Rushing, Emalee

From: John Redding [jhredding@cableone.net]
Sent: Sunday, July 03, 2016 1:49 PM
To: IDWRInfo
Cc: tbarry@meridiancity.org; kradek@meridiancity.org
Subject: Public Comment: City of Meridian Areas of Drilling Concern

To: Mr. Jeff Peppersack
Idaho Department of Water Resources
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 8320

Comment Deadline: July 15, 2016

I am a resident of Meridian, Idaho, I am taking this opportunity to express my full support for the City of Meridian's effort to call on IDWR to call for stricter drilling standards that will ensure the safety of drinking water and avoid potential groundwater contamination.

I oppose the argument put forth by drilling companies who describe this proposal as an expense that threatens their business. To me, that is a narrow and short-sighted view when looking at the entire picture of safe, clean, and reliable drinking water.

I applaud the City of Meridian for taking this progressive and pro-active step forward. The City is looking out the the best interests of its citizens. We've all seen the worst-case scenarios unfolding in much larger cities where water is contaminated and it becomes a public health emergency resulting in federal assistance and adverse national attention. Let's be smart here and look forward. Listen to those concerned about the greater good, not just drilling companies who focus on their bottom line.

I think the City of Meridian is getting ahead of a potential threat that, if left unattended could, result in a far greater and more costly public health issue.

That said, I am fully behind City leadership on this issue and call on IDWR to tighten drilling standards, including standards for privately owned wells within the proposed designated area of concern.

Clean water is necessary for everyone and everything that lives.

I stand by the City of Meridian in this effort and hope that IDWR does as well.

Best regards,
John H. Redding
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Meridian, ID 83646