

**Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation
Environmental Assessment**

Operator: Slawson Exploration Company, Inc.
Well Name/Number: Bayonet 1-34H
Location: NE NE Section 34 T24N R53E
County: Richland, MT; **Field (or Wildcat)** Wildcat

Air Quality

(possible concerns)

Long drilling time No, 50-60 days drilling time.
Unusually deep drilling (high horsepower rig) Triple derrick rig 900 HP
Possible H2S gas production slight
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: _____

Water Quality

(possible concerns)

Salt/oil based mud yes to long string salt based and oil based drilling fluids. Brine water for horizontal legs. Surface casing hole to be drilled with freshwater and freshwater mud.
High water table No
Surface drainage leads to live water No, wellsite is closed to a ephemeral tributary drainage to North Fork of Redwater Creek. About 3/4 of a mile to the northwest of this location is what appears to be a stock pond.
Water well contamination No, nearby wells are all less than 200' in depth. Surface hole will be drilled with freshwater and surface casing will be cemented to surface.
Porous/permeable soils No, gumbo soils
Class I stream drainage No, Class I stream drainages.

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: 1250' surface casing well below freshwater zones in adjacent water wells. Also, covering Fox Hills aquifer. Adequate surface casing and BOP equipment to prevent problems in and around freshwater slough.

Soils/Vegetation/Land Use

(possible concerns)

Stream crossings None
High erosion potential No, location will require small cut of 9.2' and moderate fill, up to 12.1', required.
Loss of soil productivity None, location to be restored after drilling well, if nonproductive. If productive

unused portion of drillsite will be reclaimed.
Unusually large wellsite No, large well site 430'X300'
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 oilfield well access road. A short access road will be built into location off the existing trail, about 300'. Cuttings will be buried in the lined reserve pit. Drilling fluids will be recycled. Pit will be allowed to dry before being backfilled. No concerns.

Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)

Proximity to public facilities/residences No residences within 1 mile of this location
Possibility of H2S Slight
Size of rig/length of drilling time Triple drilling rig 50 to 60 days drilling time.

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

Comments: Adequate surface casing cemented to surface with working BOP stack should mitigate any problems. Distance sufficient to mitigate noise problems.

Wildlife/recreation

(possible concerns)

Proximity to sensitive wildlife areas (DFWP identified) n/a None identified.
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: State of Montana surface

Social/Economic

(possible concerns)

Substantial effect on tax base

Create demand for new governmental services

Population increase or relocation

Comments: No concerns

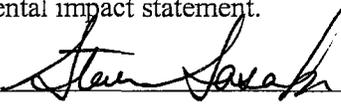
Remarks or Special Concerns for this site

3 legged Bakken horizontal well. Leg 1 TVD 9415', 13,901' MD Leg 2 TVD 9415', 15,088 MD Leg 3 TVD 9475' 13,765' MD

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: May 5, 2006

Other Persons Contacted:

(Name and Agency)

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, Groundwater Information Center website.

(subject discussed)

Water wells in Richland County

(date)

May 5, 2006

If location was inspected before permit approval:

Inspection date: _____

Inspector: _____

Others present during inspection: _____