

## Ian Abernethy

I urge the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality to reject the proposed discharge of produced water from the Moneta Divide expansion project. While I fully understand the economic benefits local communities and Wyoming enjoy from our energy economy, we must proceed with caution when considering actions that may result in negative environmental and human health consequences. The scope of the energy field expansion and volume of produced water and associated dissolved solids is difficult to comprehend. And while industry and other groups have evidence to suggest that these products are "safe", we should be critical of these findings for many reasons. Primarily, we do not really know the long-term effects of produced water on plants and animals, including humans. Once this produced water is released into the environment, there is no containing it. It is possible that long-term effects are not significant, but what if they are? Again, I urge the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality to deny the proposed discharge permit.