

**Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation
Environmental Assessment**

Operator: Burlington Resources Oil & Gas Company
Well Name/Number: BR 34-9H
Location: SW SE Section 9 T24N R53E
County: Richland, **MT; Field (or Wildcat) W/C**

Air Quality

(possible concerns)

Long drilling time 50-60 days drilling time

Unusually deep drilling (high horsepower rig) No, triple drilling rig for 2 lateral Bakken horizontal well No.1 15,583'MD/9439'TVD No.2 15,677'MD/9439'TVD

Possible H₂S gas production no

n/near Class I air quality area no

Air quality permit for flaring/venting (if productive) n/a

Mitigation:

Air quality permit (AQB review)

Gas plants/pipelines available for sour gas

Special equipment/procedures requirements

Other: _____

Comments: no special concerns.

Water Quality

(possible concerns)

Salt/oil based mud use freshwater and freshwater mud system on surface and saltwater mud to TD.

High water table no

Surface drainage leads to live water no

Water well contamination no, all water wells ID at 216' or less.

Porous/permeable soils no, bentonite soils

Class I stream drainage no

Mitigation:

Lined reserve pit

Adequate surface casing

Berms/dykes, re-routed drainage

Closed mud system

Off-site disposal of solids/liquids (in approved facility)

Other: _____

Comments: 800' of surface casing cemented to surface not adequate to protect freshwater zones will stipulate to set additional surface casing to cover base of Fox Hills formation. Also, fresh water mud systems to be used on surface hole. Reserve pit liquids to be recycled or hauled to a commercial disposal. Solids will be allowed to dry, pit liner folded over the top of the solids, spoil dirt to fill pit, top soil spread over pit area, and seeded to land owners specification.

Soils/Vegetation/Land Use

(possible concerns)
Steam crossings none.
High erosion potential no, small cut and fill required.
Loss of soil productivity no, location will be restored after drilling
Unusually large wellsite Large, 270'X400' location size required.
Damage to improvements no
Conflict with existing land use/values Slight
Mitigation
 Avoid improvements (topographic tolerance)
 Exception location requested
 Stockpile topsoil
 Stream Crossing Permit (other agency review)
 Reclaim unused part of wellsite if productive
 Special construction methods to enhance reclamation
 Other _____
Comments: no special concerns

Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)
Proximity to public facilities/residences None, no residences within a 1 mile of wellsite.
Possibility of H2S no
Size of rig/length of drilling time Triple drilling rig 50 to 60 days drilling time
Mitigation:
 Proper BOP equipment
 Topographic sound barriers
 H2S contingency and/or evacuation plan
 Special equipment/procedures requirements
 Other: _____
Comments: no concerns, residences beyond one mile distance Proper BOP stack and surface casing should be able to control any problems that occurs.

Wildlife/recreation

(possible concerns)
Proximity to sensitive wildlife areas (DFWP identified) n/a None, identified
Proximity to recreation sites None identified
Creation of new access to wildlife habitat no
Conflict with game range/refuge management no
Threatened or endangered Species no
Mitigation:
 Avoidance (topographic tolerance/exception)
 Other agency review (DFWP, federal agencies, DSL)
 Screening/fencing of pits, drillsite
 Other: _____
Comments: no concerns

Historical/Cultural/Paleontological

(possible concerns)

Proximity to known sites None identified

Mitigation

avoidance (topographic tolerance, location exception)

other agency review (SHPO, DSL, federal agencies)

Other: _____

Comments: on private land

Social/Economic

(possible concerns)

Substantial effect on tax base

Create demand for new governmental services

Population increase or relocation

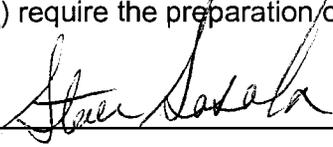
Comments: no concerns

Remarks or Special Concerns for this site

Well is a 2 legged horizontal Bakken formation test with the longest lateral 15,677' MD

Summary: Evaluation of Impacts and Cumulative effects

I conclude that the approval of the subject Notice of Intent to Drill (does/**does not**) constitute a major action of state government significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, and (does/**does not**) require the preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Prepared by (BOGC): Steven Sasaki 

(title:) Chief Field Inspector

Date: October 23, 2003

Other Persons Contacted:

(Name and Agency)

(subject discussed)

(date)

If location was inspected before permit approval:

Inspection date: _____

Inspector: _____

Others present during inspection: _____