

Linda Raynolds

I was surprised and disappointed to learn of the extent of existing violations at the current Moneta Divide field. DEQ is supposed to have inspected those facilities, and the condition of Badwater and Alkali Creeks. If it had not been for investigative reporting and public outrage, DEQ would have rubber stamped the enlarged Moneta Divide field proposal, to the detriment of public health and Wyoming natural resources, in spite of Aethon already being out of compliance on its existing production activities. This is illegal, and points to DEQ operatives intentionally covering up industry abuses of the public resources.

I would like to see the oily swamp of DEQ drained. As a taxpayer funded governmental entity, DEQ's mandate is to protect the State's air, land, and water quality, not sell them to the highest bidder while turning a blind eye to violations.

If Aethon's discharge permit is to be renewed, DEQ must require them to first come in compliance with their current permit. If they are requesting permission to enlarge the Moneta Divide field, they must be held to current best practices environmental protection stipulations. Non compliance should have clear consequences, such as daily fines.

Sincerely, Linda Raynolds, Cody