

ANACONDA-DEER LODGE COUNTY

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EXHIBIT 3
DATE 1-12
HB 201



January 12, 2005

Representative Jim Peterson, Chair
and members of the Natural Resource Committee
Montana House of Representatives
Capital Building
Helena, MT 59602

Dear Representatives;

Anaconda-Deer Lodge County strongly urges your positive support of H.B. 201, providing for the continued support of the Upper Clark Fork River Basin Natural Resource Damage Law Suit, which has been in litigation for over sixteen (16) years.

The past support of the action has resulted in positive outcomes for the State of Montana as well as Anaconda-Deer Lodge County.

Anaconda-Deer Lodge County has suffered the largest amount of lost natural resources of any county in the basin. The citizens have struggled with lost water, terrestrial and land resources. We live with these losses everyday. The future livability of the community is definitely tied to the successful outcome of the remaining portion of the actions still underway.

We urge your support and ask you to support the passing of H.B. 201.

Respectfully,

Handwritten signature of Mark Woirhaye

Mark Woirhaye
Chief Executive
Anaconda-Deer Lodge County

MW/hje