

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

Operator: Kykuit Resources, LLC
Well Name/Number: Popnos #18-1
Location: NW NE Section 18 T21N R20E
County: Fergus, MT; **Field (or Wildcat)** Wildcat

Air Quality

(possible concerns)

Long drilling time: No, 6 to 7 days drilling time.
Unusually deep drilling (high horsepower rig): No, small single drilling rig TD 4200'.
Possible H2S gas production: None.
In/near Class I air quality area: Not in a Class I air quality area.
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, small single drilling rig TD 4200'.

Water Quality

(possible concerns)

Salt/oil based mud: No, freshwater and freshwater mud system to be used.
High water table: No, high water table expected.
Surface drainage leads to live water: Closest drainage is an unnamed ephemeral tributary drainage to Cutbank Creek, about 1/16 of a mile to the east and of this location.
Water well contamination: None, no water wells within 1 mile of this location. Surface hole will be drilled with freshwater to 250'. Steel surface casing will be run and cemented to surface to protect ground waters.
Porous/permeable soils: No, sandy bentonitic soils.
Class I stream drainage: No, Class I stream drainages nearby.

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: Adequate surface casing to be set, 250' to protect ground waters.

Soils/Vegetation/Land Use

(possible concerns)

Steam crossings: No, streams to be crossed.
High erosion potential: No, small cut up to 1.9' and small fill up to 3.6', 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, small drillsite, 200'X200'.
Damage to improvements: None, surface use is grasslands and or 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: Will utilize existing county, D-Y Trail Road. Short access off existing county road to be build, about 1020' of new access will be built into this location. Unlined earthen pits will be utilized for drilling. Top water will be recycled to the next location and solids will be allowed to dry in the pits. When pits are dry they will be filled in with subsoil and topsoil spread.

Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)

Proximity to public facilities/residences: Closest residences are about 5/8 of a mile to the southwest and 1 mile to the west of this wellsite. The town of Winifred, about 9.5 miles to the southwest of this location.

Possibility of H2S: No, Jurassic Ellis Formation Test.

Size of rig/length of drilling time: Small single derrick drilling rig/Short drilling time 6 to 7 days.

Mitigation:

- Proper BOP equipment
- Topographic sound barriers
- H2S contingency and/or evacuation plan
- Special equipment/procedures requirements
- Other: _____

Comments: Adequate amount of surface casing and BOP equipment should mitigate any problems.

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: None

Conflict with game range/refuge management: None

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: Surface land is private. No concerns.

Social/Economic

(possible concerns)

Substantial effect on tax base

Create demand for new governmental services

Population increase or relocation

Comments: No. impact expected from the drilling of this well.

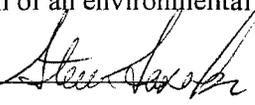
Remarks or Special Concerns for this site

No special concerns about this wellsite. This is a Jurassic Ellis Formation test to be drilled to 4200' TD.

Summary: Evaluation of Impacts and Cumulative effects

No significant or long term impacts expected from the drilling of this well. 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: May 13, 2008

Other Persons Contacted:

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, GWIC website

(Name and Agency)

Fergus County water wells

(subject discussed)

May 13, 2008
(date)

If location was inspected before permit approval:

Inspection date: _____

Inspector: _____

Others present during inspection: _____