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May 12, 2012

Senator Eli D. Bebout
Wyoming Senate

BLM Pinedale Office
PO Box 768
Pinedale, WY 82941

I am writing this letter in support of Encana's proposed development of the NPL region located in Sublette and Sweetwater counties. As drilling continues to decline in the Jonah Field, transitioning work to NPL would keep in place jobs already created and provide more than 875 full time jobs over the life of the project. NPL would also generate a steady and reliable tax revenue for city, county, state and federal governments

Also NPL development would build upon existing Jonah infrastructure and technology already in place. As Encana has held many of the NPL leases for 5 years, they would like to accurately assess the extent and quality of the natural gas resources on the leases before the workforce and equipment are transferred elsewhere. If this were to happen, this could accelerate decline in local activities in the future.

Encana understands the need to balance drilling activity with minimal impact on the environment. It has converted all drilling rigs to natural gas power, installed selective catalytic oxidation controls on all rigs, implemented flareless flowback green well completion technologies and is in the process of converting a large portion of its fleet of company vehicles to bi-fuel natural gas power. By implementing these measures, Encana continues to lead the way in reducing air emissions in Wyoming.

Encana is committed to wildlife protection by improving wildlife habitat within project areas and protecting big game migration corridors. A core area concept will be used to protect sage grouse and by using directional drilling, the impact on wildlife is minimized.

Encana will also use state of the art technology to protect and monitor groundwater, control surface runoff and protect natural drainages. Encana understand and respects the land and the people who live and work near the NPL. Only 5% of the leases acres will be impacted and those acres will be fully reclaimed. Minimal access roads and equipment areas will be maintained.

With Encana's commitment to lowering air emissions, minimal impact on the land ,wildlife, and groundwater, it can help meet increasing demands for natural gas as a 21st century energy economy that includes low carbon fossils fuels. NPL would also provide long-term well paying jobs, be a boon to all the ancillary businesses that go along with big drilling project and contribute to the tax base of Wyoming and the federal government.

Sincerely,

Senator Eli D. Bebout

Committees:

*Agriculture, State and Public Lands and Water Resources
Minerals, Business and Economic Development*