



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

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DIRECTOR

August 18, 1975

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A NEGATIVE DECLARATION
FOR THE
WEBER AND SONS DAIRY FACILITY

Pursuant to the Montana Environmental Policy Act, the following negative declaration has been prepared by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences concerning the Weber and Sons Dairy Operation and a request by Mr. William Weber, Jr., for a waste discharge permit for this operation located south of Billings, 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.

Weber and Sons currently operates a dairy facility having capacity for approximately 112 cows. This operation encompasses approximately four acres and is located in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 18, T. 1 S., R. 26 E., of Yellowstone County. The location of this operation is shown on the attached map.

The topography of the area is extremely flat with slopes of approximately 0.3% which results in very little extraneous drainage reaching the

Weber and Sons Dairy Facility

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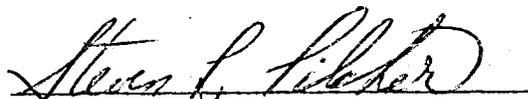
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animal confinement facility. Minimal runoff should result from an area such as this, and any runoff which might occur would be routed onto adjacent agricultural land. This runoff should be contained on property owned by the applicant with little possibility of ever reaching state waters. Waste material and washwater from the milking parlor is collected and discharged to an underground storage tank. The waste material which accumulates within this tank is periodically removed and likewise disposed of on surrounding agricultural land. The loafing area for the animals is cleaned daily and the waste material stockpiled until the cropping system on the agricultural land will permit application of the waste material. To insure that there is no drainage from this stockpile area into any adjacent watercourse, a small dike will be constructed around the area. Approximately 180 acres of agricultural land is available for waste disposal.

Flies around the animal confinement facility are controlled through a routine spraying program. Dead animals are disposed of through the local rendering service.

Any animal confinement facility will have an effect on the surrounding environment, but adverse environmental effects can be minimized through a good waste management program. If the waste management program as outlined in this application is adhered to, the problem of air pollution should be minimal.

The only alternative available to the applicant would be the relocation of an existing facility. The operation in question is located in an agricultural area and is a part of an overall farming operation. Our office has never received complaints of either air or water pollution from this animal confinement facility. In view of such facts and the cost involved in relocation, such action does not appear warranted.



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

SLP:vlf

Enclosure

cc: Ben Wake

Air Quality Bureau

YEGEN QUADRA
MONTANA-YELLOWST
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOP

35' R. 25 E. R. 26 E. 689 4275 1 SE (BILLINGS WEST) 7 MI. TO U.S. 87 32'30" ROUNDUP 54 MI. BILLINGS 2.6 MI. 2 250 000 FEET

