

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

Operator: Ranck Oil Company, Inc.
Well Name/Number: Wigen 1-6
Location: NE NW Lot 3 Section 6 T31N R2E
County: Toole MT; Field (or Wildcat) South Devon

Air Quality

(possible concerns)
Long drilling time no, 3 to 4 days drilling time.
Unusually deep drilling (high horsepower rig) no, 1200' 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 1200'

Water Quality

(possible concerns)
Salt/oil based mud no, freshwater, freshwater mud system, air, air mist.
High water table no
Surface drainage leads to live water None, location is close to a unnamed intermittent drainage to West Fork Willow Creek within a 1/8 mile of this location.
Water well contamination none, no water wells within 1 mile of this 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: Surface casing will be set at 400' and cemented to surface adequate to protect freshwater zones. Also, fresh water mud systems or air to be used.

Soils/Vegetation/Land Use

(possible concerns)
Stream crossings no, stream crossings
High erosion potential no, location virtually flat, small cut, up to 2.3' and small fill, up to 3.4', required..

Loss of soil productivity no, location will be restored after drilling, if unproductive. If productive unused portion of wellsite will be reclaimed.

Unusually large wellsite no, 200'X200' location size required.

Damage to improvements sight

Conflict with existing land use/values Slight, surface use cultivation

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 yes, farm place about 3/8 of a mile to the southwest of this location.

Possibility of H2S none

Size of rig/length of drilling time Small drilling rig/short 3 to 4 days drilling time

Mitigation:

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 none identified

Creation of new access to wildlife habitat none identified

Conflict with game range/refuge management none identified

Threatened or endangered Species none identified

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: _____

Social/Economic

(possible concerns)
 Substantial effect on tax base
 Create demand for new governmental services
 Population increase or relocation
Comments: no concerns, gas well is a development well within an existing gas field.

Remarks or Special Concerns for this site

Well is a 1200' Kootenai Formation test

Summary: Evaluation of Impacts and Cumulative effects

No long term impacts expected, some short term impacts will occur.

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: January 11, 2006

Other Persons Contacted:

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, GWIC website
(Name and Agency)
Toole County water wells
(subject discussed)
January 11, 2006
(date)

If location was inspected before permit approval:

Inspection date: _____

Inspector: _____

Others present during inspection: _____