

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 65 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M  
Section 9: SE $\frac{1}{4}$

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 recompleat 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 65 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M  
Section 9: SE¼

(referred to herein as the “Wellbore Spacing Unit”).

7. Applicant vertically drilled the Betz PC G09-23 Well (“Well”) within the designated Wellbore Spacing Unit with a surface and bottomhole location of 1215’ FSL and 1144’ FEL of Section 9, Township 4 North, Range 65 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 Betz PC G09-23 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 November, 2011

Respectfully submitted:

**NOBLE ENERGY, INC.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Elizabeth Y. Gallaway  
Kenneth Wonstolen  
Beatty & Wozniak, P.C.  
Attorneys for Applicant  
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Denver, Colorado 80202  
(303) 407-4499

Applicant's Address:  
Noble Energy, Inc.  
ATTN: Darlene Black  
1625 Broadway, Suite 2200  
Denver, CO 80202

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

Noble Energy WyCo, LLC  
1625 Broadway, Suite 2200  
Denver, CO 80202

Merit Partners, L.P.  
13727 Noel Road, Suite 500  
Dallas, TX 75240

Merit Energy Partners, III, L.P.  
13727 Noel Road, Suite 500  
Dallas, TX 75240

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

Taku Resources  
P.O. Box 3190  
Centennial, CO 80161

Barry L. Snyder  
7551 W. Alameda Avenue  
Suite 402  
Lakewood, CO 80226

Fred W. Betz and Evelyn I. Betz  
22421 County Road 43  
La Salle, CO 80645

Oliver and Clara Maria Knaub  
2329 7th Avenue, Apt. B  
Greeley, CO 80631

Fred A. Weigandt and  
Margaret Weigandt  
2101 S. Garfield Avenue, Apt. 40  
Loveland, CO 80537

Elon K. Lindberg  
3707 Red Canyon Place  
Colorado Springs, CO 80904

Donald Simon Peterson  
1235 Parker Place, #3E  
San Diego, CA 92109

Joseph R. Nystrom Trust  
1099 Genesee Vista Avenue  
Golden, CO 80401

Penny Molander Ellis  
Trustee of the  
Penny Molander Ellis Trust  
15523 Beach Drive NE  
Seattle, WA 98155

Mark Molander  
Trustee of the Molander Family Trust  
8005 Dark Valley Cove  
Austin, TX 78737

Gordon S. Rupert  
20517 WCR 46  
LaSalle, CO 80645

VERIFICATION

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

Joseph H. Lorenzo, of lawful age, being first duly sworn upon oath, deposes and says that he is Land Manager and Attorney-in-Fact for Noble Energy, Inc. and that he has read the foregoing Application and that the matters therein contained are true to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph H. Lorenzo,  
Attorney-In-Fact  
Noble Energy, Inc.

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

Witness my hand and official seal.

[SEAL]

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

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

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**AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING**

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

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

That she is the attorney for Noble Energy, Inc., that on or before November \_\_\_\_, 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 Gallaway

Subscribed and sworn to before me on November \_\_\_\_, 2011.

Witness my hand and official seal.

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

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