### 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-NIOBRARA AND J-	)	
SAND FORMATIONS IN A 160-ACRE WELLBORE	)	Docket No
SPACING UNIT LOCATED IN THE WATTENBERG	)	
FIFLD 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 160-acre wellbore spacing unit for the Codell-Niobrara and J-Sand Formations for the drilling of the REI H17-30D Well ("Well"), API # 05-123-35346 located in the following lands:

Township 3 North, Range 65 West, 6th P.M

Section 7: SE¼ SE¼ Section 8: SW¼ SW¼ Section 17: NW¼ NW¼ Section 18: NE¼ NE¼

Weld County, Colorado (the "Application Lands").

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

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 October 19, 1981, the Commission issued Order No. 232-23 which, among other things, established 320-acre drilling and spacing units for the production of gas and associated hydrocarbons from the J Sand Formation underlying certain lands, including the Application Lands, and allowed up to two (2) wells to be drilled within each 320-acre drilling and spacing unit.
- 4. 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-Niobrara Formation underlying certain lands, including the Application Lands, with the permitted well locations in accordance with the provisions of Order No. 407-1.

- 5. 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-Niobrara, and J Sand Formations.
- 6. Applicant designated a 160-acre wellbore spacing unit within the Application Lands, as described below, for the production of oil, gas, and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell-Niobrara and J Sand Formations pursuant to Rule 318A. and notified the appropriate parties under Rule 318A.
- 7. Applicant, pursuant to Commission Rule 530 and 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, and in the following designated 160-acre wellbore spacing unit, located within the Application lands, for production from the Codell-Niobrara and J Sand Formations:

Township 3 North, Range 65 West, 6th P.M

Section 7: SE½ SE¼ Section 8: SW½ SW¼ Section 17: NW¼ NW¼ Section 18: NE½ NE½

(hereafter "Wellbore Spacing Unit").

- 8. Applicant plans to directionally drill the REI H17-30D Well ("Well") within the Wellbore Spacing Unit with a surface location of 1204' FNL, 1311' FWL of Section 17, Township 3 North, Range 65 West, and bottomhole location of 75' FNL and 250' FWL of Section 17, Township 3 North, Range 65 West.
- 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.
- 9. 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 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 list of such interested parties is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

10. That in order to prevent waste and to protect correlative rights, all interests in the Application Lands and the Wellbore Spacing Unit should be pooled for the orderly development of the Codell-Niobrara and J-Sand 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 Application Lands and Wellbore Spacing Unit for the development of the Codell-Niobrara and J-Sand 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 the costs specified in C.R.S. § 34-60-116(7)(b)(II) are first incurred for the drilling of any well in the Wellbore Spacing Unit to the Codell-Niobrara and J-Sand Formations on the Application Lands.
- 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(6) and (7), and made subject to the cost recovery provisions thereof with respect to all wells drilled to develop the Codell-Niobrara and J-Sand Formations in the Wellbore Spacing Unit comprising 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 August, 2012, 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: June , 2012

Respectfully submitted:

NOBLE ENERGY, INC.

Ву:

Jamie / Jost Elizabeth Y. Gallaway 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: Ashley Stokes 1625 Broadway, Suite 2200 Denver, CO 80202

## Exhibit A Interested Parties

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

James H. Turner, Trustee 5905 Sparrow Avenue Firestone, CO 80504

Aristocrat Angus Ranch, LLP 9053 Weld Co Rd. 34 Platteville, CO 80651

Wardell Family Ltd., LLLP 7 Meadow Rose Lane Littleton, CO 80127

EnCana Oil & Gas (USA), Inc. 370 17th Street, Suite 1700 Denver, CO 80202

Kerr-McGee Oil & Gas Onshore, LP 1099 18th Street, Suite 1800 Denver, CO 80202

Robert S. Pirtle P.O. Box 1310 Tyler, TX 75710

Tundra Resources, LLC 730 17th Street, Suite 340 Denver, CO 80202

Purple Kangaroos, LLC 5800 Kanan Road #280 Agoura Hills, CA 91391

Martin J. Harrington, Jr. 2236 South Jackson Street Denver, CO 80210

Anadarko E&P Company, LP P.O. Box 173779 Denver, CO 80217

#### **VERIFICATION**

STATE OF COLORADO	)	
	)	SS
CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER	)	

P. David Padgett, of lawful age, being first duly sworn upon oath, deposes and says that he is 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.

P. David Padgett Attorney-In-Fact Noble Energy, Inc.

Subscribed and sworn to before this 20th day of June, 2012.

Witness my hand and official seal.

[SEAL]

My commission expires: July 20, 2015

ERIN M STRUZZIERI Notary Public State of Colorado

My Commission Expires June 30, 2015

# 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-NIOBRARA AND J-SAND FORMATIONS IN A 160-ACRE WELLBORE SPACING UNIT LOCATED IN THE WATTENBERG FIELD, WELD COUNTY, COLORADO.	) Cause No ) Docket No )				
AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING					
STATE OF COLORADO )					
)ss. CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER )					
Elizabeth Y. Gallaway of lawful age, and being states and declares:	g first duly sworn upon her oath,				
That she is the attorney for Noble Energy, Inc., she caused a copy of the attached Application to be depostage prepaid, addressed to the parties listed on Ext	eposited in the United States Mail, wipit A to the Application.				
	th Y. Gallaway				
Subscribed and sworn to before me on June <u>A I</u> , <b>2</b> 012.					
Witness my hand and official seal.					
My commission expires: 10-04-13					
PUBLIC ON Notary	Public				