

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR
AN ORDER POOLING ALL INTERESTS IN THE
CODELL AND NIOBRARA FORMATIONS IN
DESIGNATED DRILLING AND SPACING UNIT IN
WELD COUNTY, COLORADO

CAUSE NO.

DOCKET NO.

APPLICATION

COMES NOW Petroleum Development Corporation d/b/a PDC Energy ("Applicant"), by its attorneys, Beatty & Wozniak, P.C., and makes application to the Oil and Gas Conservation Commission of the State of Colorado ("Commission") for an order pooling all interests for the development of the Codell and Niobrara Formations on the following described 160-acre drilling and spacing unit for the Chesnut 22BD Well ("Well"):

Township 5 North, Range 64 West, 6th P.M.
Section 22: SW $\frac{1}{4}$

Weld County, Colorado

(hereinafter "Application Lands")

In support of its application, 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 leasehold interests in a substantial portion of 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 defined 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, including but not limited to, any nonconsenting interests, in the Application Lands in the Codell and Niobrara Formations underlying the following designated 160-acre wellbore spacing unit:

Township 5 North, Range 64 West, 6th P.M.
Section 22: SW¼

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

Said order to apply to the currently-allowed well and any subsequent well drilled in the Wellbore Spacing Unit.

7. 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 the costs specified in C.R.S. § 34-60-116(7)(b)(II) are first incurred for the drilling of the Well to the Codell and Niobrara Formations on the Application Lands. A map illustrating the aforementioned well is attached hereto.

8. Applicant certifies that copies of this Application will be served on all persons owning an interest in the mineral estate of the tracts to be pooled within seven (7) days of the date hereof, as required by Rule 507.b(2), and that at least thirty (30) days prior to the hearing on this matter, each such interest owner not already leased or voluntarily pooled will be, or has already been, offered the opportunity to lease, or to participate in the drilling of the well, and will be provided with the information required by Rule 530. The interested parties list shall be filed with the Commission no later than seven (7) days after the filing of this application.

9. That in order to prevent waste and to protect correlative rights, all interests in the Application Lands should be pooled for the orderly development of the Codell and Niobrara Formations, including any nonconsenting interests therein.

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 the currently-allowed well and all subsequent wells drilled to said formations.

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 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 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 with respect to all wells drilled to develop the Codell and Niobrara Formation in the drilling unit comprised of the Application Lands.

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 April, 2012, 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: February ___, 2012

Respectfully submitted:

PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

By:

Jamie L. Jost
Kenneth A. Wonstolen
Beatty & Wozniak, P.C.
Attorneys for Applicant
216 16th Street, Suite 1100
Denver, Colorado 80202

Applicant's Address:

Petroleum Development Corporation
ATTN: Marie McCord
1775 Sherman Street, Suite 3000
Denver, CO 80203-4341

VERIFICATION

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

John Krattenmaker, of lawful age, being first duly sworn upon oath, deposes and says that he is the Landman for Petroleum Development Corporation d/b/a PDC Energy 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.

John Krattenmaker

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of February, 2012.

Witness my hand and official seal.

My commission expires:_____

Notary Public

EXHIBIT A

Petroleum Development Corporation
1775 Sherman Street, Suite 3000
Denver, CO 80203-4341

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

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

Merit Energy Partners, D-III, L.P.
13727 Noel Rd, Suite 500
Dallas, TX 75240

The Prospect Company
P.O. Box 1100
Edmond, OK 73083

Terry L. & Marilyn Rothe
4115 W. 20th Street Rd.
Greeley, CO 80634

Ruth Rothe Life Estate
Terry L. Rothe, POA
4115 West 20th Street Rd.
Greeley, CO 80634

John R. & Lelanie R.H. Lazuick
27470 WCR 54 1/2
Kersey, CO 80644

John E. & Barbie K. Miner
55084 CR L
Yuma, CO 80759

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AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING

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

Jamie L. Jost, of lawful age, and being first duly sworn upon his oath, states and declares:

That she is the attorney for Petroleum Development Corporation d/b/a PDC Energy and that on or before February __, 2012 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.

Jamie L. Jost

Subscribed and sworn to before me February __, 2012.

Witness my hand and official seal.

My commission expires: _____.

Notary Public