

To whom it may concern, *IN THE OKANOGA COUNTY PLANNING COMM.*

Our family has been in the valley since the late 1890's, I am third generation living here. I realize that things cannot revert to what they were when I grew up, when we knew and trusted everyone in the valley. We didnt lock our doors or our cars. Most of us even left the keys in the ignition.

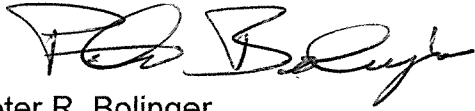
As to the current issues, I would like to see the lower valley stay as much as possible as it is. Residential farming with open spaces, not covered with houses, businesses and campsites.

The town of Methow averages about thirty residents, and most of the lots are being used. We do have the potential for a small amount of growth. If it was'nt for our adequate use of water and our dedicated Fire Department, A lot of Methow would have gone up in smoke in the 2014 fires

I feel that we need to be able to retain our small farms and fields and an adequate amount of water to operate them as we have for the past three and four generations. As the Methow river gets lower every year, it becomes very obvious that we are taking more water than the valley is able to produce. Do we really want a 48 inch or larger pipeline from the Columbia River coming up our valley to supply water to wall to wall homes, businesses. We cannot continue to do more with less. The result will be to do everything with absolutley nothing.

The best way to not create excess water use is by of

course not wasting water, but also by controlling the amount  
of wells, which means controlling the amount of building ~~of~~  
new dwellings. We are out growing our resource capacity!



Peter R. Bolinger  
Methow, Wa

16 Sept 19

