

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.
Water right change application no. 40J-G(E)105718-00
Petition or Other Action:
2. **Applicant/Contact name and address:** Douglas & Jane Warp, 836 8th ST,
Havre, MT 59501
3. **Water source name:** Groundwater Well
4. **Location affected by action:** Lot 2, Block 1, Black Butte Estates,
NWNWNW Sec. 10, TWP 32N, RGE 15E, Hill County
5. **Narrative summary of the proposed project and action to be taken:** The DNRC shall issue an authorization for change of appropriation if the applicants prove the criteria in 85-2-402, MCA, are met. This application is for a new replacement well located about 15 feet north of the old well. The old well was completed in 1962 and filed with the Clerk & Recorder's Office on a Notice of Completion of Groundwater Appropriation, Document No. 392985. The casing of the old well deteriorated and became unusable. The old well was properly abandoned when the new well was drilled in August of 1998. The new well will be used for the same purposes as the old well, which is for one domestic household and .50 acre of lawn and garden with an appropriation of 20 gpm and 2.30 acre-feet. There will be no increase in flow rate or volume as was used historically and the place of use will remain the same; only the diversion point is being changed. The new well is drawing water from the same aquifer as evidenced by the well logs of the old and new well.
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

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| HUMAN ENVIRONMENT |
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Existing Land Use:

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

NO

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?

NO

Transportation:

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

NO

Safety:

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

NO

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?

NO

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?

NO

Aesthetics:

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

NO

Other:

NO

2. **Secondary and cumulative impacts:** None

3. **Reasonable alternatives to the proposed action, including the no action alternative:** If an authorization is not issued, one alternative is to apply for a new water use from the new well which would require only a Notice of Completion to be filed due to the small quantity being used. Since this is simply a replacement well from the same aquifer, this should not be necessary. Wells are the only source of water for this area so the only other alternative would be to haul their water. Since hauling water has not been a requirement in the past, the installment of a cistern and pipeline, etc. would probably be necessary.

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:

This is a small 20 gpm domestic and lawn and garden well. There has been a well near this location since 1962 and no significant impacts have been identified.

PREPARED BY:

NAME: Dixie Brough
TITLE: Water Resources Specialist
DATE: February 3, 1999