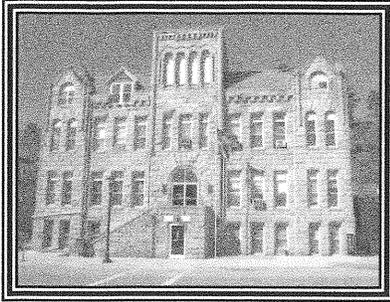


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APR 19 2018

Dept. of Environment &
Natural Resources
GROUND WATER QUALITY



**FALL RIVER COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OFFICE
COURTHOUSE
906 NORTH RIVER ST
HOT SPRINGS, SOUTH DAKOTA 57747
PHONE: (605) 745-5130 FAX: (605) 745-6835**

United States Environmental Protection Agency
State of South Dakota
Secretary of the Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources

Dear Secretary,

We are writing you today, because we are very concerned with the matter regarding Case No. 5-2017. A permit would allow injection of production water into Alkali Federal well located in NW1/4 NE1/4 Section 33 Township 11, South Range 1 East.

The above well was completed with 268' of 8 and 5/8" steel and 3679' of 5 and 1/2" steel casing for a total of 3,937.

I am very concerned with the statement: "This well will not affect any underground sources of drinking water." Quito Ranch has a Madison well that is a little over 4,000' deep that provides water for live stock and household use. The Madison well is in very close proximity to the injection well, and is the only source of water to livestock and two households. The Eckard well is also in this formation, and it provides water for seven ranches and three households. Is this really worth the risk? Is it fair to choose one industry over another in this dry arid land? There is no other source of water for this area, if these wells become contaminated.

The amount of water to be injected is 8,212,500 barrels over 30 years or whichever comes first. This permit allows 31,500 gallons of water to be injected per day, which is a tremendous amount. Item 9 states concerns for threatening ground water as discussed above. Information in this application is incorrect, this will affect Quito Ranch's well in the Madison and the Eckard well, found in this formation. For these reasons, this permit should be rejected.

Sincerely,

Deborah Russell, Vice Chair

CC Brian Walsh

Environmental Scientist Manager Ground Water Quality Program
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
523 East Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501