

Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation  
Environmental Assessment

Operator: Encore Operating L.P.  
Well Name/Number: Donoven 1-24-34-12  
Location: NW NE Section 24 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 south and west.  
Chain Of Lakes Coulee, an ephemeral drainage 1/4 mile to the west.  
Water well contamination none, nearest water well listed about 1/2mile to the south of location.  
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: 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)

Stream 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'X200' 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

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### Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)

Proximity to public facilities/residences yes, 1 mile to the southwest

Possibility of H2S none

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

Mitigation:

- Proper BOP equipment
- Topographic sound barriers
- H2S contingency and/or evacuation plan
- Special equipment/procedures requirements
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: no concerns

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### 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

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### 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**

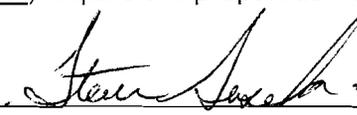
Well is a 2300' Mowry Formation test

**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: \_\_\_\_\_