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

IN THE MATTER OF THE PROMULGATION AND	)	CAUSE NO. 407
ESTABLISHMENT OF FIELD RULES TO GOVERN	)	
OPERATIONS IN THE WATTENBERG FIELD,	)	DOCKET NO. 1208-UP-234
WELD COUNTY, COLORADO	)	

## **NOTICE OF HEARING**

## TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES AND TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

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 10 and 15, Township 5 North, Range 67 West, 6<sup>th</sup> 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 10 and 15, Township 5 North, Range 67 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. are subject to this Order for the Codell and Niobrara Formations.

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 10 and 15, Township 5 North, Range 67 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. are subject to Rule 318A for the Codell and Niobrara Formations.

On March 5, 2012, the Commission entered Order No. 407-562 which, among other things, pooled all interests in each of ten designated wellbore spacing units, for the development and operation of the Codell and Niobrara Formations. Sections 10 and 15, Township 5 North, Range 67 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. are subject to Order No. 407-562 for the Codell and Niobrara Formations.

Subsequent to the March 5, 2012 hearing, PDC Energy, Inc. ("PDC" or "Applicant"), learned of additional mineral interest owners within eight of the ten designated wellbore spacing units subject to Order No. 407-562, to whom notice of the Pooling Application, as well as an AFE and offer to lease and/or participate, had not been provided. Applicant has sent an appropriate offer to lease or participate, and an AFE containing the required information under Rule 530.a., to the previously unnoticed interested parties.

On June 21, 2012, PDC, by its attorneys, filed with the Commission pursuant to § 34-60-116 C.R.S., a verified application ("Application") for an order to affirm Order No. 407-562, specifically for eight of the ten designated wellbore spacing units, pooling all interests for the below-described lands ("Application Lands"), to accommodate eight drilled Highpointe Wells ("Wells"), for the development and operation of the Codell and Niobrara Formations, effective as of the earlier of the date of the 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 each respective well, and to subject any nonconsenting interests, and previously unnoticed interest owners, to the cost recovery provisions of C.R.S. § 34-60-116(7):

Township 5 North, Range 67 West, 6th P.M.

Section 10: SW¼ (Highpointe 10B – API No. 05-123-28033)
Section 10: NE¼ (Highpointe 10C – API No. 05-123-26975)
Section 10: S½ NW¼, N½ SW¼ (Highpointe 10KD – API No. 05-123-28029)

Section 10: S1/2 SW1/4

Section 15: N½ NW¼ (Highpointe 10LD – API No. 05-123-28024)

Section 10: W½ NE¼, E½ NW¼

(Highpointe 10ND - API No. 05-123-26976)

Section 10: SE1/4 NW1/4, SW1/4 NE1/4, NE1/4 SW1/4, NW1/4 SE1/4

(Highpointe 10OD – API No. 05-123-28125)

Section 10: E½ SW¼, W½ SE¼ (Highpointe 10PD – API No. 05-123-28025) Section 10: S½ NE¼, N½ SE¼ (Hightpointe 10SD – API No. 05-123-26977)

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:

Suite 801, The Chancery Building

1120 Lincoln Street 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 during the week of 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

Ву

Robert J. Frick, Secretary

Dated at Suite 801 1120 Lincoln Street Denver, Colorado 80203 July 16, 2012 Attorneys for PDC: Jamie L. Jost Kenneth A. Wonstolen Beatty & Wozniak, P.C. 216 16th Street, Suite 1100 Denver, Colorado 80202