

Department of Environmental Quality
Permitting and Compliance Division
Air and Waste Management Bureau
1520 E. Sixth Avenue
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, Montana 59620-0901
(406) 444-3490 FAX (406) 444-1499

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OCT 05 1998

**ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY COUNCIL**

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ISSUED TO: Conoco, Inc.
Missoula Product Terminal
P.O. Box 30198
Billings, MT 59107-0198

PERMIT NUMBER: 3021-00

PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION ON PERMIT ISSUED: October 2, 1998

MONTANA ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (MEPA) COMPLIANCE: An environmental assessment required by the Montana Environmental Policy Act, was completed for this project as follows:

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF SITE: Section 9, Township 13 North, Range 19 West, Missoula County

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: The current permitting action reflects that Conoco is requesting an alteration of the permits currently issued by the Missoula City-County Health Department (Missoula). The permits issued by Missoula were for the Conoco bulk terminal and the Exxon bulk terminal. Because the companies are merging their bulk terminals, the current alteration will combine these permits and will incorporate production limits that will keep the facility below the 40 CFR 63 Subpart R threshold levels. This action will also transfer permitting authority from Missoula to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The DEQ is the responsible permitting authority for sources subject to Title V until Missoula pursues a Title V operating permit program. Permit #3021-00 replaces both Missoula permits held by the Conoco, Inc. and the Exxon Company, USA for the Missoula bulk terminals.

BENEFITS AND PURPOSE OF PROPOSAL: The proposal will allow the current Conoco and Exxon Missoula terminals to operate as one terminal with one permit and one permitting authority.

DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS OF REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES WHENEVER ALTERNATIVES ARE REASONABLY AVAILABLE AND PRUDENT TO CONSIDER: No reasonable alternatives are available.

A LISTING AND APPROPRIATE EVALUATION OF MITIGATION, STIPULATIONS AND OTHER CONTROLS ENFORCEABLE BY THE AGENCY OR ANOTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCY: A list of enforceable permit conditions are contained in Air Quality Permit 3021-00.

DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS OF REGULATORY IMPACTS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS: The department has considered alternatives to the conditions imposed in this permit as part of the permit development. The department has determined that the permit conditions are reasonably necessary to ensure compliance with applicable requirements and to demonstrate compliance with those requirements and do not unduly restrict private property rights.

Potential Impact on Physical Environment

		Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments Attached
1	Terrestrial and Aquatic Life and Habitats				X		1
2	Water Quality, Quantity and Distribution				X		1
3	Geology and Soil Quality, Stability and Moisture				X		1
4	Vegetation Cover, Quantity and Quality				X		1
5	Aesthetics				X		1
6	Air Quality				X		2
7	Unique Endangered, Fragile or Limited Environmental Resource				X		1
8	Demands on Environmental Resource of Water, Air and Energy				X		1
9	Historical and Archaeological Sites				X		1
10	Cumulative and Secondary Impacts				X		2

POTENTIAL IMPACT ON PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

1. Terrestrial and Aquatic Life and Habitats
 Water Quality, Quantity and Distribution
 Geology and Soil Quality, Stability and Moisture
 Vegetation Cover, Quantity and Quality
 Vegetation Cover, Quantity and Quality
 Aesthetics
 Unique Endangered, Fragile or Limited Environmental Resource
 Demands on Environmental Resource of Water, Air and Energy
 Historical and Archaeological Sites

The facilities are physically located next to one another. The merger of the terminals will be an administrative change. The terminals will now be permitted as one source and will be further limited as one source through the operational limitations placed on the terminal in permit #3021-00. There will be no impacts on the categories of the physical environment listed above.

2. Air Quality
 Cumulative and Secondary Impacts

There is a decrease in the potential emission from the merger of the facility; therefore, there will be no cumulative and secondary impacts.

Potential Impact on Human Environment

		Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments Attached
1	Social Structures and Mores				X		1
2	Cultural Uniqueness and Diversity				X		1
3	Local and State Tax Base and Tax Revenue				X		1
4	Agricultural or Industrial Production				X		1
5	Human Health				X		2
6	Access to and Quality of Recreational and Wilderness Activities				X		1
7	Quantity and Distribution of Employment				X		1
8	Distribution of Population				X		1
9	Demands for Government Services				X		1
10	Industrial and Commercial Activity				X		1
11	Locally Adopted Environmental Plans and Goals				X		1
12	Cumulative and Secondary Impacts				X		2

POTENTIAL IMPACT ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

1. Social Structures and Mores
 Cultural Uniqueness and Diversity
 Local and State Tax Base and Tax Revenue
 Agricultural or Industrial Production
 Access to and Quality of Recreational and Wilderness Activities
 Quantity and Distribution of Employment
 Distribution of Population
 Demands for Government Services
 Industrial and Commercial Activity
 Locally Adopted Environmental Plans and Goals

The merger of the facilities to one terminal will not change the physical location of the terminal and there will be a decrease in the potential emissions from the facility being permitted as one source. There will be no impact on the categories of the human environment listed above because of the merger of the terminals.

2. Human Health
 Cumulative and Secondary Impacts

There is a decrease in the potential emissions from the merger of the facilities; therefore, there will be no cumulative and secondary impacts.

RECOMMENDATION: An EIS is not required.

IF AN EIS IS NOT REQUIRED, EXPLAIN WHY THE EA IS AN APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF ANALYSIS: The current permitting action results in no increase in the current allowable emissions for the facility and will require the facility to demonstrate compliance with the ambient standards. In addition, there are requirements in permit #3021-00 that further limit the facility.

OTHER GROUPS OR AGENCIES CONTACTED OR WHICH MAY HAVE OVERLAPPING JURISDICTION: None.

INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS CONTRIBUTING TO THIS EA: Department of Environmental Quality, Permitting and Compliance Division, Air & Waste Management Bureau.

EA PREPARED BY: Vickie Walsh

DATE: September 23, 1998