

Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation
Environmental Assessment

Operator: Bill Barrett Corporation
Well Name/Number: State 31-16H
Location: NW NE 16, T29N R59E
County: Roosevelt, MT; Field (or Wildcat) W/C
Air Quality

(possible concerns)
Long drilling time no
Unusually deep drilling (high horsepower rig) no
Possible H2S gas production No
In/near Class I air quality area no
Air quality permit for flaring/venting (if productive) no

Mitigation:

- Air quality permit (AOB 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 Yes
High water table no
Surface drainage leads to live water no
Water well contamination no
Porous/permeable soils no
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: will use 12 mil liner, 1650' surface casing adequate. Free water disposed off-site. Salt mud used from shoe to top of lateral - fresh water used in surface hole and in lateral.

Soils/Vegetation/Land Use

(possible concerns)
Stream crossings no
High erosion potential no
Loss of soil productivity no
Unusually large wellsite no
Damage to improvements no
Conflict with existing land use/values no

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: Location relocated to minimize disturbance; berm to be constructed on south side of location to prevent runoff from reaching drainage

Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)
Proximity to public facilities/residences about 1/2 mile
Possibility of H2S No
Size of rig/length of drilling time

Mitigation:

- Proper BOP equipment

Topographic sound barriers
 H2S contingency and/or evacuation plan
 Special equipment/procedures requirements
 Other: _____
Comments: no special concerns

Wildlife/recreation

(possible concerns)

Proximity to sensitive wildlife areas (DFWP identified) no
Proximity to recreation sites none in immediate area
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 special 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: no concerns

Social/Economic

(possible concerns)

Substantial effect on tax base
 Create demand for new governmental services
 Population increase or relocation
Comments: no special concerns

Remarks or Special Concerns for this site

Well is a 9083' horizontal Ratcliffe test

Summary: Evaluation of Impacts and Cumulative effects

Only minor, short term impacts associated with this project.

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 (BOGCI) [Signature]
(title:) Administrator
Date: May 7, 2004

Other Persons Contacted:

(Name and Agency)

(subject discussed)

(date)

If location was inspected before permit approval:

Inspection date: _____

Inspector: _____

Others present during inspection: _____