

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION  
WATER RESOURCES DIVISION  
WATER RIGHTS BUREAU

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

**PART I. PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION**

1. **Type of action:** Water use permit application no.  
Water right change application no. 42M-G(W)163491-00  
Petition or Other Action:
2. **Applicant/Contact name and address:** Sidney Country Club, PO Box 548, Sidney, MT 59270
3. **Water source name:** Groundwater Well
4. **Location affected by action:** SENENE SEC. 31, TWP 23N, RGE 59E, RICHLAND COUNTY
5. **Narrative summary of the proposed project and action to be taken:**

The DNRC shall issue an authorization for change of appropriation if the applicant proves the criteria in 85-2-402, MCA, are met. This application is for a new replacement well located about 60 feet northeast of the old well. The old well was completed in 1961 and filed on Water Right No. 42M-W163491-00. The well is used for irrigation of a golf course with an appropriation of 350 gpm and 219 acre-feet. The old well was abandoned in September, 1997, because it repeatedly required cleaning out due to non-production. The new well will be used for the same purpose as the old well. The wells are in the same aquifer as evidenced by the well logs and confirmed by a geologist from Morrison-Maierle, Inc. There will be no increase in flow rate or volume and the place of use will remain the same; only the diversion point is being changed.
6. **Agencies consulted during preparation of the environmental assessment:** None

**PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

1. Environmental Impact Checklist:

**PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT**

**Soils/Geologic Features:**

Degradation of soil quality or alteration of soil stability, moisture content, geologic substructure, unique geologic features, archeological sites?

NO

**Erosion:**

Alteration of erosion or siltation patterns which modify stream beds or lake shores?

NO

**Vegetation/Noxious weeds:**

Change in or adverse affect on diversity and production of local plant species including any unique or endangered species (including trees, shrubs, grass, and aquatic plants)? Establishment or spread of noxious weeds?

NO

**Air:**

Deterioration of air quality, or adverse effects on vegetation due to increased air pollutants.

NO

**Water:**

Alteration of surface water or groundwater quality including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity or quantity or distribution?

NO

**Floodplain:**

Changes in drainage patterns, course or magnitude of flood flows, or exposure of people/property to hazards (flood)?

NO

**Wildlife Habitat/Migration:**

Deterioration of critical fish or wildlife habitat? Creation of a barrier to the migration or movement of fish or wildlife?

NO

**Endangered Species:**

Adverse effects on any unique or endangered species?

NO

<b>HUMAN ENVIRONMENT</b>
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**Existing Land Use:**

Alteration of or interference with the productivity or profitability of the existing land use of an area?

NO

**Historical Significance:**

Destruction or alteration of a natural area of scientific or educational value or prehistoric or paleontological importance?

NO

**Populace:**

Alteration of the location, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population of an area? Alteration of social structure of community?

NO

**Transportation:**

Increased traffic hazards or effects on existing transportation facilities or patterns of movement of people and goods?

NO

**Safety:**

Creation of any health hazard or affect on existing emergency response or evacuation plans?

NO

**Public Services:**

Have an effect upon or result in a need for new or altered governmental services in any of the following areas: fire or police protection, schools, parks/recreational facilities, roads or other public maintenance, water supply, sewer or septic systems, solid waste disposal, health, or other governmental services? Have an effect upon local or state tax base?

NO

**Utilities:**

Creates need for new or altered facilities for any of the following utilities: electric power, natural gas, other fuel supply or distribution systems, or communications?

Power had to be run the additional 60', however, no impacts are expected.

**Aesthetics:**

Alteration of any scenic vista or recreation opportunity or creation of an aesthetically offensive site to the public?

NO

**Other:**

NO

**2. Secondary and cumulative impacts:** None

**3. Reasonable alternatives to the proposed action, including the no action alternative:** No significant impacts from the replacement well have been identified. If an authorization is not issued, since the old well has already been permanently abandoned and cannot be used, the applicant would be forced to get a new water right. Since this is simply a replacement well from the same aquifer, this should not be necessary. The old well has been in existence since 1961 and no impacts have been identified.

### **PART III. CONCLUSION**

Based on the significance criteria evaluated in this EA, is an EIS required? No

If an EIS is not required, explain why the EA is the appropriate level of analysis for this proposed action: No significant impacts have been identified, therefore, no EIS is required.

#### **PREPARED BY:**

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DATE: July 7, 1998