

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

**Operator:** Porker Oil Company  
**Well Name/Number:** Rice State No. 4X  
**Location:** SW SW Lot 4 Section 30 T35N R1W  
**County:** Toole MT; Field (or Wildcat) Kevin Sunburst

**Air Quality**

(possible concerns)

Long drilling time no, 3 to 4 days drilling time.  
Unusually deep drilling (high horsepower rig) no, 1550' TD  
Possible H2S gas production slight  
n/near Class I air quality area no  
Air quality permit for flaring/venting (if productive) Yes, DEQ air quality permit required under rule 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 rig to drill to 1550'

**Water Quality**

(possible concerns)

Salt/oil based mud no, freshwater, freshwater mud system, air, air mist.  
High water table no  
Surface drainage leads to live water None  
Water well contamination no  
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: Surface casing will be set and cemented, 200' to surface is adequate to protect freshwater zones. Also, fresh water mud systems or air to be used.

**Soils/Vegetation/Land Use**

(possible concerns)

Stream crossings none, stream crossings  
High erosion potential no, small cut, up to 1.9' 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 no, 200'X200' 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 well trails. Cuttings will be buried in the unlined cuttings pit. Fluids will be allowed to dry in the pit and will be backfilled when dry. no special concerns

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### Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)

Proximity to public facilities/residences Nearest residence is 1/4 mile to the west of this location.

Possibility of H2S slight

Size of rig/length of drilling time Small drilling rig/short 3 to 4 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 None identified.

Proximity to recreation sites none identified

Creation of new access to wildlife habitat none identified

Conflict with game range/refuge management none identified

Threatened or endangered Species none identified

Mitigation:

- Avoidance (topographic tolerance/exception)
- Other agency review (DFWP, federal agencies, DSL)
- Screening/fencing of pits, drillsite
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: no concerns

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### 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: \_\_\_\_\_

### Social/Economic

(possible concerns)

Substantial effect on tax base

Create demand for new governmental services

Population increase or relocation

Comments: no concerns Existing oil field, Kevin Sunburst Oil and Gas field. This is a replacement well for a junk and abandoned well.

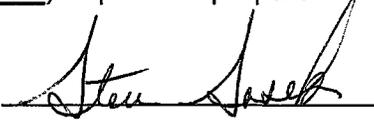
### Remarks or Special Concerns for this site

Well is a 1550' Madison Formation test

### Summary: Evaluation of Impacts and Cumulative effects

No long term impacts expected. Some short term impacts will occur, but can be mitigated in time.

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: June 2, 2006

Other Persons Contacted:

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, GWIC website

(Name and Agency)

Water wells in Toole County

(subject discussed)

June 2, 2006

(date)

If location was inspected before permit approval:

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

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

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