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Department of Health and Environmental Sciences  
STATE OF MONTANA HELENA, MONTANA 59601

April 16, 1975

John S. Anderson M.D.  
DIRECTOR

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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

State Library, Helena  
Board of County Commissioners, Gallatin County Courthouse, Bozeman  
City-County Planning Board, Gallatin County Courthouse, Bozeman  
City-County Health Department, Box 639, Bozeman  
✓ Environmental Quality Council, Helena  
Department of Fish and Game, Helena  
Department of Intergovernmental Relations, Division of Planning and  
Economic Development, Helena  
Mr. Carl Wierda, Route 2, Box 115A, Manhattan  
Francis Kelley, Route 2, Manhattan  
Virgil Bates, Route 2, Manhattan  
John Westra, Route 1, Manhattan

A NEGATIVE DECLARATION  
FOR THE  
CARL WIERDA SWINE FACILITY

Pursuant to the Montana Environmental Policy Act, the following negative declaration has been prepared by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences concerning the Carl Wierda swine operation and his request for a waste discharge permit for that facility west of Bozeman, Montana.

The purpose of this negative declaration is to inform all interested governmental agencies and public groups of the Water Quality Bureau's intent not to write an environmental impact statement. This declaration will be circulated for a period of ten days at which time a decision will be made as to whether or not a waste discharge permit should be issued. If you care to comment on this application for a permit, please do so within that allotted time.

Mr. Wierda currently operates a confined swine feeding operation consisting of farrowing through finishing located in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 22, T. 2 S., R. 3 E., of Gallatin County, approximately 17 miles west of Bozeman, Montana. The location of this operation is indicated on the attached map.

During farrowing, the sows are totally confined within a building. Waste material which is produced drops through slatted floors and is contained in two liquid manure pits located beneath the building. The pigs which are produced are then fed in open lots until they reach market weight. Extraneous drainage from above the open lot feeding area does not reach the feeding surface due to the flat topography of the area.

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Likewise, surface runoff from that area is generally contained on the feedlot area and would not be discharged to any state waters. Waste material which accumulates on the surface of the open lot will be periodically removed as necessary and disposed of on adjacent agricultural land. Likewise, the liquid waste which accumulates in the manure pits will be periodically removed and disposed of on agricultural land. Approximately 940 acres of such land is available for waste disposal.

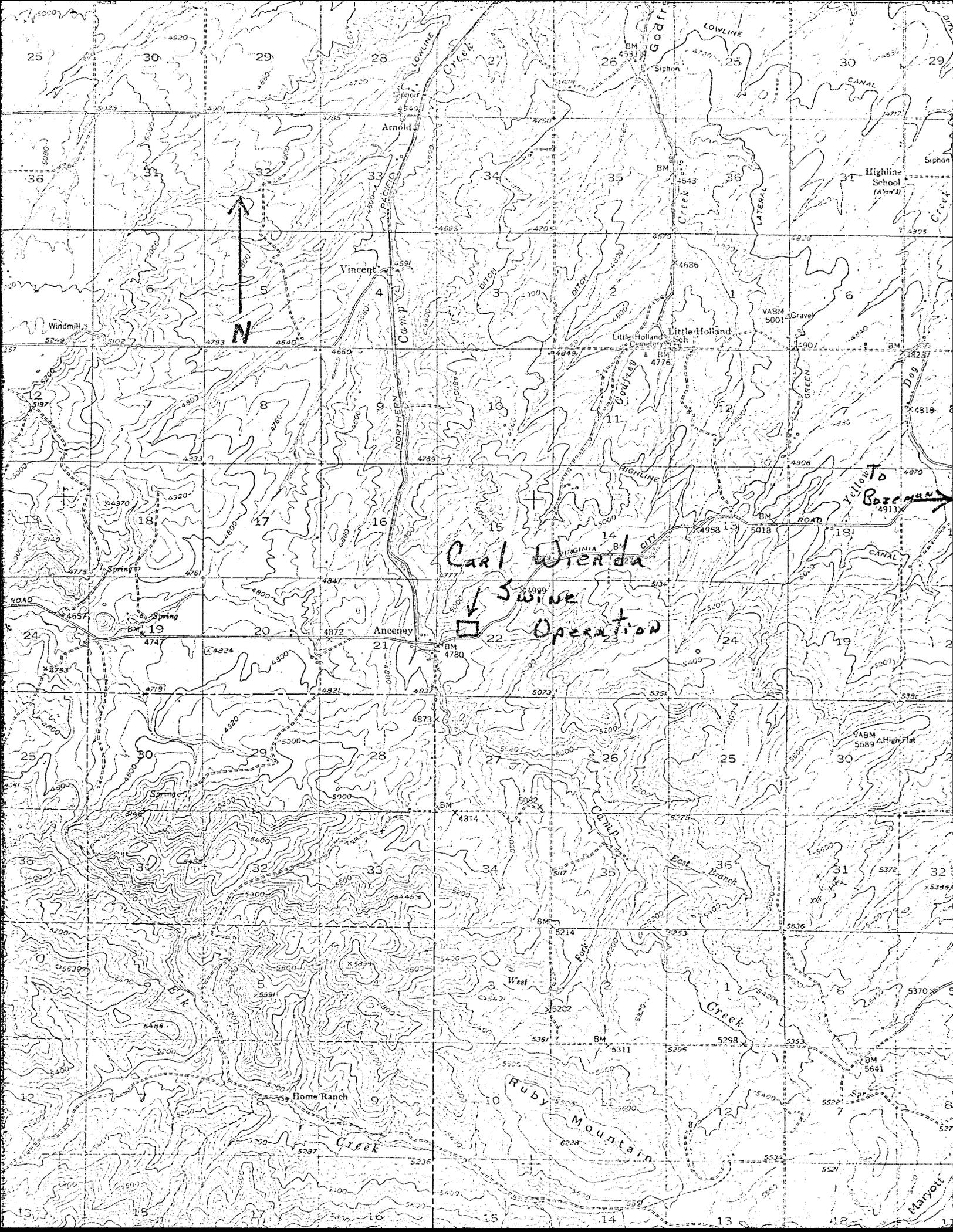
Mr. Wierda indicates that the direction of the prevailing wind is from the southwest and as such, should not affect any nearby residences. Flies around the animal confinement facility are controlled through the application of acceptable pesticides. Dead animals will be removed and disposed of through burial in an acceptable location.

Any livestock operation will have an effect on the environment, but adverse effects can be minimized through a good waste management program. The waste control facilities and the waste management program associated with this animal confinement facility should insure that adverse environmental effect is minimal. The only alternative available to Mr. Wierda would be to relocate the existing operation. No complaints of either air or water pollution have ever been received regarding this operation and relocation does, therefore, not seem justified.



Steven L. Pilcher  
Agricultural Wastewater Specialist  
Water Quality Bureau  
Environmental Sciences Division

SLP:vlf  
Attachment  
cc: Ben Wake



Carl Wierda

Swine Operation

Yellow To Bazeman