



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

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DIRECTOR

May 16, 1975

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Department of Fish and Game, Helena
✓ Environmental Quality Council, Helena
Mr. William E. Billings, Box 145, St. Regis

MAY 19 1975
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

A NEGATIVE DECLARATION
FOR THE
E & B ENTERPRISES

Pursuant to the Montana Environmental Policy Act, the following negative declaration has been prepared by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences concerning an existing animal confinement facility operated by Mr. William E. Billings of St. Regis, Montana. Mr. Billings has made application for his animal confinement facility located west of St. Regis, 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 regarding this facility. This declaration will be circulated for a period of ten days following which a decision will be made as to whether or not a waste discharge permit should be issued. If you care to comment on this proposed action, please do so within that allotted time.

Mr. Billings currently operates an animal confinement facility having capacity for approximately 150 swine. This facility is located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 14, T. 18 N., R. 29 W., of Mineral County, approximately seven miles west of St. Regis, Montana. The location of this facility is shown on the attached map.

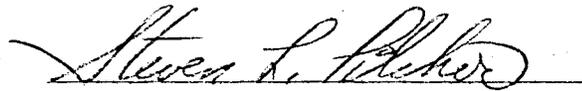
The waste material which is generated by the livestock held within the confinement building is discharged to an earthen retention pond located northeast of the confinement building. This retention pond will be protected from surface runoff so that the only process generated wastewater contained in that facility will be the livestock waste plus wash down water. The liquid waste accumulating in the retention facility will be allowed to evaporate or will be removed by honey wagon and disposed of on surrounding agricultural land. The retention facility will be managed so that there is no discharge of pollutants to state waters.

1. Should go to the areas nearby
2. Set # of mt needed
3. not made clear whether expansion in head the would be allowed.

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Flies around the animal confinement facility will be controlled through a routine spraying and baiting program. Dead animals will be disposed of through burial in an acceptable location.

Any animal confinement facility such as this can have an effect on the environment. Adverse effects can, however, be minimized through location and adherence to a good waste management program. The animal confinement facility in question is quite well removed from any developed area and should thereby not create a significant air pollution problem. Adherence to the waste management program which has been proposed should result in no discharge of pollutants to state waters and nuisance conditions from the waste material should be minimal. The only alternative that would be available to Mr. Billings would be to relocate the existing facility. As long as the waste material is managed in such a way that it does not create nuisance conditions and the process generated wastewater contained in the waste control facilities, such relocation does not seem justifiable.



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

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

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