

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

**Operator:** Fidelity Exploration and Production Company

**Well Name/Number:** Fee No. 2881

**Location:** NE NW Section 12 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, small single derrick drilling rig to drill to 2000' TD.

Possible H<sub>2</sub>S 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.

**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, unnamed ephemeral tributary drainage to Sandstone Creek, about 1/4 mile to the west of this location.

Water well contamination: No, closest water wells are at least 1/2 of a mile to the southeast from this location. Surface casing will be drilled with freshwater. Surface casing will be set to 150' and cemented to surface. Mainhole will be drilled with freshwater mud system. If productive production casing will be run and cemented to surface.

Porous/permeable soils: No, sandy clay 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)

Steam crossings: No

High erosion potential: No, small cut, up to 1.3' and no fill, up to 0.0', required.

Loss of soil productivity: No, location will be restored after drilling, if nonproductive. If productive unused portion of wellsite 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 will be over existing county road. About 1/4 of a mile of new access will be built into this location. Cuttings and mud solids will be disposed of in the unlined drilling pits. Drilling fluids will be disposed of in a nearby private stock pond with surface owner approval. Pits will then be allowed to dry and then will be backfilled. No special concerns.

### Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)

Proximity to public facilities/residences: Commercial buildings within 1/2 mile east and southeast from this location. The town of Baker, MT is about 3/4 of a mile to the south of 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: None nearby.

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: No concerns, private surface.

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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: No concerns, private surface.

### Social/Economic

(possible concerns)

Substantial effect on tax base

Create demand for new governmental services

Population increase or relocation

Comments: No concerns. A development gas well in an existing gas field, Cedar Creek Gas Field.

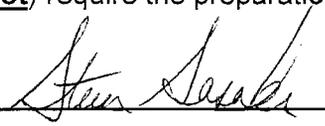
### Remarks or Special Concerns for this site

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

### 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: May 13, 2008

Other Persons Contacted:

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, Groundwater Information Center

(Name and Agency)

Water wells in Fallon County

(subject discussed)

May 13, 2008

(date)

If location was inspected before permit approval:

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

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

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