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

IN THE MATTER OF THE **VERIFIED** APPLICATION OF MARATHON OIL COMPANY FOR AN ORDER ESTABLISHING DRILLING AND SPACING UNITS AND WELL LOCATION AND SETBACK RULES FOR THE DRILLING OF WELLS IN THE NIOBRARA FORMATION. UNDERLYING CERTAIN LANDS LOCATED IN TOWNSHIP 8 NORTH, RANGE 65 WEST. SECTIONS 22 AND 26; TOWNSHIP 9 NORTH, RANGE 63 WEST, SECTION 9; TOWNSHIP 9 NORTH, RANGE 64 WEST, SECTIONS 2, 4, 10-13: TOWNSHIP 9 NORTH, RANGE 65 WEST. SECTION 32, 6TH P.M., IN WELD COUNTY, COLORADO

CAUSE NO:

ORDER NO:

DOCKET NO:

VERIFIED APPLICATION

COMES NOW the Applicant, Marathon Oil Company, by and though its attorneys, Poulson, Odell & Peterson, LLC, and makes application to the Oil and Gas Conservation Commission of the State of Colorado for an Order establishing approximate 640 acre drilling and spacing units and well location and setback rules applicable to the drilling and producing of gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation underlying certain described lands in Weld County, Colorado. In support thereof, Applicant states as follows:

- 1. That Applicant is a company duly authorized to conduct business in the State of Colorado.
- 2. The Applicant desires to create approximate 640 acre drilling and spacing units, and well location and setback rules, for the drilling of up to four horizontal wells to the Niobrara Formation in the following described lands located in Weld County, Colorado:

Township 8 North, Range 65 West, 6th P.M.

Section 22: ALL Section 26: ALL

Township 9 North, Range 63 West, 6th P.M.

Section 9: ALL

Township 9 North, Range 64 West, 6th P.M.

Section 2: ALL Section 4: ALL Section 10: ALL Section 11: ALL Section 12: ALL Section 13: ALL

Township 9 North, Range 65 West, 6th P.M.

Section 32: ALL

(the "Application Lands").

- 3. That Applicant owns leasehold interests in all or part of those lands. A reference map is attached as Exhibit "B".
- 4. The Application Lands are unspaced and subject to Commission Rule 318.a. which requires that wells drilled in excess of two thousand five hundred (2,500) feet in depth be located not less than six hundred (600) feet from the lease line, and located not less than one thousand two hundred (1,200) feet from any other producible or drilling oil or gas well when drilling to the same common source of supply, unless authorized by order of the Commission upon hearing.
- 5. As to the Application Lands, geological studies, and geological and engineering information obtained in the drilling and producing of wells located in the general area, demonstrate that up to four horizontal wells drilled to the Niobrara Formation may produce oil and associated hydrocarbons in economic volumes from the Niobrara Formation.
- 6. Applicant requests the Commission to create approximate 640 acre drilling and spacing units, for the drilling of up to four horizontal wells to the Niobrara Formation in each such drilling and spacing unit, within the Application Lands, in order to prevent waste, protect correlative rights, and assure the greatest ultimate recovery of hydrocarbons.
- 7. Consistent with Commission Rule 318.a., Applicant requests the following setbacks and well location rules for the drilling of up to four horizontal wells within the Niobrara Formation within the Application Lands:
 - (a) That the surface location may be located anywhere on the Application Lands; and,
 - (b) That the treated interval of the wellbore be located no closer than six hundred (600) feet from the boundary of the drilling and spacing unit.
- 8. Applicant alleges and believes that the granting of this Application will prevent waste, protect correlative rights, and assure the greatest ultimate recovery of hydrocarbons from the reservoir. Applicant further alleges and believes that the Niobrara Formation is a common source of supply underlying the Application Lands. Moreover, the proposed 640 acre drilling and spacing units are no smaller than the maximum area that can be economically and efficiently drained by up to four horizontal wells in each drilling and spacing unit.

9. Pursuant to Rule 503(d) of this Commission, within seven (7) days of the filing of this Application, the Applicant shall submit a Certificate of Service to the Commission demonstrating that the Applicant served a copy of the Application on all persons entitled to Notice by mailing a copy thereof, first-class postage prepaid, to the last known mailing address of the interested parties. Applicant shall simultaneously submit said list of interested parties to the Commission via electronic mail.

WHEREFORE, Applicant respectfully requests that this matter be set for hearing in April, 2012, 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: February 16, 2012.

MARATHON OIL COMPANY

By:

Scott M. Campbell
Jeremy I. Ferrin
POULSON, ODELL & PETERSON, LLC
1775 Sherman Street, Suite 1400
Denver, Colorado 80203

Telephone: (303) 861-4400 Facsimile: (303) 861-1225

VERIFICATION STATE OF TEXAS) ss. COUNTY OF ______ Benjamin Gregory Ralston, of lawful age,

Benjamin Gregory Ralston, of lawful age, being first duly sworn upon oath, deposes and says that he/she is Landman for Marathon Oil Company, and that he/she has read the foregoing Application and that the matters therein contained are true to the best of his/her knowledge, information and belief.

MARATHON OIL COMPANY

Ву:
Benjamin Gregory Ralston
Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of February, 2012.
Witness my hand and official seal.
My commission expires:
Notary Public

EXHIBIT A INTERESTED PARTIES

Scott M. Campbell POULSON ODELL & PETERSON LLC 1775 Sherman, Suite 1400 Denver, CO 80203-4319 David Bauer Weld County 1111 H Street Greeley, CO 80632 Colorado Division of Wildlife 6060 Broadway Denver, CO 80216

Colorado Department of Health & Environment 4300 Cherry Creek Drive South Denver, CO 80246-1530 Marathon Oil Company Attn: Tricia L. Clarke 5555 San Felipe Street P.O. Box 4813 Houston, TX 77056 Chesapeake Exploration, LLC 6100 N Western Avenue P.O. Box 18496 Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496

EOG Resources, Inc. PO Box 4362 Houston, TX 77210-4362 Turner Oil & Gas Properties 3232 W. Britton Road, Ste. 200 Oklahoma City, OK 73120Anadarko E&P Company LP 1201 Lake Robbins Drive The Woodlands, TX 77380

Hoover & Stacy, Inc. 7000 Yellowtail Road, Ste. 120 Cheyenne, WY 82009-6108 Noble Energy Inc. 1625 Broadway, Ste. 2000 Denver, CO 80202-4720

2035

Hannon & Associates Inc. 1615 California St., Ste. 623 Denver, CO 80202-3723

Recovery Energy Inc. 1515 Wynkoop Street, Set 200 Denver, CO 80202 Tracker Resource Development 1050 17th Street, Set 975 Denver, CO 80265 Lone Tree energy & Assoc. LLC 141 Union Blvd. Denver, CO 80228

Apollo Operating, LLC 1538 Wazee Street, Ste. 200 Denver, CO 80202

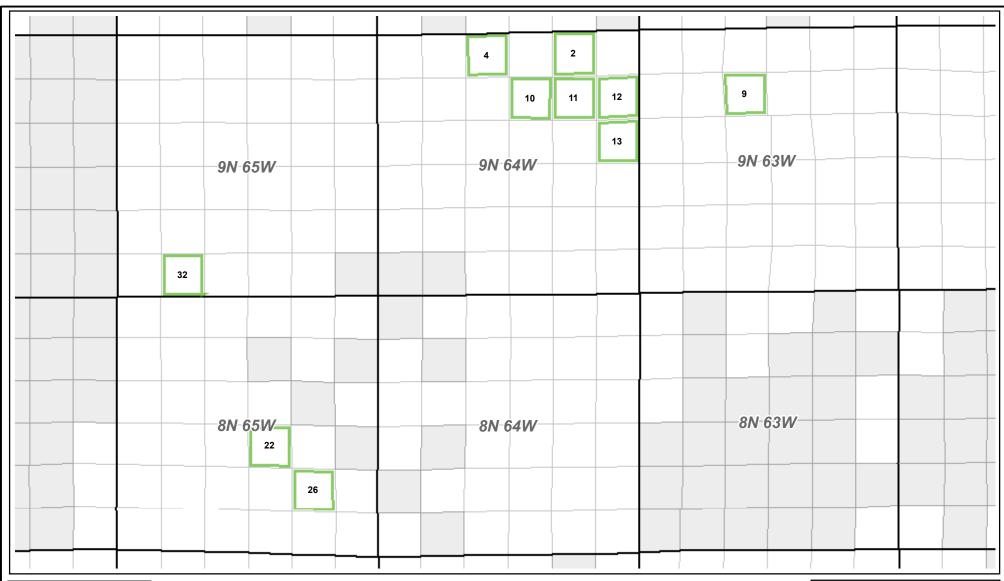
Francis Energy, Inc. 1220 11th Avenue, Ste 203 Greeley, CO 80632 Manuel G. Salas 21361 County Rd 29 Ault, CO 80610

Charles R. Killion 21003 CR 90 Pierce, CO 80650 Neva Marie Adamson Goodwin Address Unknown Michael Isles Adamson 565 SE/4 6th Street North Bend,WA 98045-8264

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Attn: David Posers Natural Resources Fl. 12 50 E. North Temple Salt Lake City, UT 84150 Monty L. Adamson 203 Main Zurich, KS 67663-7010 Sherry A. Adamson 5702 Moss Rock Court Loveland, CO 80538 Leone C. Roseberry Larry King Beulah Backstrum Address Unknown 43950 CR 45 PO Box 433 Ault, CO 80610 Ault, CO 80610 City of Thornton Peggy Lou Rhodes Arthur Verne Andrus 9500 Civic Center Driver 2239 5th Street 318 N. Bessball Ave. Thornton, CO 80229 Greeley, CO 80631 El Monte, CA 91732 James Irwin Andrus Edgar Kenneth Andrus United States of America 9085 Davidson Way c/o Lola Ida Andrus & Edgar 2850 Youngfield Street Lafayette, CO 80620 C. Andrus Lakewood, CO 80215-7093 PO Box 674 Frazier Park, CA 93225 Cathy L. Musgrave-Payne Steven T. Kattnig Chris A. Duvall 19400 CR 100 19026 CR 100 19298 CR 100 Nunn, CO 80648 Nunn, COL 80648 Nunn, CO 80648 Paula Wright Brian G. Kaugman 45832 CR 39 19050 CR 100 Nunn, CO 80648 Nunn, CO 80648

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STATE OF TEXAS				
COUNTY OF <u>Harris</u>) ss.				
Tricia Louise Clarke, of lawful age, being first duly says that she is Landman for Marathon Oil Compan foregoing Application and that the matters therein contaknowledge, information and belief.	v. and that she has read the			
MARATHON OIL	COMPANY			
By: Tricia Louise	Louise Clake			
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16^{-6} day of February, 2012.				
Witness my hand and official seal.				
My commission expires: 3-8-2015	×			
CLAYTON WILLIAM RULE Notary Public, State of Texas Commission Expires 03-08-2015	Alle flich			





Legend

Proposed Spacing - April App



Existing Spacing Orders



NAD 83, NAD 27, US FT 1:140,000

April, 2012 Application for Niobrara Drill Spacing:

8N 65W, SECT 22 8N 65W, SECT 26 9N 63W, SECT 9 9N 65W, SECT 32 9N 64W, SECT 2 9N 64W, SECT 4 9N 64W, SECT 10 9N 64W, SECT 11 9N 64W, SECT 12 9N 64W, SECT 13

(Cont'd)



CO&G Commission
Application for
Drill Spacing - Niobrara

Weld County, CO

DSU_Application_Apr_2012_OC.mxd 2/16/2012