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Insist on best technology

*Pinedale
Roundup
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I appreciated Mr. Shaul's May 18 editorial on the "heartbreaking" deterioration of the Upper Green River Valley's air quality, but I think we can do more than cross our fingers and hope the skies clear up in 10-15 years.

Unfortunately, Encana's use of experimental technology to reduce emissions is limited, and natural gas-fired rigs are not widely available. I applaud the effort, but considering their plans for over 3,000 new rigs, it's like a Band-Aid on a slashed artery.

Mr. Shaul noted that a big difference between now and five years ago is the additional haze from approximately 50 drill rigs, plus the trucks they rode in on. While not all of the haze we're seeing comes from rigs, BLM has acknowledged that development in the Jonah Field will affect visibility in both Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks.

It is our job to ensure that BLM requires industry to use the best available technology; reasonably limits emissions starting today, and maintains developmental rates that minimize air pollution.

We all benefit from natural gas development however, we must insist that development takes place in a way that does not sacrifice the reasons we call Wyoming home.

Linda Baker, Pinedale