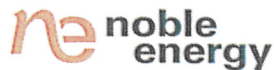


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February 2, 2010

Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
The Chancery Building
1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 801
Denver, CO 80203

Attn: Mr. David Neslin, Director

RE: **Request to the Director for 318A.a Surface Location Exception (Outside 318A Drilling Window)**
Request to the Director for 318A.e. Directional Drilling Exception
Request to the Director for 318A.c Twinning Location Exception
SALAZAR P 20-33D
Codell/Niobrara New Drill
Township 3 North, Range 67 West, 6th P.M.
Section 20: SW/4SW/4: 571' FSL & 402' FWL (Surface Location)
Weld County, Colorado

Mr. Neslin:

Noble Energy Inc. (NEI) is planning to drill the above mentioned well to the Codell/Niobrara formations.

The surface location of NEI's proposed well has been staked outside of the 318Aa drilling window. This well is planned as a vertical well and does not meet the directional drilling requirement of Rule 318A.e. The location is being permitted as an exception location. NEI has obtained written permission in a waiver from the surface owner.

Under the Revised Rule 318A.c any new twinning well is to be located within 50' of an existing well. The surface location of NEI's proposed well has been staked approximately 72' from the nearest oil and gas well. Noble has obtained permission, contained in a waiver, from the surface owner.

Thank you for your attention to the enclosed. Noble respectfully requests that the COGCC review the enclosed information and approve the requested exception location waivers and Application for Permit to Drill the captioned well.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Mari Clark'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends below the printed name.

Mari Clark
Regulatory Analyst II
Noble Energy Inc.