

Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation  
Environmental Assessment

Operator: Sands Oil Company  
Well Name/Number: Johnson 2-8  
Location: NE NW Section 8T4N R61E  
County: Fallon, MT; Field (or Wildcat) South Plevna

**Air Quality**

(possible concerns)

Long drilling time no, 3 to 4 days drilling time.  
Unusually deep drilling (high horsepower rig) no, 1975' TD  
Possible H2S gas production None expect  
n/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 – using small sized rig to drill to 1975'

**Water Quality**

(possible concerns)

Salt/oil based mud no, freshwater and freshwater gel polymer mud system.  
High water table no  
Surface drainage leads to live water None. Nearest drainage is an unnamed ephemeral drainage to Porcupine Creek  
Water well contamination no, closest water well is 3/4 of a mile to the southeast of this location and is 180' in depth. Distance sufficient to prevent contamination and production string if run will be 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: 150' of surface casing cemented to surface adequate to protect freshwater zones. Also, fresh water mud systems to be used.

**Soils/Vegetation/Land Use**

(possible concerns)

Stream crossings no  
High erosion potential no, small cut, up to 3.1' and small fill, up to 0.5', 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 no, 120'X190' 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: Will use existing county roads and trails to within 0.25 of a mile of this location. Approximately 1/4 of a mile of new access will be built into this location. Cuttings will be buried in the drilling and reserve pits. Drilling fluids will be allowed to dry in the pits. Pits will be backfilled when dry. No special concerns

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### Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)

Proximity to public facilities/residences None within 2 miles of this location.

Possibility of H2S None

Size of rig/length of drilling time Small drilling rig/short 4 to 5 days drilling time

Mitigation:

Proper BOP equipment

Topographic sound barriers

H2S contingency and/or evacuation plan

Special equipment/procedures requirements

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

Comments: no concerns

### Wildlife/recreation

(possible concerns)

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

Proximity to recreation sites no

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

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**Social/Economic**

(possible concerns)

Substantial effect on tax base

Create demand for new governmental services

Population increase or relocation

Comments:           no concerns

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**Remarks or Special Concerns for this site**

Well is a 1975' Eagle Formation test

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

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

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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 19, 2006

Other Persons Contacted:

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, GWIC website

(Name and Agency)

Fallon County water wells

(subject discussed)

May 19, 2006

(date)

If location was inspected before permit approval:

Inspection date: May 15, 2006

Inspector: Hystad

Others present during inspection: None