

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)	CAUSE NO. 535
NOBLE ENERGY, INC. FOR AN ORDER TO)	
VACATE UNITS ESTABLISHED BY ORDER NOS.)	DOCKET NO. 1303-SP-50
535-3, 535-110, AND 535-125, AND TO)	
ESTABLISH AN APPROXIMATE 3200-ACRE UNIT)	
FOR SECTIONS 3, 4, 9, 10 AND 16, TOWNSHIP 9)	
NORTH, RANGE 58 WEST, 6 TH P.M., FOR THE)	
CODELL-NIOBRARA FORMATION, UNNAMED)	
FIELD, WELD COUNTY, COLORADO)	

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES AND TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

On February 22, 2011, the Commission entered Order No. 535-3 which, among other things, established 160 approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing units, and approved one horizontal well within each unit, for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation. Sections 3, 4, 9 and 10, Township 9 North, Range 58 West, 6th P.M. are subject to this Order for the Niobrara Formation.

On December 12, 2011, the Commission entered Order No. 535-110 which, among other things, pooled all interests in an approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing unit established for Section 10, Township 9 North, Range 58 West, 6th P.M. for the Niobrara Formation.

On January 23, 2013, the Commission entered Order No. 535-125 which, among other things, established an approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing unit, and approved one or more horizontal and one or more vertical wells for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell and Niobrara Formations. Section 16, Township 9 North, Range 58 West, 6th P.M. is subject to this Order for the Codell and Niobrara Formations.

On January 24, 2013, Noble Energy, LLC ("Noble" or "Applicant"), by its attorneys, filed with the Commission, a verified application ("Application") for an order to: 1) vacate the approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing unit established by Order No. 535-3 for Sections 3, 4, 9 and 10, Township 9 North, Range 58 West, 6th P.M.; 2) vacate pooling Order No. 535-110 for Section 10, Township 9 North, Range 58 West, 6th P.M.; 3) vacate the approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing unit established by Order No. 535-125 for Section 16, Township 9 North, Range 58 West, 6th P.M.; and 4) establish an approximate 3,200-acre unit for the below-described lands ("Application Lands"), and approve the request for an unlimited number of wells within the boundaries of the unit, subject to engineering testimony establishing the appropriate number of wells to efficiently and economically drain the reservoir, for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell-Niobrara Formation, with the treated interval of the wellbore to be located no closer than 600 feet from the unit boundaries, and no closer than 150 feet from the treated interval of any other wellbore located in the unit, without exception being granted by the Director:

Township 9 North, Range 58 West, 6th P.M.

Section 3: All

Section 4: All

Section 9: All
Section 10: All
Section 16: All

Applicant requests the permitted wells be located anywhere on the surface within the proposed unit, or on adjacent lands, and shall be drilled from no more than eight well pads per section on the Application Lands, unless an exception is granted by the Director.

Applicant requests that the Commission exclude any and all vertical or directional wells drilled and completed to the Codell-Niobrara Formation (or the Codell or Niobrara Formation individually, as indicated on the applicable Application for Permit to Drill – “APD”) from the proposed unit. Any production from vertical or directional wells drilled and completed to the Codell-Niobrara Formation (or the Codell or Niobrara Formation individually, as indicated on the applicable APD) shall continue to be allocated on the current payment of production basis and such allocation shall not be effected by the approval of this Application.

Applicant requests that the Commission include any and all horizontal wells drilled and completed to the Codell-Niobrara Formation (or the Codell or Niobrara Formation individually, as indicated on the applicable APD) in the proposed unit.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to: 1) the general jurisdiction granted to the Oil and Gas Conservation Commission of the State of Colorado 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 2 CCR 404-1, that the Commission has scheduled the above-entitled matter for hearing on:

Date: Monday, March 25, 2013
Tuesday, March 26, 2013

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
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 March 11, 2013, 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 March 11, 2013.** 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 **March 11, 2013, the Applicant may request that an administrative hearing be scheduled beginning March 11, 2013.** 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.

OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO



By _____
Robert J. Frick, Secretary

Dated: March 4, 2013

Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
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