Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation
Environmental Assessment

Operator: Encore Operating L.P.
Well Name/Number: Woeppel 1-14-34-12
Location: NE SW Section 14 T34N R12E
County: Hill, **MT; Field (or Wildcat)** W/C

Air Quality

(possible concerns)
Long drilling time no, 4 to 5 days drilling time.
Unusually deep drilling (high horsepower rig) no, 2300' TD
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 – using small rig to drill to 2300' TD

Water Quality

(possible concerns)
Salt/oil based mud no, freshwater, freshwater mud system or air and air/mist system.
High water table no
Surface drainage leads to live water no, surface slope drains to the northeast into Chain Lakes Coulee, an ephemeral drainage
Water well contamination no
Porous/permeable soils no, bentonite soils
Class I stream drainage no

Mitigation:
_ Lined reserve pit
_X_ Adequate surface casing
__ Berms/dykes, re-routed drainage
__ Closed mud system
__ Off-site disposal of solids/liquids (in approved facility)
__ Other:

Comments: 150' of surface casing cemented to surface adequate to protect freshwater zones. Also, fresh water mud system, air or air/mist to be used.

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 no, 200'X250' location size required.
Damage to improvements no

Conflict with existing land use/values __Slight

Mitigation

__ Avoid improvements (topographic tolerance)

__ Exception location requested

_X_ Stockpile topsoil

__ Stream Crossing Permit (other agency review)

_X_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 yes, ¼ mile to the northwest

Possibility of H2S none

Size of rig/length of drilling time Small drilling rig/short 4 to 5 days drilling time

Mitigation:

_X_Proper BOP equipment

__ Topographic sound barriers

__ H2S contingency and/or evacuation plan

__ Special equipment/procedures requirements

__ Other:_____

Comments: _____no concerns_____

Wildlife/recreation

(possible concerns)

Proximity to sensitive wildlife areas (DFWP identified) n/a None identified.

Proximity to recreation sites ___no_____

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 2300' Mowry Formation test

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: September 21, 2004

Other Persons Contacted:

_____
_____
(Name and Agency)

_____
(subject discussed)

_____
(date)

If location was inspected before permit approval:
Inspection date: _____
Inspector: _____
Others present during inspection:_____