

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION  
WATER RESOURCES DIVISION  
WATER RIGHTS BUREAU  
**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

**PART I. PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION**

1. **Type of action:** Water use permit application no. 097907-41H  
Water right change application no.  
Petition or Other Action:
2. **Applicant/Contact name and address:** Richard E. Thomson  
5850 S. Broadway  
Littleton, CO. 80121
3. **Water source name:** Two Wells
4. **Location affected by action:** W2 Sec 29 T01S R05E, Gallatin CO.
5. **Narrative summary of the proposed project and action to be taken:** This application is to drill two wells to supply a 400 unit subdivision located in the W2 Sec 29 T01S R05E, Gallatin Co.
6. **Agencies consulted during preparation of the environmental assessment:** none

**PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

1. Environmental Impact Checklist:

**PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT**

**Soils/Geologic Features:**

Degradation of soil quality or alteration of soil stability, moisture content, geologic substructure, unique geologic features, archeological sites?

NO

**Erosion:**

Alteration of erosion or siltation patterns which modify stream beds or lake shores?

NO

**Vegetation/Noxious weeds:**

Change in or adverse affect on diversity and production of local plant species including any unique or endangered species (including trees, shrubs, grass, and aquatic plants)? Establishment or spread of noxious weeds?

NO

**Air:**

Deterioration of air quality, or adverse effects on vegetation due to increased air pollutants.

NO

**Water:**

Alteration of surface water or groundwater quality including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity or quantity or distribution?

NO

**Floodplain:**

Changes in drainage patterns, course or magnitude of flood flows, or exposure of people/property to hazards (flood)?

NO

**Wildlife Habitat/Migration:**

Deterioration of critical fish or wildlife habitat? Creation of a barrier to the migration or movement of fish or wildlife?

NO

**Endangered Species:**

Adverse effects on any unique or endangered species?

NO

<b>HUMAN ENVIRONMENT</b>
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**Existing Land Use:**

Alteration of or interference with the productivity or profitability of the existing land use of an area?

YES 320 acres of hay ground will be turned into a 400 unit subdivision.

**Historical Significance:**

Destruction or alteration of a natural area of scientific or educational value or prehistoric or paleontological importance?

NO

**Populace:**

Alteration of the location, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population of an area? Alteration of social structure of community?

Yes With up to 400 new homes the growth rate will be affected, as will the social structure of the community.

**Transportation:**

Increased traffic hazards or effects on existing transportation facilities or patterns of movement of people and goods?

YES With up to 400 new families increased traffic will increase the hazards on existing roads.

**Safety:**

Creation of any health hazard or affect on existing emergency response or evacuation plans?

Yes There may be an increased need for additional emergency response.

**Public Services:**

Have an effect upon or result in a need for new or altered governmental services in any of the following areas: fire or police protection, schools, parks/recreational facilities, roads or other public maintenance, water supply, sewer or septic systems, solid waste disposal, health, or other governmental services? Have an effect upon local or state tax base?

yes A need for additional fire and police protection, overcrowding of schools, parks and recreational facilities, and additional burden on existing roads.

**Utilities:**

Creates need for new or altered facilities for any of the following utilities: electric power, natural gas, other fuel supply or distribution systems, or communications?

Yes A new need for electric power and maybe natural gas will be created.

**Aesthetics:**

Alteration of any scenic vista or recreation opportunity or creation of an aesthetically offensive site to the public?

Yes What is now a half section of hay ground will become a subdivision.

**Other:**

NO

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2. **Secondary and cumulative impacts:** none
  3. **Reasonable alternatives to the proposed action, including the no action alternative:** Don't subdivide the ground. Have each home drill their own well and file a Notice of Completion.

**PART III. CONCLUSION**

Based on the significance criteria evaluated in this EA, is an EIS required? No

If an EIS is not required, explain why the EA is the appropriate level of analysis for this proposed action:

There will be no significant impacts, therefore an EIS is not required.

PREPARED BY:

NAME: Jan R. Mack  
TITLE: Water Resources Specialist III  
DATE: June 10, 1996