MOFFAT COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS

June 16, 2014

Michael B. Owens, Air Program (8P-AR),
U.S. EPA, Region 8,
1595 Wynkoop Street,
Denver, CO 80202-1129

RE: Bonanza Power Pland Title V Operating Permit

Dear Mr. Owens,

The Moffat County Commissioners strongly support the issuance of a Title V Operating Permit for Bonanza Power Plant. Several employees of the Deserado Coal Mine, which supplies the coal for Bonanza, live in Moffat County. In addition, the issuance of this permit will set precedence for future permits that will affect NW Colorado.

Moffat County's economy is based in energy production, as our top 10 taxpayers are energy related companies. The Wild Earth Guardians have targeted the coal mines and power plants in NW Colorado as part of their environmental activism strategy to reduce coal use in the US. We believe their target on Bonanza is also part of this plan. It completely ignores the local economies affected, the ability for a community to grow and good paying jobs, or the acknowledgement that high BTU, low sulfur, and low mercury coal, such as we have in NW Colorado, should be utilized when it is available. In fact, the Bonanza power plant has received numerous accolades for their clean operation (See Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado Comments to EPA dated June 12, 2014).

The Moffat County Commissioners oppose activist lawsuits such as this that target local economies and middle class citizens, that have no scientific basis, and force local businesses to spend countless dollars defending themselves against agenda driven lawsuits. Moffat County Commissioners support the issuance of the Title V Operating Permit to Bonanza.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Mathers

Thomas J. Mathers, Chairman
Moffat County Commissioners

221 West Victory Way, Ste 130
Craig, CO 81625
(970) 824-5517
(970) 824-9191 (fax)

John S. Kinkaid
District 1

Charles G. Grobe
District 2

Thomas J. Mathers
District 3