

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

Operator: Fidelity Exploration and Production Company

Well Name/Number: Fee No. 2878

Location: Lot 3 Section 2 T7N R59E

County: Fallon, MT; **Field (or Wildcat):** Cedar Creek

Air Quality

(possible concerns)

Long drilling time: No, 2 to 3 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' TD. Gas transportation and compression available with a short tie in.

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 unnamed ephemeral drainage to Sandstone Creek, about 1/8 of a mile to the northeast from this location.

Within this ephemeral drainage are stock ponds.

Water well contamination: None, if production string is cemented back to surface.

Closest water well is about 3/8 of a mile to southeast from this location.

Porous/permeable soils: No, sandy bentonitic 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 and will protect deeper water wells.

Soils/Vegetation/Land Use

(possible concerns)

Stream crossings: None

High erosion potential: No, small cut, up to 1.9' and small fill, up to 2.8', 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, surface use is grazing land.

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: No special concerns

Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)

Proximity to public facilities/residences: Buildings 3/8 of a mile to the southwest, 3/4 of a mile to the south and city of Baker about 1.75 miles to the southeast. Bonnievale cemetery about 1.25 miles to the southeast from this location.

Possibility of H2S: None

Size of rig/length of drilling time: Small drilling rig/short 2 to 3 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): None identified.

Proximity to recreation sites: Baker Lake about 2.25 miles to the southeast from this location.

Creation of new access to wildlife habitat: No

Conflict with game range/refuge management: No

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: Private surface lands. 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 lands. No concerns.

Social/Economic

(possible concerns)

Substantial effect on tax base

Create demand for new governmental services

Population increase or relocation

Comments: Private surface lands. No concerns.

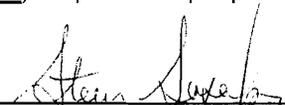
Remarks or Special Concerns for this site

Well is a 2000' Eagle Formation test within an existing gas field, Cedar Creek Gas Field.

Summary: Evaluation of Impacts and Cumulative effects

No long term impacts expected. Only 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: January 2, 2008

Other Persons Contacted:

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, Groundwater Information Center

(Name and Agency)

Water wells in Fallon County

(subject discussed)

January 2, 2008

(date)

If location was inspected before permit approval:

Inspection date: _____

Inspector: _____

Others present during inspection: _____