

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND CONSERVATION
BOARD OF OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION

BRIAN SCHWEITZER, GOVERNOR

OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION DIVISION



STATE OF MONTANA

December 31, 2007

Mr. Todd Everts
Environmental Quality Council
Room 106, State Capitol
Helena, MT 59620

RECEIVED

JAN 03 2008

LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL
POLICY OFFICE

Re: Environmental Assessment Reports

Dear Todd:

Enclosed please find a copy of the environmental assessments completed by this office covering the period from October 1 through December 31, 2007 with regard to applications for permits to drill oil or gas wells on state and privately owned lands in the State of Montana.

Let us know if you require any further information.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Richmond
Administrator

km

Encs. 150

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

Operator: Devon Energy Production Company, L.P.
Well Name/Number: Breck-DIR No. 13-14
Location: SE SW Section 13 T25N R17E
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' TVD/2750'TMD, single derrick drilling rig.

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'TVD/2750'TMD.

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, closest drainage is an unnamed ephemeral drainage to Bills Coulee, about 1/8 of a mile to the southwest from this location.

Water well contamination: None, no water wells within 1 mile or further from this location.

Porous/permeable soils: No, sandy silty bentonitic 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. If productive, 4 1/2" casings will be 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, no cut and small fill, up to 4', required.

Loss of soil productivity: No, location will be restored after drilling, in nonproductive. If productive unused portion of drillsite will be reclaimed.

Unusually large wellsite: No, 250'X250' location size required.

Damage to improvements: Slight, surface use is grazing land.

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 will be over existing county roads and existing trails. About 1 mile of new access will be created to access 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

Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)

Proximity to public facilities/residences: None within 1 mile 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): None identified.

Proximity to recreation sites: Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument boundaries about 6.5miles east and 12 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: Private surface lands. 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 lands. No concerns.

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

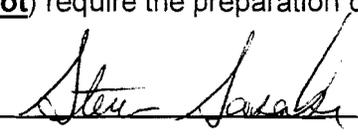
Well is a 2500'TVD/2750'TMD directional Eagle Formation test south side of Bear Paw Mountains

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: October 4, 2007

Other Persons Contacted:

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, GWIC website.

(Name and Agency)

Blaine County water wells

(subject discussed)

October 4, 2007

(date)

If location was inspected before permit approval:

Inspection date: _____

Inspector: _____

Others present during inspection: _____