{In Archive} Fw: letter concerning aquifer in Goliad Co .
Miguel Flores to: Dwyer.Stacey, Philip Dellinger 08/17/2011 08:39 AM

From: Miguel Flores/R6/USEPA/US
To: Dwyer.Stacey@epamail.epa.gov, Philip Dellinger/R6/USEPA/US@EPA
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per previous email

Miguel

MIGUEL I. FLORES
Director, Water Quality Protection Division
U.S EPA, Region 6 (6WQ)
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
214-665-7101 -- 214-665-7373 (FAX) -- 214-789-1818 (Cell)

----- Forwarded by Miguel Flores/R6/USEPA/US on 08/17/2011 08:38 AM -----

From: "gene brown" <grb@wb4me.com>
To: Miguel Flores/R6/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 08/16/2011 05:57 PM
Subject: letter concerning aquifer in Goliad Co.

Attached is our letter addressing the concerns we have about the aquifer exemption in Goliad County.

Thank you for allowing us to express our concerns.

Reta and Gene Brown Aug. 4 letter to EPA.odt

00765.pdf

Gene and Reta Brown
468 FM 1961
Yorktown, TX. 78164

(361) 564-2765

August 14, 2011

Mr. Miguel Flores, Director
Water Quality Protection Division
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

RE: Uranium Energy Corp.
TCEQ Docket No. 2008-1888-UIC (Aquifer Exemption)

Dear Mr. Flores:

Gene and I live approximately 1 mile from the area that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality issued an order to grant the above referenced application in early March of 2011. This aquifer (Evangeline Aquifer) is our only source of water. This is a drinking water aquifer now and will be in the future. It is also a free flowing aquifer and not a confined aquifer. The area in which the aquifer exemption is being requested is in the recharge zone of this aquifer.

I am the third generation of my family that has lived on this land. The water has always been of good quality and was of good quality when UEC tested it. During the time that UEC was doing exploration activities, I began noticing a red slime forming on the sides of the water container of our coffee maker. Art Dohmann with the Groundwater District came out and tested our water. The test showed that the iron content in our water had risen and that we had iron related bacteria. Since exploration is no longer taking place, our water has cleared up. UEC says it could not have been caused by the exploration activities, but we had never had this problem in the 22 years before this occurred and has not happened since. It was not only us, other neighbors had the same problems.

One concern we have is that UEC was already doing exploration before they established their baseline testing. How can this be a true baseline when the aquifer has already been disturbed by the drilling of bore holes, and how can it accurately represent drinking water quality?

There is also a fault on the northwest portion of the requested area for exemption. The Administrative Law Judge after testimony at the TCEQ contested case hearing recommended that the permit for the aquifer exemption should be denied until further testing of this area was performed to determine if this fault was transmissive and if the groundwater would or could be protected. The Office of Public Interest Council, a branch of TECQ, found the permit not to be

in the public interested and also recommended the permit be denied. TECQ Commissioners chose to grant the aquifer exemption in spite of these recommendations.

Our children and grandchildren live in the city and love to visit our home. Our two youngest granddaughters, ages 5 and 8, especially love to visit. Their favorite things to do are to go in the garden to plant seeds or pick vegetables when they are ripe, and to get someone to take them for a ride through the pasture in our Ranger.

We are asking the EPA to deny this aquifer exemption so we can continue to have good quality water, not only now but in the future, when this land will be passed on to my children.

Thank you to the EPA for coming to our public meeting in Goliad and allowing us to express our concerns.

Sincerely,

Reta and Gene Brown