

1625 Broadway
Suite 2000
Denver, CO 80202

Tel: 303.228.4000
Fax: 303.228.4280
www.nobleenergyinc.com



February 17, 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
Degenhart USX AE17-99HZ
Codell/Niobrara New Drill
Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6th P.M.
Section 17: NENE: 1144' FNL & 693' FEL (Surface Location)
Weld County, Colorado

Mr. Neslin:

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

The surface location of NEI's proposed well has been staked outside of the 318Aa drilling window. Also, 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 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 2783' 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, appearing to read 'Kate Miller'.

Kate Miller
Regulatory Specialist
Noble Energy Inc.