

Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation Environmental Assessment

Operator Enerplus Resources (USA) Corporation
Well Name/Number: Stockade-Jayla 32-3-HID3
Location: NE NW Section 32 T25N R54E
County: Richland, 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 1000 HP, Bakken Formation single lateral horizontal TVD 9,724' / MD 14,153'.

Possible H2S gas production: Slight

In/near Class I air quality area: No

Air quality permit for flaring/venting (if productive): Yes, DEQ air quality permit required under 75-2-211.

Mitigation:

Air quality permit (AQB review)

Gas plants/pipelines available for sour gas

Special equipment/procedures requirements

Other: _____

Comments: Existing pipeline for gas in the area. _____

Water Quality

(possible concerns)

Salt/oil based mud: Yes to long string oil based drilling fluids. Surface casing hole to be drilled with freshwater and freshwater mud.

High water table: No

Surface drainage leads to live water: Yes, nearest drainage is an unnamed ephemeral tributary drainage to Middle Charlie Creek about 1/4 of a mile to the west of this location. Within this drainage are ponds.

Water well contamination: No, no water wells within 1 mile of this location. All water wells close by are shallower than 1520'. Surface hole will be drilled with freshwater and surface casing will be cemented back to surface from 1 520'.

Porous/permeable soils: No, silty sandy clay soils.

Class I stream drainage: No, Class I stream drainages.

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: 1520'+/- surface casing well below freshwater zones in adjacent water wells. Also, covering Fox Hills aquifer. Adequate surface casing and BOP equipment to mitigate any problems.

Soils/Vegetation/Land Use

(possible concerns)

Stream crossings: None

High erosion potential: No, location has a moderate cut of 18.0' and a moderate fill of 12.6', required.

Loss of soil productivity: None, location to be restored, if nonproductive. If productive unused portion of drillsite will be reclaimed.

Unusually large wellsite: No, large well site 450'X310'.

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 will be over existing county road, #137. A short access road of 35' will be built from the county road into this location. Oil based muds will be recycled. Completion fluids will be hauled to a Class II commercial disposal. Cuttings will be disposed of in a lined reserve pit. No concerns.

Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)

Proximity to public facilities/residences: Closest residence is 1/2 of a mile to the northwest, 1.5 miles to the southeast and 1.25 miles to the southwest of this location.

Possibility of H2S: Slight

Size of rig/length of drilling time: Triple drilling rig 30 to 40 days drilling time.

Mitigation:

Proper BOP equipment

Topographic sound barriers

H2S contingency and/or evacuation plan

Special equipment/procedures requirements

Other: _____

Comments: 1520+ is adequate surface casing cemented to surface with working BOP stack should mitigate any problems. Distance sufficient to mitigate noise.

Wildlife/recreation

(possible concerns)

Proximity to sensitive wildlife areas (DFWP identified): 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: None identified.

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: Existing spacing unit. This is a development well within this spacing unit. No concerns.

Remarks or Special Concerns for this site

Third well within this spacing unit. Bakken Formation single lateral horizontal TVD 9,724'/ MD 14,153'. No concerns.

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: February 12, 2008

Other Persons Contacted:

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, Groundwater Information Center website

(Name and Agency)

Richland County water wells

(subject discussed)

February 12, 2008

(date)

If location was inspected before permit approval:

Inspection date: _____

Inspector: _____

Others present during inspection: _____