

Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation  
Environmental Assessment

Operator: Noble Energy, Inc.  
Well Name/Number: 1871 #2  
Location: NE NW 18 T37N T31E  
County: Phillips, MT; Field (or Wildcat) East Loring

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 no  
High water table no  
Surface drainage leads to live water no  
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: Fresh water mud - surface casing OK.

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: no special concerns

Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)

Proximity to public facilities/residences >0.5 miles  
Possibility of H2S no  
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) none  
Proximity to recreation sites none  
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

**Historical/Cultural/Paleontological**

(possible concerns)  
Proximity to known sites none in area  
Mitigation  
 avoidance (topographic tolerance, location exception)  
 other agency review (SHPO, DSL, federal agencies)  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Comments: see surface - none identified

**Social/Economic**

(possible concerns)  
 Substantial effect on tax base  
 Create demand for new governmental services  
 Population increase or relocation  
Comments: no concerns

**Remarks or Special Concerns for this site**

Well is a 2400 Phillips, etc well in East Loring field

**Summary: Evaluation of Impacts and Cumulative effects**

Impacts are minor and short term.

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):   
(title:) Administrator  
Date: January 18, 2004  
Other Persons Contacted:

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

If location was inspected before permit approval:  
Inspection date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspector: \_\_\_\_\_  
Others present during inspection: \_\_\_\_\_