

Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation
Environmental Assessment

Operator: Fidelity Exploration and Production Company
Well Name/Number: Fee-Bidelity/BR No. BR 11-21
Location: NW NW Section 21T10N R58E
County: Fallon, MT; Field (or Wildcat) Cedar Creek

Air Quality

(possible concerns)

Long drilling time no, 3 to 4 days drilling time.
Unusually deep drilling (high horsepower rig) no, 2000' TD
Possible H2S gas production no
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 – using small rig to drill to 2000'

Water Quality

(possible concerns)

Salt/oil based mud no, freshwater and freshwater mud system.
High water table no
Surface drainage leads to live water no, closest drainage is an ephemeral tributary drainage to Cabin Creek, about 1/8 of a mile to south of this location. What appears to be a stock pond lies in this tributary drainage about 1/2 mile to the northeast of this location.
Water well contamination None, closest water well is 3/4 of a mile to the southeast of this location. Production casing if run will be cemented 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. Production casing will be cemented to surface.

Soils/Vegetation/Land Use

(possible concerns)

Stream crossings no

High erosion potential no, small cut, up to 3.8' and small fill, up to 1.8', 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: Access off existing county roads and existing well trails. A short 1/2 mile of new access road will have to be constructed into the location. Drilling fluids will be hauled to a private stock reservoir with surface owner approval or allowed to dry in the earthen pits. Cuttings. No special concerns

Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)

Proximity to public facilities/residences Buildings to the northeast about 3/4 of a mile and about 1/4 mile to the south of this location, may be associated with production facilities and not residences..

Possibility of H2S none

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 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: _____

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 Development well in the Cedar Creek gas field.

Remarks or Special Concerns for this site

Well is a 2000' Eagle Formation test.

Summary: Evaluation of Impacts and Cumulative effects

No long term effects will occur. 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: June 16, 2006

Other Persons Contacted:

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, Groundwater Information Center

(Name and Agency)

Water wells in Fallon County

(subject discussed)

June 16, 2006

(date)

If location was inspected before permit approval:

Inspection date: _____

Inspector: _____

Others present during inspection: _____