Montana Department of
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Brian Schweitzer, Governor

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February 9, 2010

Representative Chas Vincent, Chair
Environmental Quality Council
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Re: CECRA Rules

Dear Chairman Vincent:

Thank you for the recommendations that came out of the Council's January 8, 2010, discussion of the Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) current Comprehensive Environmental Cleanup and Responsibility Act (CECRA) rulemaking activities (MAR Notice No. 17-296).

The DEQ agrees with your recommendation to consult stakeholders for future rulemaking activities. As to the current rulemaking, DEQ has met with a group of affected parties on the current proposed CECRA rules. We will also develop internal plans to consult with a broad range of stakeholders as we develop additional rules in the future.

The DEQ appreciates your recommendation for comprehensive rulemaking. When we consider additional rulemaking in the future, we will contact the stakeholders to learn more about their vision of what kind of comprehensive rule changes might be appropriate for the program.

We look forward to the opportunity to brief the Council on future rulemakings.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Opper
Director

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MARCH 5, 2010
EXHIBIT 3

c: Sandi Olsen
Tom Livers