

**Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Division Comments**

Prepared by: David Waterstreet (307)777-6079

1/10/08

<b>Moxa Arch Draft EIS</b>							
<b>Comment Form – INTERNAL ONLY – NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE</b>							
<b>Reviewer</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Page</b>	<b>Line</b>	<b>Section</b>	<b>Comment</b>	<b>Follow-Up</b>
Mark Thiesse	WDEQ-WQD	1/10			Throughout document	<p>In all applicable sections there should be language that discusses the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Require and ensure the reporting of spills and releases of chemicals, petroleum products, and produced water to the Wyoming DEQ.</li> <li>b. Restore soils impacted by accidental and unintentional spills and leaks of chemicals, petroleum products, and produced water.</li> <li>c. Treat or control surface water and groundwater that has been impacted by spills or other releases of chemicals, petroleum products, and produced water on Federal lands.</li> </ul>	
Mark Thiesse	WDEQ-WQD	1/10			Appendix A, Section 5	<p>The attached map in the email with this document shows aquifer priority areas. The DESI covers areas that are considered to be a high priority and other areas of slightly lesser priorities. We strongly urge the BLM to use aggressive measures to protect groundwater in these areas and to respond quickly to any threats to groundwater quality. As an example of a groundwater protection measure, we have learned that groundwater supply wells in the Pinedale area are becoming impacted by hydrocarbons from the lack of back flow prevention in the wells in some cases. We urge the BLM to include an annual well sampling requirement for hydrocarbons in Appendix A, Section 5.0, Mitigation Measures. This effort has proven very</p>	

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						valuable in the Pinedale area for early detection of groundwater contamination problems.	
Mark Thiesse	WDEQ-WQD	1/10	4-29		4.5.2.4	Discusses Mitigation for groundwater. The DEIS says that all holes will be "... cased below freshwater zones..." We are not sure how this determination will be made. How will the 5,000 mg/l TDS value be identified? Will water samples be collected from each well? The US EPA uses 10,000 mg/l TDS as their fresh water definition. How was the 5,000 mg/l value determined?	
Mark Conrad	WDEQ-WQD	1/10	3-30, 3-31	Last paragraph on 3-30; Paragraph 1 & 2 on 3-31	3.4.1.2	WDEQ categorizes water bodies into four major classes for surface water quality (WDEQ 2001b). Class 1 waters are those in which no further water quality degradation by point source discharges will be allowed. Considerations employed during the designation of these waters include quality, aesthetic, scenic, recreation, and other values of present and future benefit to people. Class 2 waters are those other than Class 1 that support <b>game</b> fish or have the potential to support <b>game</b> fish, including nurseries and food sources. Class 3 waters support, or have potential to support <del>non game fish only</del> <b>aquatic life other than fish</b> . Class 4 waters do not have the hydrological or water quality potential to support <b>fish aquatic life</b> . Many of the major water bodies in the MAA are Class 2AB waters (support game fisheries and are also protected for drinking water, non-game	

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						<p>fisheries, and other uses) (Tables 3-13 and 3-14).</p> <p>WDEQ identifies waters that are not supporting their designated uses and need to have a total maximum daily load (TMDL) established in order to meet their uses. The WDEQ <del>2004</del> <u>2006</u> 303(d) List of Waters Requiring TMDLs identifies <del>locations along</del> <u>reaches of</u> the Blacks Fork, Hams Fork, and Smiths Fork Rivers as water bodies with water quality impairments. <del>Since 2002, segments of the Blacks Fork, Hams Fork, and Smiths Fork Rivers and Muddy Creek were delisted for ammonia, fecal coliform, and chlorine threats</del> (Table 3-14).</p>	
Mark Conrad	WDEQ-WQD	1/10	3-29	Table 3-13	3.4.1	Please correct table as described in email attached document titled "Classes, 303d"	
Mark Conrad	WDEQ-WQD	1/10	3-30	Table 3-13	3.4.1.2	Please correct table as described in email attached document titled "Classes, 303d"	