

Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation
Environmental Assessment

Operator: Noble Energy, Inc.
Well Name/Number: 661 #4
Location: SE NE 6 T36N T31E
County: Phillips, MT; Field (or Wildcat) 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

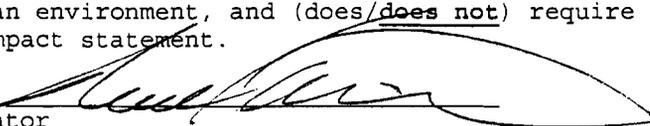
Remarks or Special Concerns for this site

Well is a 2400 Phillips, etc well in 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: June 6, 2004
Other Persons Contacted:

(Name and Agency)

(subject discussed)

(date)

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