# Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation
# Environmental Assessment

**Operator:** Nance Petroleum Corporation
**Well Name/Number:** Simard 13-26H
**Location:** SW SW Section 26 T28N R58E
**County:** Roosevelt, **MT; Field (or Wildcat)** Wildcat

## Air Quality

(possible concerns)
Long drilling time No, 30-40 days drilling time.
Unusually deep drilling (high horsepower rig) Triple derrick rig 900 HP
Possible H2S gas production yes
In/near Class I air quality area No
Air quality permit for flaring/venting (if productive) Yes, if productive. DEQ regulation..

Mitigation:
X Air quality permit (AQB review)
X Gas plants/pipelines available for sour gas
__ Special equipment/procedures requirements
__ Other:
Comments: Existing pipeline for H2S gas in the area.

## Water Quality

(possible concerns)
Salt/oil based mud yes to long string salt based and oil based drilling fluids. Horizontal hole will be drilled with saltwater. Surface casing hole, freshwater, and freshwater mud system to be used.
High water table Possible
Surface drainage leads to live water No, closest drainage is Shotgun Creek about ¼ mile to the south of this location
Water well contamination No problem anticipated all water wells less than 1900' nearby. Closest well is 1436' about ¼ mile to the east of this location. This well will be drilled with freshwater and freshwater muds to 1900' and surface casing will be run and cemented to surface.
Porous/permeable soils No, gumbo soils
Class I stream drainage No, Class I stream drainages.

Mitigation:
X 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: 1900' surface casing will be drilled with freshwater and cemented back to surface. Well below freshwater zones in adjacent water wells. Also, covering Fox Hills aquifer. Adequate surface casing and BOP equipment to prevent problems.

## Soils/Vegetation/Land Use

(possible concerns)
Steam crossings None
High erosion potential No, location will require a very small cut of up to 0.1' and a small fill of up to

2.3', required.__
Loss of soil productivity _None.__
Unusually large wellsite __No, large well site 400'X320'
Damage to improvements __No, location to be restored after drilling, if nonproductive. If productive unused portion of this drillsite will be reclaimed.
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: _Access will be over existing State paved highway No. 2. No new access road will be built into this location, this location will utilize existing well access. Oil based drilling fluids will be recycled and any remaining fluids will be trucked to a commercial disposal. Cuttings and solids will be hauled too Dishon Disposal, North Dakota. The pit liner will be removed and the pit backfilled.

**Health Hazards/Noise**

(possible concerns)
Proximity to public facilities/residences __Residence about ¼ mile to the west of this location._ The Town of Bainville about ¾ of a mile to the west of this location._____
Possibility of H2S _yes__
Size of rig/length of drilling time Triple drilling rig 30 to 40 days drilling time.

Mitigation:
_X_ Proper BOP equipment
__ Topographic sound barriers
_X_ H2S contingency and/or evacuation plan
__ Special equipment/procedures requirements
__ Other:_____
Comments: __Adequate surface casing cemented to surface with working BOP stack should mitigate any problems. Ratcliffe formation completions generally does not have high concentrations of H2S associated with it.

**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: ___Private surface_____

**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**

_Horizontal Ratcliffe well 14,605'MD and 8,603' TVD. Well is next to an existing oil well.

**Summary: Evaluation of Impacts and Cumulative effects**

___ No long term impacts expected, some short term impacts will occur, but can be mitigated.

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:____February 16, 2006_____

Other Persons Contacted:

__Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, GWIC website_____

(Name and Agency)

___Roosevelt County water wells_____

(subject discussed)

___February 16, 2006_____

(date)

If location was inspected before permit approval:

Inspection date: _____

Inspector: _____

Others present during inspection:_____