

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 54th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON LONG-RANGE PLANNING

Call to Order: By CHAIRMAN ERNEST BERGSAGEL, on January 19, 1995, at 8:00 A.M.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Ernest Bergsagel, Chairman (R)
Sen. Ethel M. Harding, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. B.F. "Chris" Christiaens (D)
Rep. Matt McCann (D)
Rep. Tom Zook (R)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Nan LeFebvre, Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst
Jane Hamman, Office of Budget & Program Planning
Tracy Bartosik, Committee Secretary

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing: Resource Indemnity Trust Grants - HB 6
and HB 8
Executive Action: None

Note: Descriptions of the following projects can be found in the "Project Evaluations and Recommendations For 1996-1997 Biennium - Appendix" booklet. (Exhibit 5, 1-16-95)

HEARING ON HB 6 AND 8

BUTTE - SILVER BOW, CITY AND COUNTY
Big Hole Transmission Line, page 45

Tom Cash, Director of Community Development, Butte-Silver Bow County, gave a brief overview of the project. He explained that this project would renovate a service line from Butte to the Big Hole River. The Big Hole is the main water supply for this area. Improvements to the system have been mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency. Construction of the water

filtration facilities, water storage facilities, transmission systems upgrades, and distribution system improvements will address requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Surface Water Treatment Rule. He said storage and filtration facilities are currently under construction. Mr. Cash said these facilities are being financed with bond issues totalling \$27.4 million. This project would replace a portion of the steel pipeline which extends approximately 2000 feet at a cost of about \$357,000. He said the County has requested a rate increase for residents, but the County's rates are already the highest in the state. He said they have received TSEP money to aid in replacing a pipeline. Butte - Silver Bow cannot afford to fund this project in full.

Mike Patterson, Butte-Silver Bow County, said the current system is deteriorated and needs to be repaired and/or replaced. He said the pipeline is 116,000 feet long, and there are certain sections which are more deteriorated than others. He said they are proposing to hire a consulting engineering firm to do the work. He said the old pipeline would still be in service while the new one is being placed, because it is so crucial to the community.

REP. TOM ZOOK said he was surprised to hear that Butte is still under a boil order. **Mr. Patterson** explained that the new water plant is operating and is in compliance, but there is still certain paperwork that needs to be done to get the order removed.

CHAIRMAN ERNEST BERGSAGEL asked if they would explain the savings that would result. **Mr. Cash** said there will be \$12 million in maintenance savings by dealing with the existing line. **CHAIRMAN BERGSAGEL** asked if this 2,000-foot section is the worst portion of the pipe. **Mr. Cash** said they aren't sure but this is where they have to start. **CHAIRMAN BERGSAGEL** said it was indicated that \$18,000 in treatment savings would result because of the section of pipe that will be put in. He asked if **Mr. Cash** would address this issue. **Mr. Cash** replied that savings is due to the amount of treated water.

CHAIRMAN BERGSAGEL asked if there was also a TSEP grant for this program. **Mr. Cash** said there was not.

REP. ZOOK remarked that the technical assessment says 90,000 gallons of water per day are lost because of the current problems. He asked what the overall loss amounts to. **Mr. Cash** said he is unsure of that figure.

REP. MATT McCANN asked if there are alternate sources of water other than the ones they are currently using. **Mr. Cash** said no, because these sources are ones which they have water rights to.

CHAIRMAN BERGSAGEL said it was indicated that Micron would be using groundwater, and he wondered why Butte wasn't able to do the same. **Mr. Cash** said engineers performed a study on that, and

discovered that groundwater would be more expensive for the same volume of water.

MILE HIGH CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Effects of Land Use, page 42

Tony Schoonen, Representative, Mile High Conservation District, Butte-Silver Bow County, provided a fact sheet to the committee explaining the project. **EXHIBIT 1** He said the project was approved last session but the money ran out before it could be funded.

Kate Miller, Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, gave an overview and brief history of why the project is needed. This project will provide information about the groundwater to present to the EPA. She said the potential costs of treating for radon are astronomical.

REP. ZOOK said there have been many studies as to the cause of saline seep, and he said he wonders why it wouldn't be more productive in a project such as this to start now and go forward rather than looking at the last 20 years. **Ms. Miller** said there are still many farmers who believe the crop fallow system is still the best for them. She said there isn't a 20-year retrospective data base to prove to them that this isn't the case. **REP. ZOOK** stated they should have that information from other areas of the state, and he is surprised if there is anyone in agriculture who doesn't understand about saline seepage. **Ms. Miller** said in looking at the number of acres with saline seep problems, this may not be the case. She said one of the best values of this project is the public education aspect.

CHAIRMAN BERGSAGEL said the problem is there are government programs which dictate what land can be seeded and what land can't. The other difficulty is individual farms where the source of the water can't be identified. He said most every farmer knows about saline seep and what causes it. The problem is identifying the source and doing something about it. He added that he shares **REP. ZOOK'S** view.

{Tape: 1; Side: B}

Jeanne Doney, DNRC, said the concern about the radon is that the federal government might set standards that are lower than the national groundwater standards. Radon occurs naturally at a higher level in Montana, and the state may not be able to comply if that happens. The purpose of this study is to get that data so the federal government won't set standards too low for the state to be in compliance. **CHAIRMAN BERGSAGEL** stated he understood this concern.

SEN. CHRISTIAENS asked if the project could be changed to concentrate only on the radon issue. **Ms. Miller** said yes,

however, they saw this as "killing two birds with one stone." She said the highest cost of sampling is traveling to the site. "Once you're there, you may as well gather all the information you can."

SEN. CHRISTIAENS asked if the shaded area on the map represents conservation districts that have been tested. **Ms. Miller** said yes, that portion was tested in the 1974 study.

Jane Holzer, Director, Montana Salinity Control, said this project would document the land use impact on the groundwater quality. She said under the crop fallow system, the groundwater had built up, which is very critical, and she feels people need to know this. Studies such as this help show whether the saline situation is getting better or worse.

REP. ZOOK said much of this has already been documented, and the feeling he is getting is that the word is not getting out to the public. He said this is a communication problem and he doesn't understand why the extension service, and other services can't cover this problem. He asked how this project will address the education factor of the problem. **Ms. Holter** replied that it is not the local people at this point that need to be more educated on the matter, but people on the federal level so there will be less mandates on how people farm. She said there is a great deal of international interest in how Montana is controlling and addressing the saline seep issues.

CHAIRMAN BERGSAGEL commented that some of the best results in dealing with this problem have occurred on the Highwood Bench. He said he feels there is a very high concentration of knowledge and he would be surprised if there is a farmer who isn't aware of the saline seep problem.

SEN. CHRISTIAENS said he recently read an article which said asparagus is a very beneficial crop for saline seep. He asked if this had been tried in Montana. **Ms. Holter** said asparagus must have a very high water table, and she was not aware of it being used in Montana.

MONTANA TECH - UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA
Groundwater Protection and Education, page 14

Ginette Abdo, Hydrogeologist, Bureau of Mines and Geology, gave background information on this proposal. She also provided a fact sheet explaining the project. **EXHIBIT 2**

SEN. CHRISTIAENS asked where they would go if for some reason they had to find another water supply. **Ms. Abdo** said it would depend on the hydrogeology of the area, and perhaps they would look for a surface water source.

In response to a question from **SEN. HARDING**, **Ms. Abdo** said they will use the approach outlined in the project to teach children

HOUSE LONG-RANGE PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE

January 19, 1995

Page 5 of 8

in the schools how to protect their groundwater source. She said there are 145 schools in the state that depend on groundwater as their drinking water source. The Department of Health has created a list of eight schools interested in participating in a program such as this. She said there will be a two-day workshop for the educators explaining what the program is.

John Arrigo, Department of Health and Environmental Science, voiced his support of the project, and read a letter of support from **Steve Pilcher, Water Quality Division, Department of Health and Environmental Science. EXHIBIT 3**

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Comments: Due to recorder malfunction, there is no recording on this side of the tape. Recording resumes on side B.}

MONTANA TECH - UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

Hydrologic Evaluation, Florence and Seeley Lake, page 48

Judy Sass, Florence, gave an overview of the project. She said the town of Florence presently does not have a community water supply or sewage treatment system. This study would evaluate hydrogeologic and other data to determine the level of risk to the people of the communities, and to the ground and surface water resources, caused by present and future development. She said water wells and septic systems will be inventoried and located. **Ms. Sass** provided a fact sheet to the committee regarding this project. **EXHIBIT 4**

Vicky Crawford, Business Owner, Florence, submitted written testimony, letters, and a petition to the committee in support of this project. **EXHIBITS 5 - 10**

SEN. TERRY KLAMPE voiced his support for this project.

Glen Morin, Seeley Lake, urged the committee to help them act on this issue now so it won't negatively impact the groundwater.

Paul Torois, Manager, Seeley Lake Water District, voiced his support of the project and of the grant request.

REP. DON LARSON said this project puts an emphasis on protection and preservation, and he urged the committee to support the proposal.

PARK COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Park County Soil Survey, page 50

Chuck Gordon, Park County Conservation District, said they are requesting a grant for \$100,000 to accelerate the progressive soil survey of Park County. He said soils information is necessary for soil and water conservation planning, water quality planning, and preventing costly land management and development decisions. He said the primary objective of this request is to increase staff by two soil scientists. **Mr. Gordon** stated the

information this study will provide is in high demand, and delaying it for a biennium could be even more expensive.

CITY OF BOZEMAN

Separator Waste Collection Facility, page 31

James Goehrung, City of Bozeman, gave an overview of the project. He said without an approved local facility, some businesses illegally flush waste in their separators, driving the solids into city sewer lines or septic fields. Some owners improperly land-spread sludge from their separators--a practice common with local car washes. This grant would fund the construction of a facility to accept waste from grease, grit, oil and sand separators. He said separator wastes can contain heavy metals, chlorinated solvents, and petroleum by-products, which require additional treatment before disposal. **Mr. Goehrung** said a business owner may pay up to \$1,000 to have his waste hauled away for proper disposal. He provided letters of support from **Jacquelyn Stonnell, Gallatin County Health Officer** and **Karen Sanchez, Program Coordinator, Solid Waste and Pollution Prevention Programs, Montana State University**.

EXHIBITS 11 and 12

REP. ZOOK asked why fees to cover the cost will not be charged. **Mr. Goehrung** replied that they want the cost to be competitive so local business owners will be willing to use the facility and see the benefits.

REP. ZOOK asked what the cost for use is based on. **Mr. Goehrung** said the price is based on weight. He said Missoula charges about \$75 per load.

REP. MCCANN questioned what is done with dry waste. **Mr. Goehrung** said after waste is exposed to the air and dried, it can be placed in a landfill.

In response to a question from **REP. MCCANN**, **Mr. Goehrung** explained that they would like to eventually provide education to decrease some of the volatile wastes, although it is much better to deal with those wastes in a controlled environment.

{Tape: 2; Side: B}

FALLON COUNTY

Lower Baker Spillway, page 1

Mike Madler, Fallon County, explained that the concrete which makes up the spillway is beyond repair and the entire structure must be rebuilt. The spillway is the only discharge outlet for Baker Lake. **Mr. Madler** said it has been predicted that if a flood should occur, the existing spillway would fail. This would result in the loss of numerous resources including water, land, vegetation, fish, wildlife, public and private property, and very possibly, human life.

HOUSE LONG-RANGE PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE

January 19, 1995

Page 7 of 8

CHAIRMAN BERGSAGEL asked what the size of the spillway is. **Mr. Madler** said it is approximately 30 feet.

Jane Hamman, Office of Budget and Program Planning, said the request was for a grant in the amount of \$31,742, and the recommendation from DNRC is for \$15,908. She asked what they will do to make up for the decrease in funding. **John Tubbs, DNRC**, said because of Fallon County's ability to bond, they are recommended for a loan of \$15,835 in addition to the recommended grant. He added that the project needs to be done because of dam safety.

John Tubbs and Jeanne Doney, DNRC, gave the committee an update on the projects that were approved last session. This can be found in the "Project Evaluations and Recommendations" booklet (Exhibit 4, 1-16-95) on pages 77-95.

In response to a question from **SEN. CHRISTIAENS**, **Ms. Doney** stated that in order to simplify the applications, there is a need to go back to simply asking applicants to provide basic information. She added that the programs and the projects should be ranked rather than the applications.

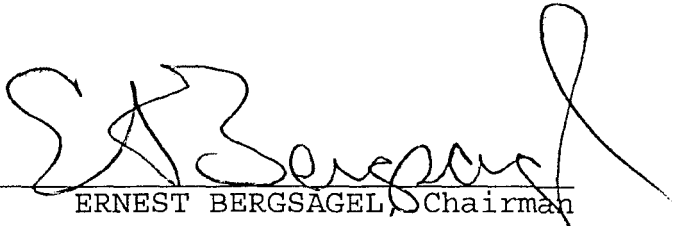
HOUSE LONG-RANGE PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE

January 19, 1995

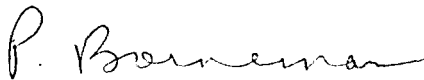
Page 8 of 8

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:45 a.m.



ERNEST BERGSAGEL, Chairman



for TRACY BARTOSIK, Secretary

EB/tb

LONG RANGE PLANNING

Joint Appropriations Subcommittee

ROLL CALL

DATE 1-19-95

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Rep. Ernest Bergsagel, Chairman	X		
Rep. Matt McCann	X		
Rep. Tom Zook	X		
Sen. Ethel Harding, Vice Chairman	X		
Sen. Chris Christiaens	X		

FACT SHEET

EXHIBIT 1
DATE 1-19-95

①

USING LONG-TERM GROUND-WATER QUALITY TRENDS TO MONITOR THE EFFECTS OF LAND-USE PRACTICES ON MONTANA'S SALINITY PROBLEMS

★ The salinization of crop land (saline seep) and shallow ground water threatens Montana's agricultural heritage and natural resources. Montana's fish, wildlife, recreation and vegetation is endangered by agriculturally-induced mineralization of land, surface water, and ground water. The local and regional deterioration of potable water sources is causing the abandonment of farmsteads and livestock operations. By the mid-1970's, saline seep had taken roughly two million acres out of grain production in the plains region -- Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. However, to date, there has been no comprehensive evaluation of changes in shallow ground water quality. In other words, *"Are aquifers still being lost to saline seep, or have land-use practices improved the overall quality of shallow ground water?"*

★ With this project, the MILE HIGH CONSERVATION DISTRICT will develop a 20-year perspective on ground-water quality changes by re-sampling wells and springs which were originally evaluated in "Regional Assessment of the Saline Seep Problem and a Water-Quality Inventory of the Montana Plains" (MBMG Open-File # 42).

★ At 6-8 sites where water quality changes (either improvement or degradation) are identified through water quality sampling, land-use evaluations will be conducted to determine the cause of the change. By providing a water-quality retrospective, the long-term effects on shallow aquifers due to land-use practices, and the long-term effectiveness of saline-seep mitigation techniques will be evaluated. Landowners and land-users will be provided with the results of the evaluation at nine public meetings across the state:

★ Because agricultural practices affect water quality in the entire state, Montana's whole population will greatly benefit from the results of this project through information dissemination at nine public meetings hosted by several Resource Conservation and Development organizations (RC&Ds).

★ In addition to the inorganic sampling described above, radionuclide samples will be collected statewide in order to augment Montana's Radon-in-Ground Water database (in the Montana Ground-Water Information Center - GWIC at the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology (MBMG). High concentrations of radon in homes has prompted nationwide concern and it has been shown that radon in ground water can be a significant source of radon in air. As yet, there has been no systematic evaluation of Montana's geology and ground water to assess the extent and concentration of radon. *Results of the 1992 statewide radon-in-indoor air survey conducted by the MBMG and the Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences (DHES) showed that Montana ranks fifth in the U.S. for radon concentrations greater than the recommended level of 4 pCi/L; Montana ranks third in the U.S. for concentrations greater than 20 pCi/L.* The results of this project will be coordinated with the Montana DHES for inclusion in the joint DHES-MBMG geologic radon-potential mapping effort. Montana's people will derive enormous benefit from comprehensive geologic radon-potential maps for use in residential planning and in the management of Montana's ground-water resources for the protection of public health.

★ All project activities will be coordinated with the Montana Ground-Water Assessment Program (MGWAP), the Montana Salinity Control Association, and seven Montana RC&Ds, such that work efforts will be complementary but not duplicative. Although each program is distinctly different in terms of goals and objectives, sampling efforts, travel, and personnel time will be integrated where appropriate, in order to economize on all programs.

★ The three objectives of this proposal are to:

◆ Perform comparative analysis of long term ground-water quality trends in the Northern Great Plains region of Montana by re-sampling 200 or more wells previously sampled by MBMG in 1975-1978 and selected wells within the Montana Salinity Control Association (MSCA) program. (see map).

◆ Evaluate a cause and effect relationship between land-use practices and ground-water quality changes at 6-8 sites.

◆ Establish a baseline database for radon concentrations in ground water at selected sites throughout the state of Montana. Sites may include the 200 wells previously sampled by MBMG in 1975, MSCA research wells, and sites selected by the Montana Ground-Water Assessment Program.

GROUND-WATER PROTECTION FOR RURAL MONTANA SCHOOLS

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology

BACKGROUND

One hundred and thirty rural schools in Montana use wells to supply their drinking water. Several schools have had problems in meeting water quality standards. Wellhead protection is needed to prevent contamination and mitigate the problem where ground water has already been compromised.

The Montana Wellhead Protection Program has recently been certified by the Environmental Protection Agency, as mandated by the 1986 Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act. The MDHES created a list of schools interested in developing a Wellhead Protection Program for their school wells. Eight schools will be selected to implement the proposed project.

PROBLEM

Ground-water contamination due to increased urbanization, agricultural practices, mining, forestry and waste disposal practices, and industrial activity is becoming more common in rural areas.

In 1992, 13 schools were placed under a 'health advisory' for bacterial contamination and two schools were placed under a boil order for fecal contamination. Two schools in the northeast part of the state have consistently had nitrate violations over the past 14 years. Pesticides have been detected in three school wells and pentachlorophenol has recently been detected in one school well.

Incidences of ground-water contamination can be prevented or mitigated by educators and students at these rural schools through resource awareness and training.

OBJECTIVES

Develop a Wellhead Protection Plan for each participating school.

Train educators and students to develop the plan themselves with assistance from the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology and the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences.

Provide students with a new awareness that will enable them to make intelligent and informed decisions and take environmentally aware actions as adults.

Use the initiative of the schools to show the community the importance of developing a Wellhead Protection Plan for their community water supply wells.

RESULTS

Each school will have a certified Wellhead Protection Plan to protect their drinking water.

This program will result in a heightened awareness of ground-water vulnerability and ways this resource can be protected.

PROJECT LOCATION

The schools will be selected to represent different geographic areas throughout Montana and provide a wide variety of hydrogeological conditions and community concerns. The suggested locations of the participating schools is shown below.

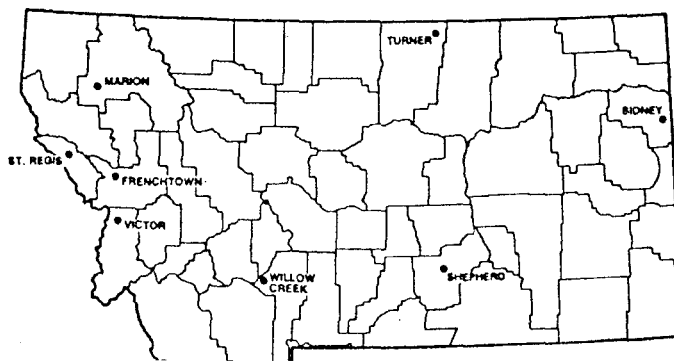


EXHIBIT 3DATE 1-19-95

SB _____

DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
WATER QUALITY DIVISION

COGSWELL BUILDING
1400 BROADWAY



STATE OF MONTANA

(406) 444-2406
FAX (406) 444-1374

PO BOX 200901
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-0901

January 18, 1995

Ginette Abdo
Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology
Montana Tech
Butte, MT 59701

Dear Ginette,

Below is the text of the testimony for HB 6 stating support for the "Groundwater Protection and Education for Rural Montana Schools" grant proposal. A representative of the division will attend the committee hearing, provide testimony and be available to answer questions from the committee.

The Department of Health and Environmental Sciences strongly supports funding of the Renewable Resource Grant proposal of the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology entitled "Ground Water Protection for Rural Montana Schools." This proposal builds on a pilot project of the Department in which school administrators, teachers and students successfully designed wellhead protection areas for three school wells. Participation in the Montana Wellhead Protection Program is voluntary making projects such as this important for successful implementation of the program. Rural schools, which are public water supplies, rarely have the financial ability to obtain the technical assistance that the Bureau will offer in this proposal. Protecting a school well protects the health of the children and offers them an opportunity to learn first hand about the value of a high quality water supply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Steve L. Pilcher".

Steve Pilcher
Water Quality Division

FACT SHEET

Hydrologic Evaluation for the Florence & Seeley/Swan Areas

Owing to rapid development in the Florence and Seeley/Swan areas, and the proliferation of individual wells and septic tanks, concerns have been raised concerning water supply and water quality. The town of Florence does not have community water supply or sewage treatment systems. Seeley Lake has a distribution system with lines running to the north end of Seeley Lake on the west side.

In and around Florence, approximately 62 wells were drilled prior to 1970. Approximately 172 wells were drilled during the 1970's, 135 wells during the 1980's and 87 wells have been drilled to date during the 1990's. Prior to 1970, only about 13 wells had been drilled in the Seeley/Swan area. During the 1970's 24 wells were installed, 31 wells during the 1980's, and 20 wells have been installed since 1990. Sediments underlying both sites are potential conduits for migration of contaminants to ground- or surface-water.

This study will evaluate hydrogeologic and other data to determine the level of risk to people in the communities and to ground- and surface-water resources caused by present and future development.

- * Existing data on geology, hydrology, water sources, use and disposal practices (i.e. septic systems) will be reviewed and evaluated.
- * Water wells and septic systems will be inventoried and located.
- * The work plan will be flexible in order to allow for changes necessitated by actual field conditions.
- * Water levels and other well information will be analyzed to determine groundwater flow directions and quantities.
- * Aquifers will be delineated and described, and aquifer properties will be identified.
- * Samples will be collected from selected wells for laboratory analysis.
- * The above data will be evaluated to determine existing and/or potential contamination sources, migration paths and possible receptors.
- * Recommendations will be formulated for future protection of public health, groundwater, and surface water. These recommendations may include creation of a sewage district for Florence, expansion of district boundaries at Seeley Lake, zoning, or changes in septic system design.

Hi, my name is Vicky Crawford. My husband, Royal, and I own and operate two small businesses in Florence. We feel very strongly about the possible contamination of wells in the Florence area - due to the increase and concentration of septic systems.

Florence is the fastest growing area of the Bitterroot Valley and the Bitterroot is one of the fastest growing areas in the State of Montana. I would estimate a minimum of 400 homes in the immediate 'town' area. There are several parcels of undeveloped land within this perimeter. At the present time, across the old highway from our two businesses, there is about a 60 acre parcel that is to date undeveloped. Rentals are a scarcity in our area. We have heard rumors of part of this 60 acres becoming multi-family complexes, each of which would have their own well and septic.

Many of the systems in Florence were put in so many years ago - they aren't even systems, but rather barrels, or just plain holes in the ground.

We would very much like to see at least a community septic system for Florence. It would also be nice if we were able to have it installed before many wells possibly become contaminated and it is mandatory that it be put in, along with a water system.

Almost two years ago, I was on a board for the Florence area that did a feasibility study on such a project. At that time we were able to collect many signatures on petitions of people who were in favor of pursuing the possibility of a sewer project. However, we had problems at that time in obtaining county cooperation. A district for the Florence area was established over 10 years ago - we need to have some follow up before we have a BIG PROBLEM, not just a potential problem.

I appreciate your time and sincerely hope you will consider helping us in this matter.

SEELEY LAKE - MISSOULA COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT

Post Office Box 961

Seeley Lake, Montana 59868

EXHIBIT 6
DATE 1-19-95
SB _____

Telephone #(406) 677-2784

Telephone #(406) 677-2559

Long Range Planning Committee
Capital Building
Helena Mt.

January 18, 1995

Dear Sirs:

The Seeley Lake Sewer District is requesting funding for the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, to examine water quality in Seeley Lake to determine if waste water from septic tanks are impacting ground water and surface water in the area. The number of septic tanks in and near Seeley Lake has increased from 13 in 1970, to 37 in 1980, to 68 in 1990, and is projected to reach 160 by the year 2000.

The Board's duty to those living within the boundaries of the District is to:

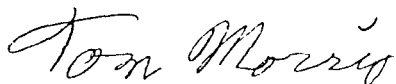
1. Determine the need for a Waste Water system.
2. Investigate possible degradation of the lake and ground water.
3. Monitor trends that may effect the lake and ground water supply.

Current Census information estimates a growth in Montana's population of nearly 200,000 people within the next 5 years. Most of these people will locate in western Montana. It is necessary to act now to ensure growth in population does not cause degradation of ground water and surface water sources. As you know, any adverse impact in this area will affect water quality in the Clearwater, Blackfoot and Clark Fork rivers.

This project will enable the residents of Seeley Lake to make informed decisions about maintaining surface water and ground water quality standards. It will also give the Board and the citizens of Seeley Lake the information needed to determine what type of waste water facility would best suit the District's needs.

As a member of the Seeley Lake Sewer Board, and as a resident and businessman of Seeley Lake, I request your favorable consideration of this project.

For the Board,



Tom Morris,
Chairman

EXHIBIT 2
DATE 1-19-95
SB _____

SEELEY LAKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

P. O. Box 30
Seeley Lake, MT 59868
(406) 677-2400

January 18, 1995


Long Range Planning Committee
Helena, MT

Dear Mr. Chairman

The Board of Trustees would like to express its support for the Seeley Lake Sewer District's efforts to secure a project proposal by the University of Montana's Butte School of Mines which would be funded by a grant with the approval in this Legislative session. This grant is essential for the preservation of our aquifers and lake water in the Seeley area, where increased population will eventually affect our water sources.

This project has many benefits that are essential to us and our future. By being proactive in this matter, the district could save financial hardships caused by State and Federal mandates which could be handed down in the future, as well as protect the citizens now if the degradation needs immediate attention. We appreciate your consideration in this matter. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,


Al Woodward
Chairman

SEELEY LAKE - MISSOULA COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

PO Box 503
Seeley Lake, MT 59868-0503
Telephone (406) 677-2559
Fax (406) 677-2898
General Manager
Paul Torok

EXHIBIT 8
DATE 1-19-95
SS. _____

Board of Directors
Robert H. Scott, Chair
Robert (Bud) Johnson, Vice-Chair
Greyson Phipps, Director
Tim Clark, Director
George Myers, Director

Long Range Planning Committee
Capital Building
Helena Mt.

January 18, 1995

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As we watch this community grow, it becomes evident that proactive steps must be taken to ensure that environmental stability will still be present in the future. The Board believes the opportunity for the community to have in-depth documentation on the groundwater and surface water is essential to the quality of life for the citizens of Seeley Lake. This project will provide the Sewer Board with scientific data needed to make practical decisions on how best to address the environmental concerns of this community.

The Montana Bureau of Mines will address not only the present water quality, but also forecast what the long-term effects. The Sewer Board will then be able to use this information to plan for the future.

We commend the Seeley Lake Sewer District for their proactive efforts to investigate the ground and surface water quality of Seeley Lake.

For the Board,



Robert H. Scott
Chairman

EXHIBIT 9
DATE 1-19-95
SB _____



Seeley Lake Rural Fire District

P.O. Box 309

Seeley Lake, MT 59868

(406) 677-2400

January 18, 1995

Long Range Planning Committee
Helena, MT

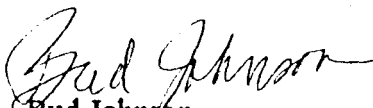
Dear Mr. Chairman

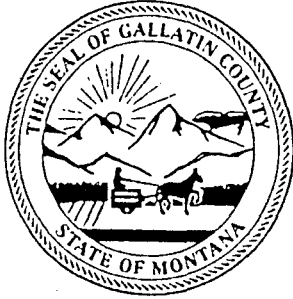
We are writing in support of the Seeley Lake Sewer District's proactive efforts regarding the possible project to be conducted in Seeley Lake by the University of Montana's Butte School of Mines, which would be funded by a grant with the approval in this Legislative session. This grant-funded project is essential for the preservation of water quality in western Montana, where increased population density may adversely affect our water sources.

The project has short-term and long-term benefits, which are essential to us and our future generations. By being proactive in this matter, the district is not only protecting the citizens now, but it is also trying to avoid costly hardships which could be caused by State and Federal mandates handed down in the future.

We appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,


Bud Johnson
Chairman



Gallatin City-County Health Department

County of Gallatin

311 W. Main, Courthouse • Bozeman, Montana 59715

EXHIBIT 11
DATE 1-19-95
SB _____

Community Health Services
(406) 582-3100
FAX (406) 582-3112

Environmental Health Services
(406) 582-3120
FAX (406) 582-3135

12 January, 1995

Mr. James Goehrung
City of Bozeman
PO Box 640
Bozeman, MT 59715

RE: SEPARATOR WASTE COLLECTION FACILITY PROPOSAL

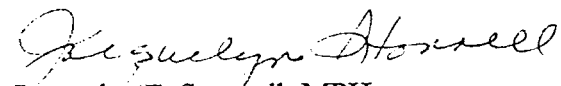
Dear Mr. Goehrung:

Gallatin City-County Health Department staff have observed the contamination of ground and surface water from illegal dumping of sumps. These sumps could utilize the facility you are proposing.

As population in the Gallatin Valley grows the potential for future violations will grow with it, both inadvertently by conscientious owners and purposely by unscrupulous operators. The importance of your proposed facility and the construction of a future raw septage facility is vital.

If I can be of any assistance please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,


Jacquelyn F. Stommell, MPH
Gallatin County Health Officer

a:\misc\separato.boz

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
VISITOR REGISTER

Long Range Planning SUBCOMMITTEE DATE 1-19-95

DEPARTMENT(S) _____

DIVISION _____

* PLEASE PRINT *

* PLEASE PRINT *

NAME	REPRESENTING	
TOM CASH	BUTTE SILVER BOW	
Mike Patterson	Butte Silver Bow	
KATE MILLER	MT. BUR. MINES & Geology	
John Holzer	MT. Sanitary Control Assoc	
Tony Schione	mile High Const Dist	
JOHN ARRIGO	Dept. Health & Env. Sci	
Don Larson	MT Legis	
Teri Kline	House & Senate	
Wayne Kuest	MT. BUR. MINES & GEOG.	
Amelia Albo	MBMG	
Tom	Seeley Lake Sewer Dist	
Vicky Crawford	Flourence	
DAVID WHITESITT	SEELEY LAKE SEWER DIST	
James Goehring	City of Bozeman	
PAUL TOROIS	SEELEY LAKE	
Glen Morin	Seeley Lake	
Judy Doss	Flourence	
Peter Norbeck	MBMG	

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED TESTIMONY WITH SECRETARY. WITNESS STATEMENT
FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IF YOU CARE TO SUBMIT WRITTEN TESTIMONY.

Long Range Planning SUBCOMMITTEE

DEPARTMENT (S)

*** PLEASE PRINT ***

***PLEASE PRINT ***

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED TESTIMONY WITH SECRETARY. WITNESS STATEMENT FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IF YOU CARE TO SUBMIT WRITTEN TESTIMONY.