

NorthWestern to Buy Gas Assets in Northern Mont.

HELENA, Mont. (AP) — NorthWestern Energy says it is buying natural gas wells and pipelines from Devon Energy Production Co. in the Bear Paw Basin in northern Montana.

The company said in a release Tuesday the deal includes 64.6 billion cubic feet of reserves and 916 producing wells. The systems include more than 82 miles of transmission lines, 576 miles of gathering lines and 21 compressors in Blaine, Choteau and Hill counties.

The deal includes Devon's 82 percent interest in the Havre Pipeline Co.

NorthWestern says the natural-gas production from the acquisition will be about 5.6 billion cubic feet in 2013, which is 28 percent of the company's current gas load in Montana.

The price of the acquisition was not disclosed. NorthWestern says it expects the deal to close later this year.

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