



STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Department of Water Resources
Eastern Region

444 Hospital Way, #300 • Pocatello, Idaho 83201 • (208) 236-6160
www.deq.idaho.gov

C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor
John H. Tippetts, Director

February 27, 2017

Sharla Cox, Administrative Assistant
Idaho Department of Water Resources
Eastern Region
900 North Skyline Drive, Suite A
Idaho Falls, ID 83402-1718

RE: Comments on Application to Permit No.: 29-14207

Dear Ms. Cox

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) has reviewed documents relative to the Application for Permit for Intermountain Vipassana Association, Inc. We are offering the following comments.

The proposed wells lie within the designated Grace Nitrate Priority Area (map attached). We recommend the applicants be advised that nitrate concentrations in potable water supplies might be elevated and that under some circumstances elevated nitrate concentrations can present a public health risk to vulnerable populations.

Based on the information provided, in addition to information obtained from communications with site developers, we have determined that the Vipassana Center will constitute a regulated public water system under criteria specified in IDAPA 58.01.08. Therefore IDEQ will require prior approval for well locations, construction and water quality, etc. before the system can be used to provide potable water for public consumption. We recommend that the applicants be so advised.

If you have questions or comments, please contact me at 236-6160 or via email at tom.hepworth@deq.idaho.gov.

Sincerely,

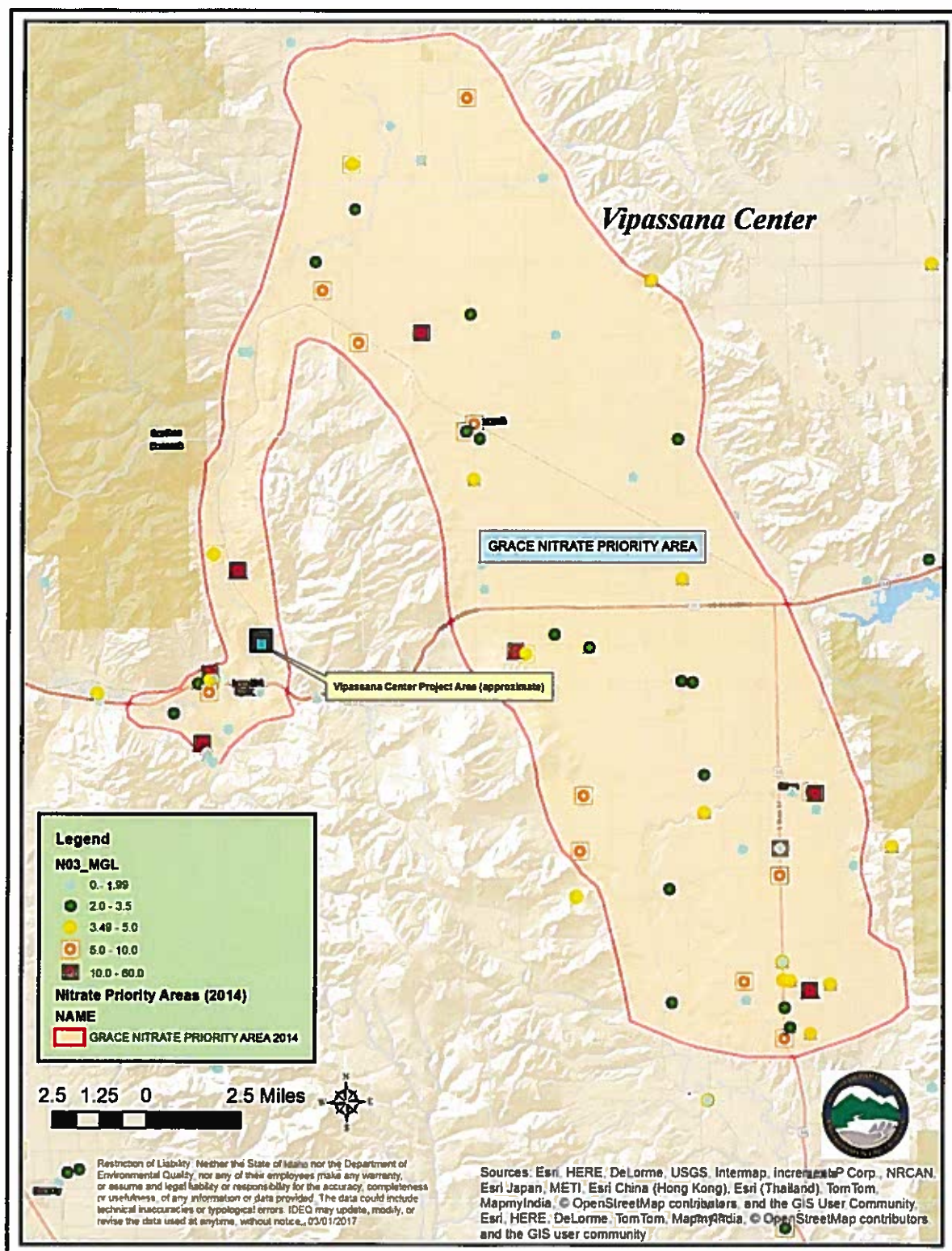
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Hepworth", is written over the word "Sincerely".

Tom Hepworth
Engineering Regional Manager

Enclosure: Attachment A – Grace Nitrate Priority Area

CC: Bruce Olenick, Regional Administrator, Pocatello Regional Office
Jesse Bennet, Staff Engineer, Pocatello Regional Office

TRIM: 2017AGE26



Attachment A