**[INSERT DATE]**

Dear Mr. VanHolland,

As a headwaters community of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, our outstanding water resources deserve the best protection – equal to the value they provide our community.

We are at a tipping point, and we need these actions today on the proposed Small Wastewater Facility Regulations:

* **The proposed regulations should apply to all existing septic systems.**The regulations should apply retroactively to prior undiscovered violations and the maintenance of septic systems installed before adopting the new rules.
* **The proposed rules do not address the need for a septic system inspection program.**The benefits of an effective inspection program include protection of water quality that includes public health, protection of investment in homeownership, increased septic system service life, and

replacement cost savings.

* **A lack of completed Source Water Assessments and Protection Plans puts drinking water from our Public Water Systems at risk.**The proposed regulations contain an essential provision that requires additional levels of protection and higher levels of performance for septic systems placed in areas that may impact public water supplies. However, those areas can only be determined by completing source water protection plans (SWPPs). Teton County needs to prioritize the completion of SWPPs for our public water systems.

The future of our water resources is going to be determined by the decisions you make today. You have the power to ensure clean water is a right for every citizen of Teton County. I urge you to take immediate action.

Sincerely,

**[INSERT NAME]**

**[INSERT ADDRESS]**