

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE PROMULGATION AND	)	CAUSE NO. 232 & 407
ESTABLISHMENT OF FIELD RULES TO GOVERN	)	
OPERATIONS IN THE WATTENBERG FIELD,	)	DOCKET NO. 1208-UP-221
WELD COUNTY, COLORADO	)	

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES AND TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

On October 19, 1981, the Commission issued Order No. 232-23 which, among other things, amended Order No. 232-20, approved up to two wells within each unit, and included additional lands within the Wattenberg Gas Spaced Area, located in Adams and Weld Counties, for the production of gas from the J Sand Formation, with the additional well to be located in the undrilled quarter quarter section at a location no closer than 990 feet to the boundaries of the quarter section. Sections 8 and 17, Township 3 North, Range 65 West, 6th P.M. are subject to this Order for the J Sand Formation.

On December 19, 1983, the Commission issued Order No. 407-1 (amended March 29, 2000), which among other things, established 80-acre drilling and spacing units for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell Formation, with the unit to be designated by the operator drilling the first well in the quarter section. The permitted well shall be located in the center of either 40-acre tract within the unit with a tolerance of 200 feet in any direction. The operator shall have the option to drill an additional well on the undrilled 40-acre tract in each 80-acre drilling and spacing unit. Sections 8 and 17, Township 3 North, Range 65 West, 6th P.M. are subject to this Order for the Codell Formation.

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, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell and Niobrara Formations, with the permitted well locations in accordance with the provisions of Order No. 407-1. Sections 8 and 17, Township 3 North, Range 65 West, 6th P.M. are subject to this Order for the Codell-Niobrara Formation.

On April 27, 1988, 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 Cretaceous Age Formations from the base of the Dakota Formation to the surface. Rule 318A supersedes all prior Commission drilling and spacing orders affecting well location and density requirements of Greater Wattenberg Area wells. On December 5, 2005, Rule 318A was amended to, among other things allow interior infill and boundary wells to be drilled and wellbore spacing units to be established. On August 8, 2011, Rule 318A was again amended, among other things, to address drilling of horizontal wells. Sections 8 and 17, Township 3 North, Range 65 West, 6th P.M. are subject to Rule 318A for the Codell-Niobrara Formation.

On June 21, 2012, Noble Energy, Inc. ("Noble" or "Applicant"), by its attorneys, filed with the Commission pursuant to § 34-60-116 C.R.S., a verified application ("Application") for an order to pool all interests within an approximate 160-acre designated wellbore spacing unit for the below-described lands ("Application Lands"), to accommodate the REI H17-28D Well (API No. 05-123-35343) ("Well"), for the development and operation of the J Sand and Codell-Niobrara Formations, effective as of the earlier of the date 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 REI H17-28D Well, and to subject any non-consenting interests to the cost recovery provisions of C.R.S. § 34-60-116(7):

Township 3 North, Range 65 West, 6th P.M.
Section 8: SE¹/₄ SW¹/₄, SW¹/₄ SE¹/₄
Section 17: NW¹/₄ NE¹/₄, NE¹/₄ NW¹/₄

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to: 1) the general jurisdiction granted to the Oil and Gas Conservation Commission of the State of Colorado (Commission) under § 34-60-105 C.R.S.; 2) specific powers granted pursuant to § 34-60-106 C.R.S.; 3) the Colorado Administrative Procedures Act at § 24-4-105 C.R.S.; and 4) the Commission's Series 500 Rules at 2CCR 404-1, that the Commission has scheduled the above-entitled matter for hearing on:

Date: Monday, August 20, 2012
Tuesday, August 21, 2012

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: COGCC Offices
1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 801
Denver, Colorado 80203

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if any party requires special accommodations as a result of a disability for this hearing, please contact Margaret Humecki at (303) 894-2100 ext. 5139, prior to the hearing and arrangements will be made.

Pursuant to said hearing in the above-entitled matter at the time and place aforesaid, or at any adjourned meeting, the Commission will enter such orders as it deems appropriate to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public and to prevent the waste of oil and gas, either or both, in the operations of said field, and to carry out the purposes of the statute.

In accordance with Rule 509., any interested party desiring to protest the granting of the application or to intervene on the application should file with the Commission a written protest or intervention no later than August 6, 2012, briefly stating the basis of the protest or intervention. Such interested party shall, at the same time, serve a copy of the protest or intervention to the person filing the application. An original and 13 copies shall be filed with the Commission. **Anyone who files a protest or intervention must be able to participate in a prehearing conference during the week of August 6, 2012.** Pursuant to Rule 503.g., if a party who has received notice under Rule 503.b. wishes to receive further pleadings in the above-referenced matter, that party must file a protest or intervention in accordance with these rules. In accordance with the practices of the Commission, should no protests or interventions be filed in this matter by **August 6, 2012, the Applicant may request that an administrative hearing be scheduled beginning August 6, 2012.** In the alternative, pursuant to Rule 511., if the matter is uncontested, the applicant may request, and the Director may recommend approval on the basis of the merits of the verified application and the supporting exhibits.

IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

By 

Robert J. Frick, Secretary

Dated at Suite 801
1120 Lincoln Street
Denver, Colorado 80203
July 16, 2012

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