

Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation  
Environmental Assessment

Operator: Petro Hunt, LLC  
Well Name/Number: Volbrecht 32B-2-1  
Location: NW NW Section 32 T22N R53E  
County: Richland, MT; Field (or Wildcat) W/C

**Air Quality**

(possible concerns)

Long drilling time 20-30 days drilling time

Unusually deep drilling (high horsepower rig) No, triple drilling rig for 11,400' TD

Possible H2S gas production yes

In/near Class I air quality area No

Air quality permit for flaring/venting (if productive) Yes, DEQ air quality permit required under 75-2-211.

Mitigation:

Air quality permit (AQB review)

Gas plants/pipelines available for sour gas

Special equipment/procedures requirements

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: no special concerns, adequate surface casing 2000' to be set and cemented back to surface with proper BOP stack should mitigate any concerns. Triple rig to drill to 11,400'.

**Water Quality**

(possible concerns)

Salt/oil based mud use freshwater and freshwater mud system on surface and oil based mud system from base of surface casing to TD.

High water table no

Surface drainage leads to live water no, closest drainage is an unnamed ephemeral drainage that drains north towards what appears to be a stock pond. The location is about 1/8 of a mile to the east of the head of this drainage.

Water well contamination no, closest water well is about 3/4 of a mile away. Deepest water well closed by is only 190' in depth, surface casing will be drilled with freshwater, casing set to 2000' and cemented back to surface.

Porous/permeable soils no, bentonite soils

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: 2000' of surface casing cemented to surface adequate to protect freshwater zones. Also, fresh water mud systems to be used on surface hole.

**Soils/Vegetation/Land Use**

(possible concerns)

Stream crossings none.

High erosion potential no, large cut, up to 41.4' and small fill, up to 0.4', required.

Loss of soil productivity no, location will be restored after drilling, if nonproductive. If productive unused portion of drillsite will be reclaimed.

Unusually large wellsite Large, 400'X350' location size required.

Damage to improvements slight

Conflict with existing land use/values Slight

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: Access will be over existing county roads and existing trails.

About 2.25 miles of new access will be built off the existing trail into this location.

Reserve pit liquids to be disposed of at Indian Mounds SWD. Solids will be allowed to dry, pit liner folded over the top of the solids, spoil dirt to fill pit, top soil spread over pit area, and seeded to land owners specification. No special concerns

### Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)

Proximity to public facilities/residences No residences within 1 mile of this drillsite.

Possibility of H2S yes

Size of rig/length of drilling time Triple drilling rig 30 to 40 days drilling time

Mitigation:

Proper BOP equipment

Topographic sound barriers

H2S contingency and/or evacuation plan

Special equipment/procedures requirements

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: no concerns, no residences within 1 mile of this wellsite. H2S safety company to setup alarms and train rig employees. Proper BOP stack and surface casing should be able to control any problems that occurs.

### Wildlife/recreation

(possible concerns)

Proximity to sensitive wildlife areas (DFWP identified) n/a

Proximity to recreation sites None identified.

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 concerns

**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: on private land

**Social/Economic**

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

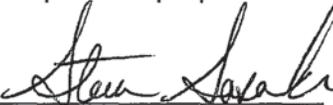
**Remarks or Special Concerns for this site**

Well is a 10,830' Red River formation test

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

No long term impacts expected. Some short term impacts will occur.

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): Steven Sasaki   
(title:) Chief Field Inspector  
Date: April 27, 2006

Other Persons Contacted:

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, GWIC website  
(Name and Agency)  
Richland County water wells  
(subject discussed)  
April 27, 2006

(date)

If location was inspected before permit approval:

Inspection date: \_\_\_\_\_

Inspector: \_\_\_\_\_

Others present during inspection: \_\_\_\_\_