

**Erin Bibeau**  
Regulatory Compliance Representative  
DJ Basin



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February 13, 2012

David Neslin, Director  
Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission  
1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 801  
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Request to the Director for 318.A.a. Surface Hole Mineral Exception (Outside 318.A.a. Window)

Crow Valley 7-62-23-2H Well  
NENW Section 23, Township 7N, Range 62W, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.  
320' FNL and 2036' FWL  
Weld County, Colorado

Crow Valley 7-62-14-2H Well  
NENW Sec. 23, Township 7N, Range 62W, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.  
290' FNL and 2036' FWL  
Weld County, Colorado

Dear Mr. Neslin:

Marathon Oil Company ("Marathon") is proposing to drill the Crow Valley 7-62-23-2H and 7-62-14-2H wells to test the Niobrara Formation. The Crow Valley 7-62-23-2H well is located 320' FNL and 2036' FWL Section 23, Township 7 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. to bottom hole location ("BHL") 470' FSL 1988' FWL Section 23, Township 7 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. The Crow Valley 7-62-14-2H well is located 290' FNL and 2036' FWL Section 23, Township 7 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. to bottom hole location ("BHL") 470' FNL 1988' FWL Section 14, Township 7 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.

The surface hole locations ("SHL") of Marathon's proposed horizontal wells are outside of the 318A.a. drilling window. Rule 318A.a. designates five "drilling windows" per quarter section of land in the Greater Wattenberg Area (GWA) – 400'x400' boxes in the center of each quarter/quarter section, and an 800'x800' box in the center of the quarter section.

The Surface Owner has granted consent to Marathon for the requested exception to Rule 318A.a. Marathon respectfully requests approval of the exception location. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Erin Bibeau".

Erin Bibeau

Attachment: Surface Owner's Consent