

Charles and Marilyn Ham

Thank you for your efforts, and for listening to our concerns. Please develop stronger limits on pollutants to ensure Aethon's oil and gas discharges no longer cause damage to stream quality.

We ask the following:

- Require Aethon to clean up the existing damage caused by decades of oil field pollution in Alkali and Badwater creeks. DEQ should immediately reduce the monthly load of salts allowed to be discharged in the permit.
- DEQ's proposed permit will allow industry 4 years to come into compliance allowing pollution to be discharged that violates water quality standards. Please require industry to reduce the concentrations of chloride allowed in Badwater Creek now rather than in 4 years. The regulatory limit for chloride in Badwater Creek is 230 mg/L, but chloride concentrations in the wastewater being discharged into these creeks is 100 times higher.
- DEQ should require limits in the permit for harmful oil field chemicals such as benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylenes at the discharge points.
- DEQ should list Alkali and Badwater Creeks on the 303 (d) impaired waters list so it will be cleaned up. DEQ should deny any future requests by industry to weaken the regulatory chloride concentration and allow more pollution into Badwater Creek.