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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF NOBLE	)	
ENERGY, INC. FOR AN ORDER POOLING ALL	)	Cause No
INTERESTS IN THE CODELL AND NIOBRARA	)	
FORMATIONS IN A DESIGNATED 160-ACRE	)	Docket No
WELLBORE SPACING UNIT LOCATED IN THE	)	
WATTENBERG FIELD, WELD COUNTY,	)	
COLORADO.	)	

#### **APPLICATION**

COMES NOW Noble Energy, Inc. (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 designated 160-acre wellbore spacing unit for the drilling of a well to produce from the Codell and Niobrara Formations located in the following lands:

Township 4 North, Range 64 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M Section 18: SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>

Weld County, Colorado ("Application Lands").

In support thereof, the Applicant states and alleges as follows:

- 1. Applicant is a corporation 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 leasehold interests in the Application Lands.
- 3. 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.
- 4. 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 Application Lands are subject to Rule 318A for the Codell and Niobrara Formations.

- 5. Applicant designated a 160-acre Wellbore Spacing Unit, as described below, for the production of oil, gas, and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell and Niobrara Formations pursuant to Rule 318A. and notified the appropriate parties under Rule 318A.
- 6. 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 pool all interests in the Codell and Niobrara Formations underlying the following designated 160-acre wellbore spacing unit:

Township 4 North, Range 64 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M Section 18: SE¼

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

- 7. Applicant proposes to directionally drilled the NEI C18-23D Well ("Well") within the designated Wellbore Spacing Unit with a surface location 2492' FSL, 2139' FWL of Section 18, Township 4 North, Range 64 West, and bottomhole location of 1220' FSL and 1220' FEL of Section 18, Township 4 North, Range 64 West. A well location certificate showing the location of the Well is attached hereto.
- 8. Exhibit A attached hereto lists the 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 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") and offers to participate containing the information respecting this well required by Commission Rule 530.b. were sent to the 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 described above. 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.
- 9. Applicant requests that the Commission's pooling order be 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 Well.

10. 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 and Niobrara 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 NEI C18-23D 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 January, 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 Novemb	er, 2011.
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Respectfully submitted:

NOBLE ENERGY, INC.

By:				
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Elizabeth Y. Gallaway Kenneth Wonstolen Beatty & Wozniak, P.C. Attorneys for Applicant 216 16th Street, Suite 1100 Denver, Colorado 80202 (303) 407-4499

Applicant's Address: Noble Energy, Inc.

ATTN: Carol Myers 1625 Broadway, Suite 2200

Denver, CO 80202

## EXHIBIT A Interested Parties

Noble Energy, Inc. 1625 Broadway, Suite 2200 Denver, CO 80202

Merit Management Partners, LP 13727 Noel Road, Suite 500 Dallas, TX 75240

Merit Energy Partners III, LP 13727 Noel Road, Suite 500 Dallas, TX 75240

Merit Energy Partners D-III, LP 13727 Noel Road, Suite 500 Dallas, TX 75240

Alyson Warnick 2723 D. St Sacramento, CA 95816

Ann Shannon Oil & Gas, LLC C/O Ann W. Shannon 5675 DTC Blvd. Ste.# 145 Greenwood Village, CO 80111

Colorado Land Services 1051-D West Highway 34 Loveland, CO 805337

Dorothy I. Schneider Address Unknown

Esther A. Furrow 27533 Hwy 392 Gill, CO 80624

Farmers Reservoir and Irrigation Company 80 South 27th Avenue Brighton, CO 80601

JSWH, LLC C/O Jennifer W. Hubback 289 Fremont Avenue Los Altos, CA 94024

Mary A. Brammer 227 Milton Briggsdale, CO 80611

Mary Katherine Warnick P.O. Box 14 Grand Lake, CO 80447

Meadow Oil & Gas, LLC C/O M. Patricia Schreiber 1480 Combie Road Meadow Vista, CA 95722

MKL Gas & Oil, LLC C/O Margaret K. Logan 1005 Rilma Lane Los Altos, CA 94022

Our Plum, LLC C/O Margaret S. Lundock P.O. Box 218 Lowell, FL 32663

Philip Warnick 5600 Sunny Vista Drive Austin, TX 78749

Richard J. Adamson P.O. Box 48 Granby, CO 80446

SAE Oil & Gas Company, LLC C/O Elizabeth A. Shannon Shannon Management Corp. 5675 DTC Blvd. Ste. #145 Greenwood Village, CO 80111

SEK Oil & Gas Company, LLC C/O Kathryne E. Shannon 165 Glengary Place Castle Rock, CO 80108

The Heirs or Assigns of Alvin G. Schneider Deceased Address Unknown Shannon Warnick 1000 Country Pl. # 73 Houston, TX 77079

#### **VERIFICATION**

STATE OF COLORADO )	
CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER)	SS.
says that he is Land Manager and A	age, being first duly sworn upon oath, deposes and attorney-in-Fact for Noble Energy, Inc. and that he has hat the matters therein contained are true to the best elief.
	Joseph H. Lorenzo, Attorney-In-Fact Noble Energy, Inc.
Subscribed and sworn to before this	sday of November, 2011.
Witness my hand and official seal.	
[SEAL]	
My commission expires:	
	Notary Public

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF NOBLE ENERGY, INC. FOR AN ORDER POOLING ALL INTERESTS IN THE CODELL AND NIOBRARA FORMATIONS IN A DESIGNATED 160-ACRE WELLBORE SPACING UNIT LOCATED IN THE WATTENBERG FIELD, WELD COUNTY, COLORADO.	) Cause No ) Docket No )
AFFIDAVIT OF MAILI	NG
STATE OF COLORADO )	
)ss. CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER )	
Elizabeth Gallaway of lawful age, and being firs and declares:	st duly sworn upon her oath, states
That she is the attorney for Noble Energy, Inc. 2011, she caused a copy of the attached Applicati States Mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the p Application.	on to be deposited in the United
Elizab	peth Gallaway
Subscribed and sworn to before me on Novem	ber, 2011.
Witness my hand and official seal.	
My commission expires:	
Notan	y Public
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