PRESIDENT
Jw Nuckolls
Hulett, WY
PRESIDENT-ELECT
Dave Julian
Kemmerer, WY
AUXILIARY PRESIDENT
Thea Nuckolls
Hulett, WY

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS
I Reagan Smith, *Powell, WY*
II Peter John Camino, *Buffalo, WY*
III Fred Roberts, *Cokeville, WY*
IV Bob Hageman, *Douglas, WY*

VICE-PRESIDENT AT LARGE
Lisa Cunningham, *Kaycee, WY*
Allison Ramsbottom, *Buffalo, WY*
Jon Child, *Cokeville, WY*

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
Bryce R. Reece, *Casper, WY*

WYOMING WOOL GROWERS ASSOCIATION
811 N. GLENN ROAD • P.O. BOX 115 • CASPER, WYOMING 82602 • PHONE (307) 265-5250 • FAX (307) 234-9701
WWW.WYOWOOL.ORG • wyowool@wyowool.org

March 30, 2007

Mr. Matt Anderson
Bureau of Land Management
Post Office Box 768
Pinedale, WY 82941

RE: Allow Expansion of Natural Gas Development in the Pinedale Anticline; Support Proposed Action Alternative (Alternative B)

Dear Mr. Anderson:

On behalf of the Wyoming Wool Growers Association, an organization which has represented the lamb and wool producers of Wyoming for102 years now, and which has significant membership in the Pinedale Anticline area, we are writing to express our strong support for conducting limited year-round drilling in concentrated areas to expand existing natural gas drilling and development operations in Wyoming's Pinedale Anticline Project Area. The federal government must allow for the expanded use of our nation's natural energy resources in order to reduce our reliance on foreign energy imports, which in turn strengthens our nations security and economy.

Consumers, industry and businesses throughout the nation are struggling with rising energy prices, tighter supplies and increased dependence on imports from politically unstable areas. This is especially true for agricultural producers, including the members we represent. It is well recognized that energy inputs are one of the greatest economic costs to agricultural producers in the U.S., and act to unequalize the playing field between our nations food and fiber producers and those in countries which do not face the high costs our producers see. Estimates conclude that the Anticline has enough gas to supply ten million homes annually for more than 30 years, making it the second largest gas field in the United States and an important contributor to our nations supply.

Further, domestic natural gas development in Pinedale will have a positive impact on the local and regional economy and spur strong economic growth because it will create a year-round workforce, provide a significant tax source for local communities and support Wyoming's business community. The estimated royalties of the area's natural gas reserves are $4.1 billion, half of which would go to the State of Wyoming and the other half to the federal government over a period of 60 years. Revenues generated

from oil and gas extraction have resulted in our state being able to withstand the pressure to increase personal taxes on our citizens, which in turn makes Wyoming businesses more competitive in the workplace.

With today's technology, we are convinced that this enhanced development can be conducted in an environmentally responsible manner. Under the Proposed Action, 92% of the Anticline will be left undisturbed by natural gas development. There is a great need to develop this world-class clean burning energy resource in a way that reduces environmental impacts and increases socio-economic benefits for the community.

Alternative B of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Pinedale Anticline Oil and Gas Exploration and Development Project (DSEIS) offers the best option to safely and effectively access these resources and is the option the WWGA's supports. The DSEIS comprehensively identifies potential environmental and social impacts. The Proposed Action will balance resources and benefit the community around the Pinedale Anticline through its voluntary commitment to reduce air emissions by the use of Liquids Gathering Systems and Tier II rigs, support of ongoing wildlife research and focus on shared infrastructure development.
It is also our understanding that the companies involved in this development have expressed interest in working with local ranchers and livestock producers to develop additional supplies of water for use by both livestock and wildlife. This additional activity has potential to have untold and unquantifiable benefit to both our livestock producers as well as our wildlife resources, especially in the face of nearly eight years of ongoing drought. Assuring that these companies have the ability to develop these resources through the section of Alternative B is the right course of action to make sure that these ancillary and additional activities occur.

G-1 BI-33-1 The WWGA supports the conclusion that all of the acreage included in the Proposed Action can be developed while protecting the environment, local communities and other economic interests. For these reasons, the Wyoming Wool Growers Association strongly supports Alternative B and urges its adoption.

Sincerely,

Bryce R. Reece
Executive Vice President