

Cyrus Western

To Whom It May Concern,

I do not intend to take up too much of your time, so I'll get to the point. Assuming Ramaco is fully compliant with Wyoming State Statute and Wyoming DEQ regulations and requirements, I personally feel it would be beneficial for their permit to be approved. I'm aware some folks have expressed concerns about this permit application, and I respect those concerns, and to be sure, every application ought to be carefully examined and vetted. After all, this is our environment, and when it's altered, it needs to be done in a manner that does the least amount of damage and strictly adheres to Wyoming laws and regulations. However, if a company passes muster and is in full compliance, I struggle to see why an application should be denied. If someone wants to invest considerable sums in a community, in principle, I have no problem with this. Some have highlighted the risk of failure in this venture, and I acknowledge that risk. But that is the nature of free enterprise and entrepreneurial ventures. As long as the mine in question is fully bonded, I have no problem with someone willing to use private money and bear those risks in the pursuit of success.

In closing, I urge the DEQ to give this application serious consideration. I have full faith and confidence in the DEQ and it's staff in their ability to enforce regulations and do their job diligently. No one is above the law, and anyone who commits infractions ought to be held accountable. But until that happens, I believe everyone deserves a fair shake.