



02/08/2008 05:51 AM

To WYMail_PAPA_YRA@blm.gov

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Subject My vote to protect the Upper Green River Valley!

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Caleb Hiner, Project Manager
 Bureau of Land Management
 Pinedale Field Office
 P.O. Box 768
 Pinedale, Wyoming 82941

Dear Mr. Hiner,

The time has come to be truthful about what balance looks like in the Upper Green River Valley.

I am happy to see many positive aspects in your new preferred alternative for drilling 4,400 wells on the Pinedale Anticline; however, your plan currently falls short of satisfactory because the pace of development is still too fast, and I'm not convinced we won't lose many of the things that makes the Upper Green River Valley so special.

Already mule deer populations and air quality are on the decline, the state of Wyoming could be hobbled by an ESA listing of the sage grouse, and local towns are desperately playing catch-up as rapid oil and gas development brings unplanned infrastructural needs to their communities.

4,400 new wells on the Pinedale Anticline is possible to balance, but only if you amend the SEIS so that the final decision incorporates both the positive operator-proposed components found in alternative D, and the special are protection and timing stipulations found in alternative E. In addition, specific changes must be made to strengthen the suspension on flank areas, to strengthen the wildlife threshold matrix provisions, to strengthen your commitment to protect visibility in Class I airsheds, and to give more direction to the off-site mitigation provisions.

This approach would allow for 4,400 new wells but at a slower pace, with stronger mitigation measure, and with clearer language governing implementation.

If it's done right, the Pinedale Anticline project could be a prime example of balanced energy production and environmental stewardship. If it's done wrong, it will go down in history as an industrial sacrifice zone.

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns.

Sincerely,

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