

Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation  
Environmental Assessment

Operator: Burlington Resources Oil and Gas Co., L.P.  
Well Name/Number: BR 31-21H  
Location: NW NE 21 T25N, R52E (surface)  
County: Richland, MT; Field (or Wildcat) W/C

Air Quality

(possible concerns)

Long drilling time no  
Unusually deep drilling (high horsepower rig) no  
Possible H2S gas production no  
In/near Class I air quality area no  
Air quality permit for flaring/venting (if productive) no

Mitigation:

Air quality permit (AQB review)  
 Gas plants/pipelines available for sour gas  
 Special equipment/procedures requirements  
 Other:

Comments: No special concerns

Water Quality

(possible concerns)

Salt/oil based mud Yes  
High water table no  
Surface drainage leads to live water no -intermittent creek  
Water well contamination no  
Porous/permeable soils no  
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: will use 12mil liner, 1000' of surface casing is adequate.

Soils/Vegetation/Land Use

(possible concerns)

Stream crossings no  
High erosion potential no  
Loss of soil productivity no  
Unusually large wellsite no  
Damage to improvements no  
Conflict with existing land use/values no

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: About 20' (maximum) cut required

Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)

Proximity to public facilities/residences n/a  
Possibility of H2S very small quantities possible  
Size of rig/length of drilling time

Mitigation:

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

Comments: no special concerns

Wildlife/recreation

(possible concerns)

Proximity to sensitive wildlife areas (DFWP identified) no  
Proximity to recreation sites none in immediate area  
Creation of new access to wildlife habitat no  
Conflict with game range/refuge management no  
Threatened or endangered Species no

Mitigation:

   Avoidance (topographic tolerance/exception)  
   Other agency review (DFWP, federal agencies, DSL)  
   Screening/fencing of pits, drillsite  
   Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: no special concerns in this area

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: private - none identified

Social/Economic

(possible concerns)

   Substantial effect on tax base  
   Create demand for new governmental services  
   Population increase or relocation

Comments: no special concerns

Remarks or Special Concerns for this site

Horizontal Bakken test - 640 TSU

Summary: Evaluation of Impacts and Cumulative effects

Only minor, short term impacts associated with this project.

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): [Signature]  
(title:) Administrator  
Date: December 24, 2003

Other Persons Contacted:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name and Agency)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(subject discussed)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

If location was inspected before permit approval:

Inspection date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspector: \_\_\_\_\_  
Others present during inspection: \_\_\_\_\_