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07 May 2012

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

Attn: Mr. Thom Kerr, Director

**RE: Request for accelerated permits approval**  
Niobrara Horizontal Well New Drills

Antelope P-T-17HZ: NWNE Sec 17-T5N-R62W, 6<sup>th</sup> PM, Weld County, Colorado  
Form 2A Document Number 400275395  
APD Document Number 400275181  
Antelope P-T-29HZ: NENE Sec 29-T5N-R62W, 6<sup>th</sup> PM, Weld County, Colorado  
Form 2A Document Number 400276430  
APD Document Number 400275188

Mr. Kerr:

Bonanza Creek Energy, Inc. ("Bonanza") intends to drill and operate the above referenced horizontal oil and gas wells in the Niobrara Formation, from well pads to be located as described above. Bonanza has suffered long-term delays in access and Surface Use Agreement negotiations with a landowner associated with a significant portion of its mineral lease acreage, not included in the above locations. In order to compensate for the delays in our ability to obtain permits in this other Bonanza acreage, and in order to facilitate an accelerated drilling program due to additional capital investment, Bonanza respectfully requests the referenced permits be approved prior to the expiration of the 20 day comment period.

To address circumstances referenced in COGCC rule 303.I., please be informed that the referenced drilling locations are not in a Sensitive Wildlife Habitat or Restricted Surface Occupancy Area, nor do any of the circumstances requiring a rule 306d.(1)Aii CDPHE consult exist.

It is also noteworthy that both locations are exception locations and that Surface Owner Waivers have been obtained and included with the permit applications. The two (2) wells are in sections spaced for a Niobrara Horizontal under order 407-538.

This 303.I request for permit issuance without notice or consultation is necessary in order to avoid economic hardship due to rig standby charges and contractual obligations to 4 drilling rigs, or face the loss of a drilling rig due to this short-term permit deficit.

Sincerely,

**BONANZA CREEK ENERGY, INC.**

Keith S. Caplan  
Senior Operations Technician