Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation
Environmental Assessment

Operator: Devon Energy Production Company, L.P.
Well Name/Number: State No. 36-5
Location: SW NW Section 36 T32N R14E
County: Hill, **MT; Field (or Wildcat)** Bullhook Unit, Tiger Ridge Field

Air Quality

(possible concerns)
Long drilling time no, 3 to 4 days drilling time.
Unusually deep drilling (high horsepower rig) no, 2500' TD
Possible H2S gas production no
In/near Class I air quality area no
Air quality permit for flaring/venting (if productive) Yes, if productive. DEQ air quality permit required.

Mitigation:
X 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 2500 '

Water Quality

(possible concerns)
Salt/oil based mud no, freshwater and freshwater mud system.
High water table no
Surface drainage leads to live water No, no live water nearby.
Water well contamination no, closest water well is 155' deep about 1mile to the southeast of this location.
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 systems to be used. Production longstring will be cemented back to the surface casing.

Soils/Vegetation/Land Use

(possible concerns)
Steam crossings none
High erosion potential no, small cut, up to 2' and small fill, up to 3', required.

Loss of soil productivity no, location will be restored after drilling, if nonproductive. If productive unused portion of drillsite will be reclaimed.
Unusually large wellsite no, 250'X250' location size required.
Damage to improvements Slight
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 highways and county roads. About 1200' of access road will be built into this location off the existing county road. Cuttings will be buried in the earthen pits. Drilling fluids will be offsite disposed of in a stock pond as sealant. Drilling pits will be allowed to dry and then backfilled. No special concerns

Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)
Proximity to public facilities/residences about 1mile to the southeast and ¼ mile to the west 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:
_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 City of Havre Herron Park 4 miles to the northeast within the city limits of Havre, MT, Agricultural Experiment Station and Fort Assinniboine about 3.5 miles to the northeast of this location.
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)
_X_ Other agency review (DFWP, federal agencies, DSL)
__ Screening/fencing of pits, drillsite
__ Other: _____

Comments: Montana Trust Lands surface. Trust Lands will do a surface EA.

Historical/Cultural/Paleontological

(possible concerns)

Proximity to known sites Fort Assinniboine site 3.5 miles to the northeast.

Mitigation

__ avoidance (topographic tolerance, location exception)

X other agency review (SHPO, DSL, federal agencies)

__ Other:

Comments: Montana Trust Lands surface. Trust Lands will do a surface EA.

Social/Economic

(possible concerns)

__ Substantial effect on tax base

__ Create demand for new governmental services

__ Population increase or relocation

Comments: Well is a development well in an existing gas field, Tiger Ridge. No concerns

Remarks or Special Concerns for this site

Well is a 2500' Eagle Formation test north side of Bear Paw Mountains

Summary: Evaluation of Impacts and Cumulative effects

No long term impacts expected. Some short term impacts will occur, but can be mitigated in time.

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: March 17, 2006

Other Persons Contacted:

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, GWIC website.
(Name and Agency)
Hill County water wells.
(subject discussed)
March 17, 2006
(date)

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