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

RECEIVED

JAN 0 3 2008

LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY OFFICE

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

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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1625 ELEVENTH AVENUE
PO BOX 201601
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(406) 444-6675

TECHNICAL AND
SOUTHERN FIELD OFFICE
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BILLINGS, MONTANA 59102-4693
(406) 656-0040

NORTHERN FIELD OFFICE
201 MAIN STREET
PO BOX 690
SHELBY, MONTANA 59474-0690
(406) 434-2422

Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation
Environmental Assessment

Operator: Devon Energy Production Company, L.P.
Well Name/Number: Brewer-DIR No.25-9
Location: NE SE Section 25 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:
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'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 west 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
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. If productive, 4 ½" casings will be run, casing will be cemented to surface. Also, fresh water mud systems to be used.

Soils/Vegetation/Land Use

(possible concerns)
Steam crossings: None.
High erosion potential: No, no cut and small fill, up to 9', 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
_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 county roads and existing trails. About 1/8 of a 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:
_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): None identified.
Proximity to recreation sites: Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument boundaries about 6.5miles east and 10 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:_____