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Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
STATE OF MONTANA HELENA, MONTANA 59601

February 4, 1975

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Department of Fish and Game, Helena
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Sam Casne, Route 1, Kalispell
Leroy Pederson, Route 1, Kalispell
May Styles, Route 1, Kalispell
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**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
COUNCIL**

A NEGATIVE DECLARATION
FOR THE
FISHER BROS. HOG FARM

Pursuant to the Montana Environmental Policy Act, the following negative declaration has been prepared by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences concerning the Fisher Bros. Hog Farm and a request by Mr. Fonda Fisher for a waste discharge permit for this operation near Kalispell, Montana.

The purpose of this negative declaration is to inform all interested governmental agencies and public groups of the Water Quality Bureau's intent not to write an environmental impact statement. This declaration will be circulated for a period of ten days at which time a decision will be made as to whether or not a waste discharge permit should be issued. If you care to comment on this application for a permit, please do so within that allotted time.

Mr. Fonda Fisher proposes to modify and expand his existing confined swine operation. The animal confinement facility is located in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 9, and the N $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 16, T. 29 N., R. 21 W., of Flathead County. The location of this operation is indicated on the attached map.

Under this proposal, the applicant would modify the existing confinement building from a finishing unit to a farrowing unit and construct an

Fisher Bros. Hog Farm
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open front building and feeding floor to be used for growing and finishing of the pigs that are produced. Waste material produced by the sows and litters in the farrowing unit will be contained in two liquid manure pits located beneath the building. The waste material which accumulates within these pits will be removed approximately every ninety days and disposed of on adjacent agricultural land. The waste material which accumulates on the feeding floor will be removed by scraping every two weeks and likewise disposed of on agricultural land. Approximately 50 acres of such land is available for waste disposal. The only other livestock held in open pens would be sows which are held in pastures and the waste material should create no significant problems. Surface runoff from the growing and finishing units will be prevented from reaching state waters through the construction of a retention dike. This structure must have the capability of retaining all runoff which can be expected from the feeding floor and surrounding area following a 10-year, 24-hour rainfall event.

Flies around this animal confinement facility will be controlled through a routine spraying program and the application of an acceptable fly bait. Dead animals will be disposed of at the county sanitary landfill.

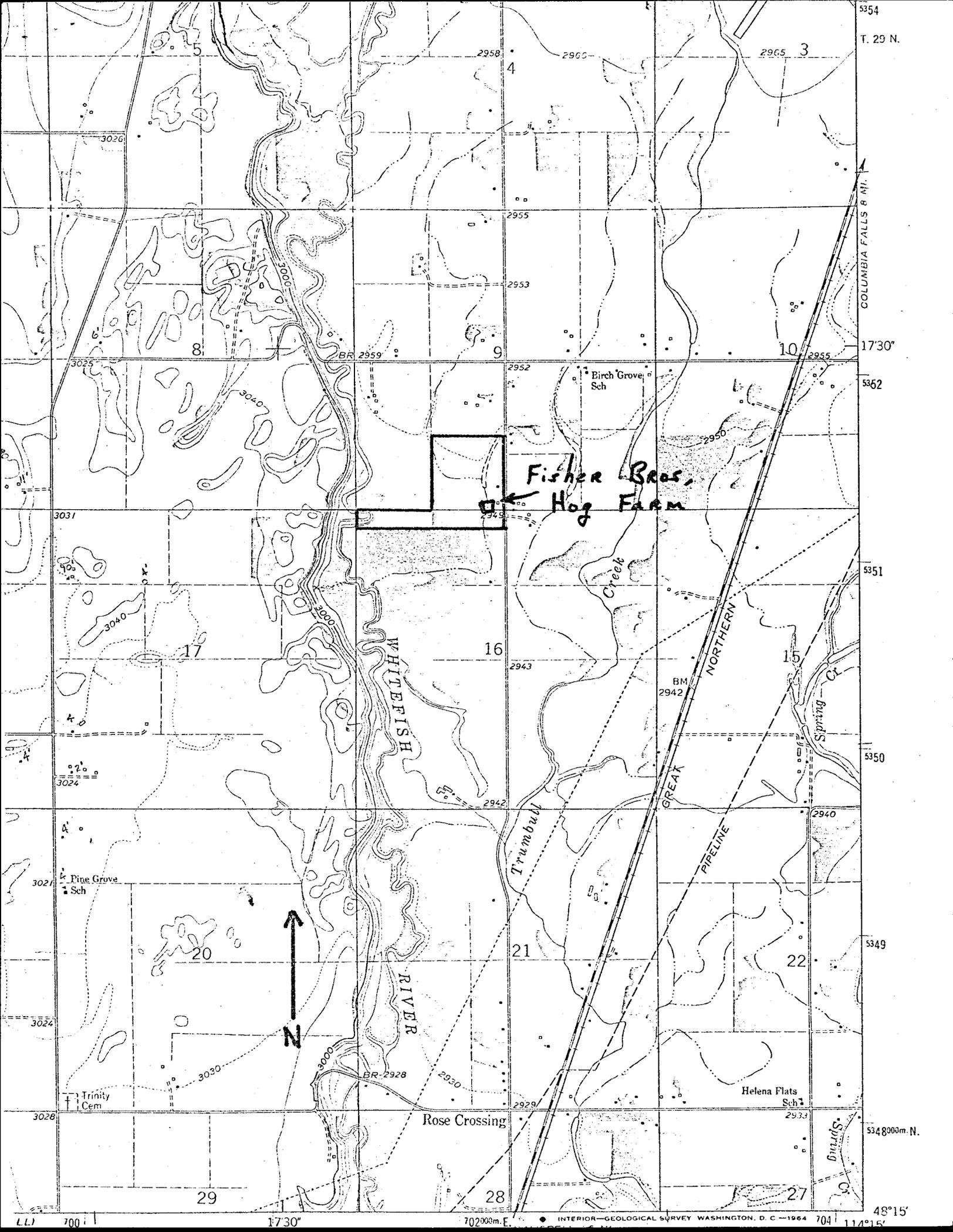
Any animal confinement facility will have an effect on the surrounding environment, but adverse environmental effects can be minimized through adherence to a good waste management program. The applicant indicates that the direction of the prevailing winds is from the northwest and as such, should carry offensive odors away from the closest occupied dwellings.

The alternatives available to Mr. Fisher would be to continue operation of the existing animal confinement facility without the proposed expansion or to relocate the entire operation. Our office has never received complaints of either air or water pollution from the existing animal confinement facility, and since the operation is located in an agricultural area, it is doubtful that the expansion would have significant adverse effect on the surrounding environment. If the waste management program as outlined in this application is adhered to, the operation should result in minimal adverse effect.



Steven L. Pilcher
Agricultural Wastewater Specialist
Water Quality Bureau
Environmental Sciences Division

SLP:vlf
Attachment
cc: Ben Wake
Dan Vichorek
Air Quality Bureau



5354
T. 29 N.

COLUMBIA FALLS R. RT.

17°30'
5352

5351

5350

5349

5348000m. N.

48°15'
114°15'

Fisher Bros.
Hog Farm

N

WHITEFISH RIVER

Creek

Trumbull

GREAT NORTHERN PIPELINE

Spring Cr

Spring Cr

Rose Crossing

Helena Flats Sch

3026

3025

3031

3024

3021

3024

3028

2958

2960

2965

2955

2953

2952

2949

2943

2942

2930

2929

2955

2950

BM 2942

2940

2933

LL 700

17°30'

702000m. E.

704

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