

Dale K. Verhaeghe
Linda S. Dernoncourt
1303 Cottonwood Drive
Fruitland, ID 83619

DEPT. OF LANDS

JAN 13 2020

BOISE, IDAHO

January 5, 2020

Idaho Department of Lands
Attn: Mick Thomas
300 N. 6th Street, Suite 103
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720

RE: ALTA MESA GAS/OIL WELL FRUITLAND, ID

Mr. Thomas,

We have not signed any lease with the above company or any other company regarding our property on Cottonwood Drive nor are we going to do this. We came from a State that allowed this and have seen what it has done to their properties.

1. They lost all the value in their homes they do not want to be there but they cannot sell their homes since they have no value.
2. The water table has been contaminated and they are having to truck water in for their use. Why would anyone take this risk with their family and homes?
3. Alta Mesa will be operating within 1000 feet of the water treatment plant if something goes wrong it could also contaminate all the underground water.
4. Has anyone addressed the health risks involved if they make a mistake and the waste starts leaking? We do not want to take chances with our health.
5. They will be drilling by the Payette River, what about the wild life that uses that river do you really want to take that chance. If the Payette River becomes contaminated it will not stop there it will continue to all the rivers it feeds into.

You say if something goes wrong, we can sue the company, we saw what happened in California with PG&E and the fires. When the victims of the fires sued PG&E, they filed bankruptcy and now they have to work their way through courts. One of the companies High Mesa and six of their affiliated companies have already filed bankruptcy. Where would that leave us?

The packet we received in December stated that there would be a hearing on February 12, 2020, but does not disclose the location or time, is that so no one comes to speak out against this?

You already know that this company does not follow the rules and have been fined. Why would you think that they would follow them now? They do what they want to do and figure they will just pay any fines and still be ahead.

We purchased our house in this community in January of 2019 and are enjoying the wonderful area. We left a state that allowed all the oil/gas companies to come in and destroy areas and leave when they were done. THIS IS NOT WHAT WE WANT TO SEE HAPPEN HERE!!! WE VOTE NO!!!!



Dale K. Verhaeghe



Linda S. Deroncourt