state and our food supply must be safe. Our residents deserve clean water to drink. Boysen Reservoir was created as a water supply, not as a toxic waste dumping ground.

Fish and wildlife will suffer. Fish and wildlife will suffer. The portion of the reservoir where Aethon wants to dump this produced water is prime sauger habitat and supports the species throughout the lake. Wind River Canyon is directly downstream from Boysen Reservoir, is a Class 1, blue ribbon trout fishery, and is prized for its recreational opportunities. Again, this proposal threatens our food supply, our safety and health, and our way of life.

Please do NOT allow Aethon (Moneta Divide) to dump their toxic waste in our reservoir. The danger of damage is far too great to accept this risk.