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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF	)
WHITING OIL AND GAS CORPORATION FOR	)
AN ORDER ESTABLISHING THREE 960-ACRE	)
DRILLING AND SPACING UNITS AND	) Cause No
ESTABLISHING EXISTING WELL LOCATION	)
RULES APPLICABLE TO THE DRILLING AND	) Docket No
PRODUCING OF WELLS FROM THE	)
NIOBRARA FORMATION COVERING CERTAIN	)
LANDS IN TOWNSHIP 10 NORTH, RANGE 58	)
WEST, WELD COUNTY, COLORADO.	)
·	

## **APPLICATION**

Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation ("Applicant"), by and through its attorneys, Welborn Sullivan Meck & Tooley, P.C., respectfully submits this Application to the Oil and Gas Conservation Commission of the State of Colorado ("Commission") for an order establishing three 960-acre drilling and spacing units and establishing well location rules applicable to the drilling of wells and producing of oil and gas from the Niobrara Formation covering certain lands in Weld County, Colorado. In support of its Application, Applicant states as follows:

1. Applicant owns leasehold interests in the following lands ("Application Lands"):

Township 10 North, Range 58 West

Section 2: ALL Section 11: N2

Township 10 North, Range 58 West

Section 11: S2 Section 14: ALL

Township 10 North, Range 58 West

Section 20: ALL Section 29: N/2

A reference map of the Application Lands is attached hereto.

- 2. The Application Lands are subject to Commission Rule 318.a. which provides that a well drilled in excess of 2,500' in depth shall be located not less than 600' from any lease line, and shall be located not less than 1,200' from any other producible or drilling oil or gas well when drilling to the same source of supply, unless authorized by order of the Commission upon hearing. There are no other specific Commission Orders applicable to the Niobrara Formation underlying the Application Lands.
- 3. The Niobrara Formation in the area of the Application Lands is defined as the stratigraphic equivalent of the interval between 5,770' (top of the Niobrara) and 6,101' (base of the Niobrara) as found in the Walker #3 Well located in Township 10 North, Range 5 West, Section 31, Weld County, Colorado. The Niobrara Formation is a common source of supply under the Application Lands.
- 4. To promote efficient drainage within the Niobrara Formation of the Application Lands, to protect correlative rights and to avoid waste, the Commission should establish drilling and spacing units of approximately 960 acres of the Application Lands.
- 5. Applicant has drilled, tested and completed wells in the Niobrara Formation upon lands in close proximity to the Application Lands.

- 6. The above-proposed drilling and spacing units will allow efficient drainage of the Niobrara Formation, will prevent waste, will not adversely affect correlative rights and will assure the greatest ultimate recovery of gas and associated hydrocarbon substances from the Niobrara formation. The proposed drilling and spacing units are not smaller than the maximum area that can be economically and efficiently drained by the proposed wells in such drilling and spacing unit. Applicant further maintains that a well drilled in the above-proposed drilling and spacing units will have no adverse effect on correlative rights of adjacent owners.
- 7. Applicant is requesting to drill and complete one horizontal well in each 960-acre drilling and spacing unit described above, with the option to drill and complete an additional three wells in each drilling and spacing unit. The Applicant states the proposed horizontal well shall be located on the surface anywhere within the designated drilling and spacing unit with initial perforation of the Niobrara Formation and an ultimate bottomhole location no closer than 600' from the boundaries of the drilling and spacing unit. The Applicant further maintains that the proposed horizontal well will have no adverse effect on correlative rights of adjacent lands owners.
- 8. The names and addresses of the interested parties according to the information and belief of the Applicant are set forth in <u>Exhibit A</u> attached hereto and made a part hereof, and the undersigned certifies that copies of this Application shall be served on each interested party within the next seven days as required by Rule 503.e.

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

Dated this 20<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

WHITING OIL AND GAS CORPORATION

3y: 1/leg

Stephen J. Sullivan

Welborn Sullivan Meck & Tooley, P.C.

Attorneys for Applicant

1125 - 17th Street, Suite 2200

Denver, CO 80202 303-830-2500

Applicant's Address:

1700 Broadway, Suite 2300 Denver, CO 80290-2300

## **VERIFICATION**

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

Scott McDaniel, Regional Landman with Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation, upon oath deposes and says that he has read the foregoing Application and that the statements contained therein are true to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

WHITING OIL AND GAS CORPORATION

Scott McDaniel, Regional Landman

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of December, 2011 by Scott McDaniel, Regional Landman for Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation.

Witness my hand and official seal.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:\_\_\_

### **EXHIBIT A**

#### INTERESTED PARTIES

Noble Energy 100 Glenborough Drive, Ste. 100 Houston, TX. 77067

H.S. Resources, Inc. 1999 Broadway, Suite 3600 Denver, CO. 80202

John and Gayle Ehler 8891 E. 160<sup>th</sup> Ave. Brighton, CO. 80601

David and Jeanne Uhl 2249 Lauren Drive Las Vegas, NV. 89134

Bank of America, N.A., Trustee of Minnie K. Patton Scholarship Foundation P.O. Box 830308 Dallas, TX. 75283-0308

Michael B. Collins 4811 Sinclair Avenue Austin, TX. 78756

Philomena Edmonson, a-i-f for Frances J. Edmonson 2304 Belleview Ave. La Junta, CO. 81050

Paul Davis, LTD, a Texas Limited Partnership P.O. Box 871 Midland, TX. 79702

F. Ferrell Davis P.O. Box 3061 Midland, TX. 79701

Marathon Oil Corporation 5555 San Felipe Street Houston, TX 77056-2723

Kerr-McGee Oil & Gas Onshore LP, A Delaware limited partnership P.O. Box 1330 Houston, TX. 77251-1330

Eva M McGhee and J. Michael McGhee 5715 E. Weaver Place Centennial, CO. 80111

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., and Frank H. Gower, Jr. Co-Trustees under the Will of Frank H. Gower P.O. Box 5383
Denver, CO. 80217

Rebecca Royall Trust Under Will Kirkwood & Darby, Inc. 307 W. 7<sup>th</sup> St. Ste. 1110 Ft. Worth, TX. 76102 Ann Boyd Royall et al Kirkwood & Darby, Inc. 307 W. 7<sup>th</sup> St. Ste. 1110 Ft. Worth, TX. 76102

Interfirst Bank of Dallas, N.A. c/o Harding & Carbone, Inc. 3903 Bellaire Blvd. Houston, TX. 77025

Charter Royalty 96, LTD P.O. Box 3253 Midland, TX. 79702

EOG Resources, Inc. 600 17<sup>th</sup> St. Ste. 1000N Denver, CO. 80202

Mr. David Bauer Weld County 1111 H Street Greeley, CO 80632

United States Bureau of Land Management Attn: Mr. Hank Szymanski 2850 Youngfield Street Lakewood, Colorado 80215-7093

N Exhibit "A"  Weld County, Colorado	Scale: 1:60,136 Projection: CCS North American Date: 12/20/2011 Author: Scott McDaniel		13 Order No. 535-60	T10N-R57W	25 30	Legend Proposed Specing Unit	Approved Niobrara Spacing  Whiting Leasehold
	Proposed Spacing		Proposed Spacing	23	Order No. 535-3	35 Order No. 535-3	Order No. 535-3
T-11N-R58W	63			T10N-R58W 22	27 Order No. 535-3	34 Order No. 535-3	535-3 535-3 535-3 535-3 535-3
THIN		o,	16	T10N	order No. 535-3	Order No. 535-3	Order No. 4 535-3 1-9h
		00		Proposed Spacing		Order No. 535-3	Order No. 535-3
	9	_	18	19	30	Orde <mark>r No. 535-3</mark>	Order No. 535-3
M69	Order No. 535-60	15	Order No. 535-76	59W	25	90	29W
T11N-R59W	Order No. 535-76		Order No. 535-76	T10N-R59W Order No. 535-76	26	Order No. 535-76	T9N-R59W