

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

**Operator:** Devon Energy Production Company, L.P.  
**Well Name/Number:** Case 35-10  
**Location:** NW SE Section 35 T25N R18E  
**County:** Blaine, MT; **Field (or Wildcat)** W/C

**Air Quality**

(possible concerns)

Long drilling time no, 3 to 4 days  
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, DEQ air quality permit required under rule 75-2-211.

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 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, nearest drainage is an unnamed ephemeral tributary to Black Coulee, about 1/4 of a mile to the west 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/dikes, 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. If production casing is run, casing will be cemented to surface. Also, fresh water mud systems to be used.

**Soils/Vegetation/Land Use**

(possible concerns)

Stream crossings none.  
High erosion potential no, small cut, up to 2.5' and small fill, up to 2'0, 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

Stockpile topsoil

Stream Crossing Permit (other agency review)

Reclaim unused part of wellsite if productive

Special construction methods to enhance reclamation

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: Access over existing county road and existing private trails. A short road of about 2200' will be built into this location off an existing trail. . Cuttings will be disposed of in the unlined earthen pits. Drilling fluids will be trucked to nearby stock pond and disposed of with surface owner approval. Pit will be allowed to dry then backfilled. no special concerns

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### Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)

Proximity to public facilities/residences Yes, residence about 2200' to the south. Lone Tree Bench school about 1.25 miles to the southeast.

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 Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument boundaries about 5 miles to the east and 6 miles south 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)

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

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**Social/Economic**

(possible concerns)  
 Substantial effect on tax base  
 Create demand for new governmental services  
 Population increase or relocation  
Comments: no concerns

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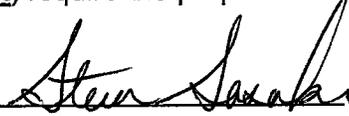
**Remarks or Special Concerns for this site**

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

**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: April 3, 2006

Other Persons Contacted:

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, GWIC  
website.  
(Name and Agency)  
Blaine County water wells

(subject discussed)

April 3, 2006

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(date)

If location was inspected before permit approval:

Inspection date: \_\_\_\_\_

Inspector: \_\_\_\_\_

Others present during inspection: \_\_\_\_\_