

BEFORE THE OIL & GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF )  
KERR-MCGEE OIL & GAS ONSHORE LP FOR )  
AN ORDER POOLING ALL INTERESTS IN )  
THE CODELL, NIOBRARA AND J SAND )  
FORMATIONS IN A DESIGNATED )  
WELLBORE SPACING UNIT LOCATED IN )  
THE WATTENBERG FIELD, WELD COUNTY, )  
COLORADO )

Cause No. \_\_\_\_\_

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICATION

COMES NOW Kerr-McGee Oil & Gas Onshore LP (referred to herein as "Applicant"), by and through its undersigned attorneys, and makes application to the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission ("Commission"), for an order to pool all interests within a 160-acre designated wellbore spacing unit for the drilling of a well to produce oil, gas, and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell, Niobrara and J Sand Formations located in Section 35, Township 1 North, Range 67 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. Weld County, Colorado. In support thereof, the Applicant states and alleges as follows:

1. Applicant is a limited partnership formed under the laws of the State of Delaware; is a wholly owned subsidiary of Anadarko Petroleum Corporation; is duly authorized to conduct business in the State of Colorado; and is a registered operator in good standing with the Commission.

2. Applicant owns certain interests in the following lands:

Township 1 North, Range 67 West, 6th P.M.  
Section 35: NE $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$

Weld County, Colorado ("Application Lands").

3. On October 19, 1981, the Commission issued Order No. 232-23 which, among other things, established 320-acre drilling and spacing units for the production of gas and associated hydrocarbons from the J-Sand Formation for the Application Lands and allowed up to two (2) wells to be drilled within each 320-acre drilling and spacing unit.

4. On February 19, 1992, the Commission issued Order No. 407-87 (amended August 20, 1993), which among other things, established 80-acre drilling and spacing units for the production of oil and/or gas from the Codell and Niobrara Formations underlying certain lands, including the Application Lands, with the permitted well locations in accordance with the provisions of Order No. 407-1. Order No. 407-1 (amended on March 29, 2000 in accordance with Order No. 407-17, entered November 18, 1985), among other things, established 80-acre drilling and spacing units for the

production of oil and/or gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell Formation underlying certain lands, including the Application Lands, with the drilling and spacing unit to be designated by the operator drilling the first well in the quarter section, (or the Director, if the operator fails to designate). The permitted well shall be located in the center of either 40-acre tract within the drilling and spacing unit with a tolerance of 200 feet in any direction. The operator shall have the option to drill an additional well on the undrilled 40-acre tract in each 80-acre drilling and spacing unit.

5. On April 27, 1998, the Commission adopted Rule 318A, which, among other things, allowed certain drilling locations to be utilized to drill or twin a well, deepen a well or recomplete a well and to commingle any or all of the Cretaceous Age Formation from the base of the Dakota Formation to the surface. On December 5, 2005, Rule 318A was amended to allow interior infill and boundary wells to be drilled and wellbore spacing units to be established. The lands encompassing the wellbore spacing unit are subject to this Rule for the Codell, Niobrara and J Sand Formations.

6. Applicant designated a 160-acre wellbore spacing unit, as described below, for the production of oil, gas, and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell, Niobrara and J Sand Formations pursuant to Rule 318A and notified the appropriate parties under Rule 318A.e. Applicant did not receive any objections to the establishment of the proposed 160-acre wellbore spacing unit within the 20-day response period. Applicant hereby certifies to the Commission that it has not received any objections to the well location, proposed spacing unit or proposed formations. Applicant holds an approved Application for Permit to Drill for the Dry Creek 23-35 Well within the designated 160-acre wellbore spacing unit.

7. Applicant, pursuant to Commission Rule 530 and pursuant to the provisions of C.R.S. § 34-60-116 (6) and (7), seeks an order to statutorily pool all interests not voluntarily pooled (including working interests and unleased mineral interests) in the Codell, Niobrara and J Sand Formations underlying the following described 160-acre wellbore spacing unit:

Township 1 North, Range 67 West, 6th P.M.  
Section 35: E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$

(referred to herein as the "Wellbore Spacing Unit").

8. Applicant proposes to directionally drill the Dry Creek 23-35 Well (hereinafter the "Wellbore Spacing Unit Well") within the designated 160-acre Wellbore Spacing Unit with a surface location in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 35, Township 1 North, Range 67 West, and a bottomhole location 1325' FSL, 2590' FWL of Section 35, Township 1 North, Range 67 West. A Well Location Certificate for the Wellbore Spacing Unit Well is attached hereto.

9. Exhibit A attached hereto lists working interest owners, unleased mineral interest owners (if any), and/or royalty interest owners for the Wellbore Spacing Unit

together with their addresses. All working interest owners (not otherwise voluntarily pooled) have been offered the opportunity to voluntarily participate in the drilling of the Wellbore Spacing Unit Well. As applicable, to date, however, not all of such working interest owners have elected to participate by agreeing to bear their respective proportionate shares of the costs and risks of drilling, completing and operating the well. An Authority for Expenditure ("AFE") containing the information respecting this well required by Commission Rule 530.b. was sent to each of these working interest owners more than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the hearing on this Application. Exhibit A also lists all unleased mineral owners, if any, within the Wellbore Spacing Unit. As applicable, all unleased mineral owners (not otherwise voluntarily pooled) have been offered the opportunity to participate in the drilling of the Wellbore Spacing Unit Well. To date, however, not all of such owners have elected to participate by agreeing to bear their proportionate shares of the costs and risks of drilling, completing and operating the well. In addition and as applicable, Applicant has made offers to lease each of these unleased mineral owners (not otherwise voluntarily pooled) as required by Commission Rule 530.c. and C.R.S. § 34-60-116(7)(d). To date, however, not all of such unleased mineral owners have accepted such offers. Such offers to participate in drilling or to lease were sent to these unleased mineral interest owners more than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the hearing on this Application.

10. Applicant requests that the Commission's statutory pooling order, and all costs associated with the Well and this statutory pooling, issued with respect to this Application be retroactive to the earliest date costs are incurred for the Well as allowed by C.R.S. § 34-60-116(7), or the date of this Application, whichever is earlier.

11. Notice of this Application has been provided to those parties listed on Exhibit A attached hereto.

WHEREFORE, Applicant requests that this matter be set for hearing at the next available opportunity, that notice be given as required by law, and that upon such hearing, the Commission enter its order:

A. Pooling all interests in the Wellbore Spacing Unit for the development of the Codell, Niobrara and J Sand Formations, including any future wells drilled to said formation.

B. Providing that the Commission's pooling order is made effective as of the earlier of the date of this Application, or the date that any of the costs specified in C.R.S. § 34-60-116(7)(b)(II) were first incurred for the drilling of the Dry Creek 23-35 Well.

C. Providing that the interests of any owners with whom the Applicant has been unable to secure a lease or other agreement to participate in the drilling of the authorized well are pooled by operation of statute, pursuant to C.R.S. § 34-60-116(7), and made subject to the cost recovery provisions thereof.

D. For such other findings and orders as the Commission may deem proper or advisable in this matter.

WHEREFORE, Applicant respectfully requests that this matter be set for hearing in October, 2011, that notice be given as required by law, and that upon such hearing, the Commission enter its order consistent with Applicant's request as set forth above.

DATED this \_\_\_ day of September, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

**KERR-MCGEE OIL & GAS ONSHORE LP**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kenneth A. Wonstolen  
Elizabeth Y. Gallaway  
Beatty & Wozniak, P.C.  
Attorneys for Applicant  
216 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1100  
Denver, Colorado 80202

Applicant's Address:  
1099 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1800  
Denver, Colorado 80202

VERIFICATION

STATE OF COLORADO                    )  
  ) ss.  
CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER)

Kelly Carrington, of lawful age, being first duly sworn upon oath, deposes and says that she is Senior Landman for Kerr-McGee Oil & Gas Onshore LP and that she has read the foregoing Application and that the matters therein contained are true to the best of her knowledge, information and belief.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Senior Landman  
Kerr-McGee Oil & Gas Onshore LP

Subscribed and sworn to before this \_\_\_\_ day of September 2011.

Witness my hand and official seal.

[SEAL]

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

**EXHIBIT A**  
**Interested Parties**

**Working Interest Owners NB-CD**

Merit Partners, L.P. (Non-consenting)  
13727 Noel Road, Ste. 500  
Dallas, TX 75240

Merit Energy Partners III, L.P. (Non-consenting)  
13727 Noel Road, Ste. 500  
Dallas, TX 75240

Missouri Improvement Company (Non-consenting)  
5110 S. Yale, Ste. 400  
Tulsa, OK 74135

**Royalty Owners NB-CD**

John F. Rock  
821 South 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Brighton, CO 80601

Joseph P. Rock,  
as Representative of the Estate of Joseph P.  
Rock  
8036 South Niagara Way  
Englewood, CO 80112-3113

Leota M. Rock  
15000 Picadilly Road  
Brighton, CO 80603

Larry L. Rule  
982 Weld County Road No. 21  
Brighton, CO 80601

**Working Interest Owners JSND**

Merit Partners, L.P. (Non-consenting)  
13727 Noel Road, Ste. 500  
Dallas, TX 75240

Merit Energy Partners III, L.P. (Non-consenting)  
13727 Noel Road, Ste. 500  
Dallas, TX 75240

**Royalty Owners J SND**

John F. Rock  
821 South 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Brighton, CO 80601

Joseph P. Rock,  
as Representative of the Estate of Joseph P.  
Rock  
8036 South Niagara Way  
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**AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING**

STATE OF COLORADO )  
 )ss.  
CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER )

Elizabeth Y. Gallaway of lawful age, and being first duly sworn upon her oath, states and declares:

That she is the attorney for Kerr-McGee Oil & Gas Onshore LP, that on or before \_\_\_\_\_, 2011, she caused a copy of the attached Application to be deposited in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the parties listed on Exhibit A to the Application.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Elizabeth Y. Gallaway

Subscribed and sworn to before me \_\_\_\_\_ 2011.

Witness my hand and official seal.

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public