

# Joanne Westbrook

I urgently urge the DEQ to require more stringent conditions for the quantity, sources and disposal of water used by the proposed Brook Mine. Water in Wyoming is an extraordinarily precious commodity and will become more so in the near and far future. Contamination of water affects life and environments far removed from the source of contamination. Shortages of water will directly and negatively affect all human needs and wildlife depending on it. Agriculture and livestock downriver could be particularly vulnerable.

This mine permit should include specific, realistic, responsible conditions and requirements for impact on the water of the Tongue River Valley. No loss of water quality or supply should be allowed. This is especially true in view of the many negative impacts and the very questionable benefits to Sheridan County of this proposed mine.