

Deborah Richards

I would like to thank DEQ for listening to residents' concerns and improving the draft permit.

Please do even more to protect water quality and aquatic life.

Please develop stronger limits on pollutants make sure Aethon cleans up existing damage, and isn't allowed to continue to harm our streams, lakes, and rivers:

- *Require Aethon to clean up existing damage to Badwater and Alkali creeks that has resulted from decades of dumping of toxic waste water

- *Immediately reduce the amount of dissolved salts that can be discharged

- *Reduce allowed chloride concentrations in Badwater Creek immediately (instead of waiting four more years, as the new draft permit proposes)

- *Add limits and required testing for other volatile and dangerous oil and gas drilling waste products including benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene

- *Implement strong and prompt enforcement actions when violations occur

Toxic chemicals should never be allowed in our water. If there is no safe way to dispose of toxic waste water, activities that produce them should not be allowed.

Thank You!