

Commission speaks out against pipeline

By Jack H. Smith
Staff Writer

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Aaron Million's proposed trans-basin water pipeline has raised concerns all over Sweetwater County. The topic was paramount at the Sweetwater County Commission meeting Tuesday.

During the portion of the meeting where commissioners address their concerns, each member took time to address the proposed pipeline and the scoping meeting conducted last week at Green River High School. Million has submitted a proposal which would take water from the Flaming Gorge and the Green River below Seedskaadee and transport it 560 miles to Colorado.

"You take the water out of this system. You are never going to get it back," Commissioner Paula Wonnacott said.

After attending the meeting, conducted by the Army Corps of Engineers, Wonnacott said it was less than appropriate and there needs to be a coordinated effort in the area.

"This issue is not as simple as Mr. Million would like to think it is," Wonnacott said.

Commissioner Randy Walker used the analogy of the swimming pool at Monroe Middle School to show how much water this would use. He said it would be like the pool being emptied every minute 24 hours and day, seven days a week, and 365 days a year.

"Devastating is not the word on what this would do to Sweetwater County," Walker said. "This is the future of Southwest Wyoming."

Wonnacott said water is our most important resource. "You take water out of this system you are not going to get it back," Wonnacott said. "We are the ones who have to live with it."