

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

**Operator:** Altamont Oil & Gas, Inc.  
**Well Name/Number:** Jody Field 34-1  
**Location:** SE SW Section 34 T29N R6W  
**County:** Pondera MT; Field (or Wildcat) Wildcat

**Air Quality**

(possible concerns)

Long drilling time: No, 4 to 5 days drilling time.

Unusually deep drilling (high horsepower rig): No, 3450' TD

Possible H<sub>2</sub>S gas production: Yes

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: No special concerns – using small rig to drill to 3450' TD.

**Water Quality**

(possible concerns)

Salt/oil based mud: No, freshwater, freshwater mud system, air, air mist.

High water table: No

Surface drainage leads to live water: No, closest drainages are some unnamed ephemeral tributary drainages to Dupuyer Creek, about 3/8 of a mile to the west and 1/2 mile to the northwest from this location.

Water well contamination: No, closest water wells are about 3/4 of a mile to the north and south of this location and these wells are 207' and 90' in depth. Surface casing will be drilled with air and/or freshwater mud to 650' and steel surface casing set and cemented to surface from 650'. Small spring located on topographic map, about 1/8 of a mile to the northwest from this location.

Porous/permeable soils: No, sandy 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: 650' of surface casing will be set and cemented to surface adequate to protect freshwater zones. Also, fresh water mud systems or air to be used for drilling surface hole.

**Soils/Vegetation/Land Use**

(possible concerns)

Stream crossings: No, no stream crossings.

High erosion potential: No, small cut, up to 4.7' and small fill, up to 3.3', 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, 200'X200' location size required.

Damage to improvements: No, surface use is cultivated field (CRP).

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, Barrett FLDS. A short road will be constructed, about 300' into this location. Drill cuttings will be buried in the unlined cuttings pit. Drilling fluids will be allowed to evaporate in the pits. No special concerns

### Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)

Proximity to public facilities/residences: Closest residence buildings about 3/8 of a mile to the east of this location.

Possibility of H2S: Yes

Size of rig/length of drilling time: Small drilling rig/short 4 to 5 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: Lake Frances about 7.5 miles to the northeast.

Creation of new access to wildlife habitat: None identified.

Conflict with game range/refuge management: None identified.

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, private surface.

Mitigation

avoidance (topographic tolerance, location exception)

other agency review (SHPO, DSL, federal agencies)

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: Private surface. No concerns.

**Social/Economic**

(possible concerns)

Substantial effect on tax base

Create demand for new governmental services

Population increase or relocation

Comments: No concerns.

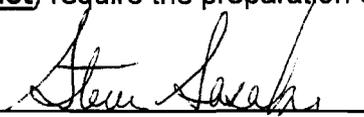
**Remarks or Special Concerns for this site**

Well is a 3450' Madison Formation test.

**Summary: Evaluation of Impacts and Cumulative effects**

No, significant impacts expected, some short term impacts are expected, but should be able to mitigate these short term impacts.

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 15, 2008

Other Persons Contacted:

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, GWIC website

(Name and Agency)

Pondera County water wells

(subject discussed)

April 15, 2008

(date)

If location was inspected before permit approval:

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

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

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