

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Permitting and Compliance Division
Air and Waste Management Bureau
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FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA)

Issued For: Koch Oil Company/Reserve Truck Station
P.O. Box 708
Belfield, ND 58622

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JUL 07 1998

**ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY COUNCIL**

Air Quality Permit Number: 3012-00

Preliminary Determination Issued: 06/16/98
Department Decision Issued: 07/02/98

Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Compliance: An environmental assessment, required by MEPA, was completed for this project as follows.

Legal Description of Site: Section 30, Township 33 North, Range 56 East, Sheridan County, Montana.

Description of Project: This permit is for the operation of two 500 BBL tanks, piping components, four 100-gallon sump boxes, and two 30-gallon sampling/injection tanks.

Benefits and Purpose of Proposal: This proposal is necessary for the Koch Oil Company to continue operation of the Reserve Truck Station.

Description and analysis of reasonable alternatives whenever alternatives are reasonably available and prudent to consider: No reasonable alternatives available.

A listing and appropriate evaluation of mitigation, stipulations and other controls enforceable by the agency or another government agency: A list of enforceable conditions, including a best available control technology analysis, is contained in permit #3012-00.

Description and analysis of regulatory impacts on private property rights: The department has considered alternatives to the conditions imposed in this permit as part of the permit development. The department has determined that the permit conditions are reasonably necessary to ensure compliance with applicable requirements and demonstrate compliance with those requirements and do not unduly restrict private property rights.

Potential Impact on Physical Environment

		Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments
1	Terrestrial and Aquatic Life and Habitats			X			
2	Water Quality, Quantity and Distribution			X			
3	Geology and Soil Quality, Stability and Moisture			X			
4	Vegetation Cover, Quantity and Quality			X			
5	Aesthetics			X			
6	Air Quality			X			
7	Unique Endangered, Fragile or Limited Environmental Resource			X			
8	Demands on Environmental Resource of Water, Air and Energy			X			
9	Historical and Archaeological Sites			X			
10	Cumulative and Secondary Impacts			X			

Potential Impact on Human Environment

		Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments
1	Social Structures and Mores				X		
2	Cultural Uniqueness and Diversity				X		
3	Local and State Tax Base and Tax Revenue			X			
4	Agricultural or Industrial Production			X			
5	Human Health			X			
6	Access to and Quality of Recreational and Wilderness Activities			X			
7	Quantity and Distribution of Employment			X			
8	Distribution of Population				X		
9	Demands for Government Services			X			
10	Industrial and Commercial Activity			X			
11	Locally Adopted Environmental Plans and Goals			X			
12	Cumulative and Secondary Impacts			X			

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS ON POTENTIAL IMPACTS: The following comments have been prepared by the Department.

POTENTIAL IMPACT ON PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

1. Terrestrial and Aquatic Life and Habitats

Terrestrials will use the areas where the Koch/Reserve Truck Station is operating. However, the truck station alone will present only minor affects to the terrestrial life. Since the station occupies only 0.24 acres, the impacts to the immediate area will be minor. In addition, the Reserve Truck Station is an established site that just recently has been required to obtain an air quality permit. The Koch Oil Company is not making any changes to the existing site at this time.

2. Water Quality, Quantity and Distribution

Water will be used as pollution control for fugitive emissions, but will only cause a minor disturbance to the area.

3. Geology and Soil Quality, Stability and Moisture

The soils may be impacted by the Koch/Reserve Truck Station. Any impacts should be minor because the operation is relatively small in terms of acreage used.

4. Vegetation Cover, Quantity and Quality

The vegetation cover will be affected by the Koch/Reserve Truck Station. Since the site is pre-existing, the effects of the project will be less noticeable. The vegetation can be re-established at the conclusion of the Koch/Reserve Truck Station operations.

5. Aesthetics

The Koch/Reserve Truck Station will be visible and will create additional noise in the area. Permit #3012-00 includes conditions to control emissions (including visible emissions) from the plant. Since the Koch/Reserve Truck Station operates on a relatively small amount of property, any negative impacts to the aesthetics in the area should be minor.

6. Air Quality

The air quality impacts from the Koch/Reserve Truck Station are minor. Permit #3012-00 includes conditions limiting the opacity from the plant. The Koch/Reserve Truck Station is also required by permit #3012-00 to perform monthly leak checks.

7. Unique Endangered, Fragile or Limited Environmental Resources

The affects to unique, endangered, fragile or limited environmental resources are minor because the Koch/Reserve Truck Station operates on such a small piece of property and the emissions are controlled by permit #3012-00.

8. Demands on Environmental Resource of Water, Air and Energy

The Koch/Reserve Truck Station will demand small quantities of water, air, and energy for proper operating. Water will be used to maintain compliance with the opacity limitations listed in permit#3012-00.

9. Historical and Archaeological Sites

No historical and archaeological items have been reported to be found at the Koch/Reserve Truck Station. The site is pre-existing and the Koch/Reserve Truck Station is only applying for a permit to continue operating the equipment.

10. Cumulative and Secondary Impacts

The Koch/Reserve Truck Station operations will cause a minor affect to both the physical environment and human environment.

POTENTIAL IMPACT ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

1. Social Structures and Mores

The Koch/Reserve Truck Station will not cause a disruption to the native or traditional lifestyles or communities of the area.

2. Cultural Uniqueness and Diversity

The Koch/Reserve Truck Station will not cause a disruption to the cultural uniqueness and diversity of the area.

3. Local and State Tax Base and Tax Revenue

The Koch/Reserve Truck Station will have little, if any, affects on the local and state tax base and tax revenue.

4. Agricultural or Industrial Production

The Koch/Reserve Truck Station is small by industrial standards and will therefore have only a minor impact on local industrial production.

5. Human Health

Permit #3012-00 incorporates conditions to ensure that the operations will be operated in compliance with all applicable rules and standards. These rules and standards are designed to be protective of human health.

6. Access to and Quality of Recreational and Wilderness Activities

The Koch/Reserve Truck Station will not affect any access to recreational and wilderness activities. However, minor affects to the quality of recreational and wilderness activities will be created by the aesthetics and noise from the site.

7. Quantity and Distribution of Employment

The activities from the Koch/Reserve Truck Station will not greatly affect the quantity and distribution of employment in the area. More than likely, the activities will only employ people from the area.

8. Distribution of Population

The Koch/Reserve Truck Station operations will not require additional or less housing in the area. The station is an existing facility that will only employ the few people that already work there.

9. Demands of Government Services

The Koch/Reserve Truck Station contributes to the traffic in the area. Koch/Reserve Truck Station traffic along with other local traffic requires governmental services for road maintenance. The only other government services demanded for this project will be acquiring the appropriate permits from government agencies.

10. Industrial and Commercial Activity

The Koch/Reserve Truck Station operations represent only a minor portion of the industrial activity in the area. No increased industrial or commercial activity is expected as a result of the current permitting action.

11. Locally Adopted Environmental Plans and Goals

There are no locally adopted environmental plans and goals in place to further regulate the Koch/Reserve Truck Station operations.

12. Cumulative and Secondary Impacts

The Koch/Reserve Truck Station operations will cause a minor affect to both the physical environment and human environment.

Recommendation: No EIS is required.

If an EIS is not required, explain why the EA is an appropriate level of analysis: The EA has not identified any moderate or major impacts resulting from the operation of the Koch/Reserve Truck Station operations. Most of the impacts will only present minor impacts to the immediate area, so there is no reason to conduct an EIS.

Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction: None

Individuals or groups contributing to this EA: Department of Environmental Quality, Permitting and Compliance Division.

EA prepared by: Dan Walsh

Date: June 4, 1998