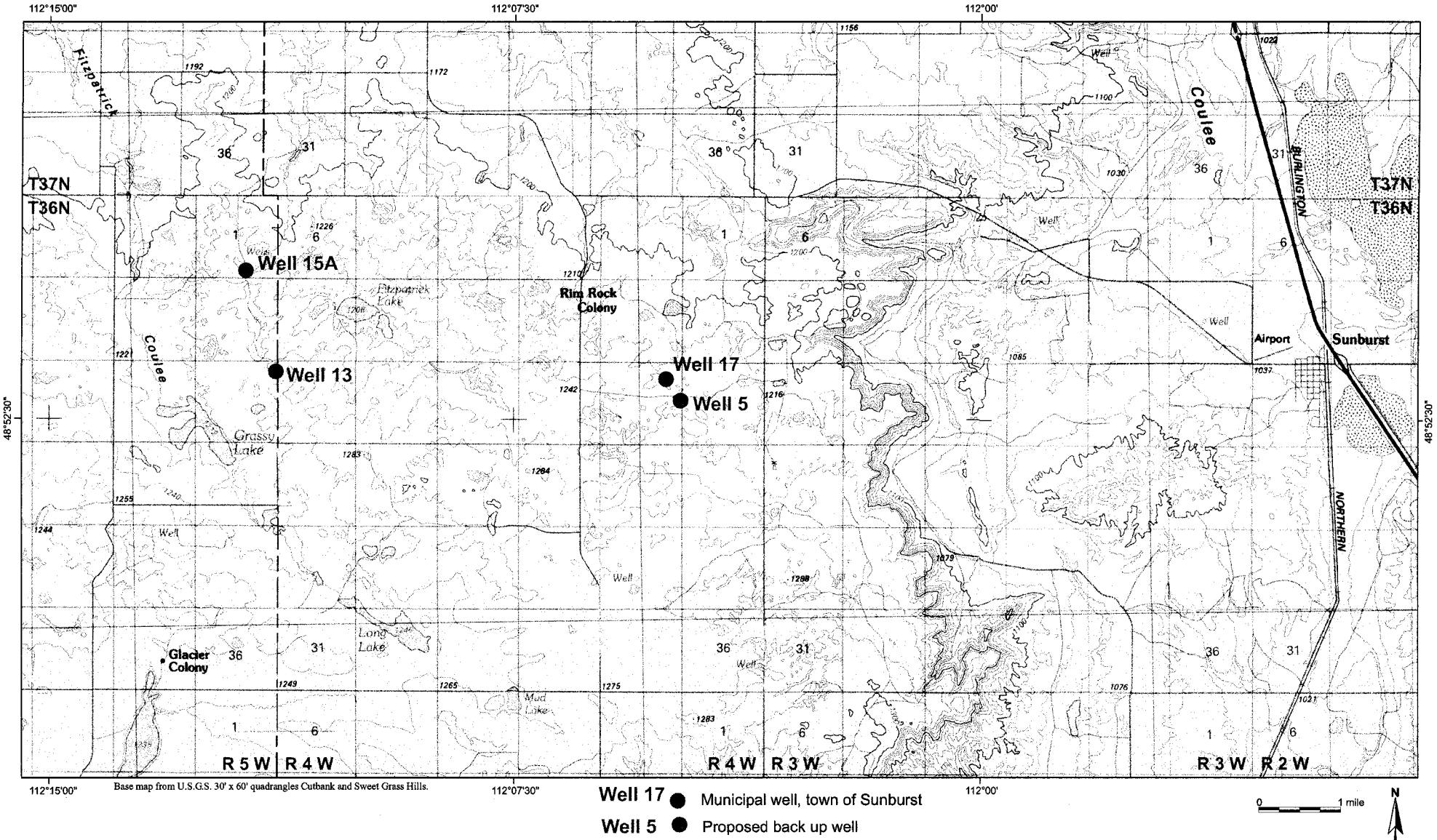

Base map from U.S.G.S. 30' x 60' quadrangles Cutbank and Sweet Grass Hills.

Well 17 ● Municipal well, town of Sunburst

Well 5 ● Proposed back up well

Town of Sunburst, well locations.

EXHIBIT 8
DATE 1/19/07
HB 68

Sunburst Backup Water Supply Wells

Proposal Submitted to
Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program

The Town of Sunburst was given several water wells formerly used by the Texas Oil Company to supply a refinery at Sunburst. Two wells, one hard water and one soft water, have been used to supply water to the town.

In 2001 corrosive, high sulfur water ate through the casing in the soft water well resulting in growth of sulfur reducing and iron related bacteria which disrupted their supply till the well could be replaced.

To avoid future disruptions, Sunburst recently completed an RDGP project to renovate two wells for use as a backup supply, and plug and abandon unused wells that posed a possible contamination threat to the Virgelle Aquifer which supplies Sunburst's and other nearby wells. That project was completed successfully, but because one of the backup wells could not be renovated and had to be re-drilled, funds were not available to connect the wells to the existing supply.

This proposal is for funding to connect the rehabilitated wells to the system and confirm the source of the contamination (dryland salinity is suspected).

A civil engineer with experience in municipal water supply will design and supervise the connection. All work will be performed by qualified, bonded contractors and in conformance with all applicable rules and regulations.

Up-gradient shallow wells will be evaluated to determine the source of the high sulfur content and bacteria which have been found in past samples from some Sunburst wells, and steps to prevent future contamination will be recommended.