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

IN THE MATTER OF AN APPLICATION BY BILL BARRETT	)	
CORPORATION FOR AN ORDER VACATING 640-ACRE	)	CAUSE NOS. 407 & 535
DRILLING AND SPACING UNITS ESTABLISHED FOR	)	
SECTIONS 11 & 14, TOWNSHIP 6 NORTH, RANGE 62	)	DOCKET NO. To be assigned
WEST, 6 <sup>TH</sup> P.M., AND ESTABLISHING 1,280-ACRE	)	
DRILLING AND SPACING UNITS FOR SAID SECTIONS 11	)	
& 14, FOR HORIZONTAL WELL DEVELOPMENT OF THE	)	
CODELL AND NIOBRARA FORMATIONS, WATTENBERG	)	
FIELD, WELD COUNTY, COLORADO	)	

#### APPLICATION

Bill Barrett Corporation ("BBC" or "Applicant"), by and through its attorneys, Beatty & Wozniak, P.C., respectfully submits this Application to the Oil and Gas Conservation Commission of the State of Colorado (the "Commission") for an order: (1) maintaining the approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing units established for Sections 11 and 14, Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6th P.M., for existing oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons produced from the Niobrara Formation; (2) vacating that portion of Order No. 407-879 which authorizes the drilling of an additional seven (7) horizontal wells within the approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing unit established for said Section 14, for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation; (3) vacating the approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing unit established for Section 14, Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell Formation; (4) establishing an approximate 1,280-acre drilling and spacing unit for said Sections 11 and 14, and authorizing the drilling of up to sixteen (16) horizontal wells within the proposed unit, for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation; and (5) establishing an approximate 1,280-acre drilling and spacing unit for said Sections 11 and 14, and authorizing the drilling of up to four (4) horizontal wells within the proposed unit, for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell Formation. In support of its Application, Applicant states and alleges as follows:

- 1. Applicant is a corporation duly authorized to conduct business in the State of Colorado, and has registered as an operator with the Commission.
  - 2. Applicant owns majority leasehold interests in the below-listed lands:

Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. Section 11: All Section 14: All

These lands are hereinafter referred to as the "Application Lands." A map depicting the acreage comprising the Application Lands is attached hereto and marked as <a href="Exhibit A">Exhibit A</a>.

3. On April 27, 1998, the Commission adopted Rule 318A. which, among other things, allowed certain drilling locations to be utilized to drill or twin a well, deepen a well or recomplete a well and to commingle any or all Cretaceous Age Formations from the base of the Dakota Formation to the surface. Rule 318A. supersedes all prior Commission drilling and spacing orders affecting well location and density requirements of Greater Wattenberg Area wells. On December 5, 2005, Rule 318A. was amended, among other things, to allow interior infill and boundary wells to be drilled and wellbore spacing units to be established. On August 8, 2011, Rule 318A. was again amended, among other things, to address drilling of horizontal wells. The Application Lands are subject to certain aspects of this Rule for the Niobrara and Codell Formations.

# Maintaining the 640-acre Drilling Units Established for Sections 11 & 14, Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., for the Niobrara Formation

- 4. On or about February 22, 2011, the Commission entered Order Nos. 407-779 and 535-4 (corrected on April 4, 2013) which, among other things, established 640-acre drilling and spacing units for certain lands, including the Application Lands, and approved one horizontal well for each unit, for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation, with the treated interval of the permitted wellbore to be located no closer than 460 feet from the boundaries of the unit.
- 5. BBC presently operates the Dutch Lake #09-11H Well (API #05-123-33450) (drilled on or about October 23, 2012) under Order No. 535-4 within Section 11, Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., with production from the Niobrara Formation. This Application is not seeking to modify production payments from this well or include production from this well into the approximate 1,280-acre drilling and spacing unit proposed herein for the Application Lands.
- 6. On October 28, 2013, the Commission entered Order No. 407-879 which, among other things, approved an additional seven (7) horizontal wells, for up to eight (8) horizontal wells, for the approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing united established for Section 14, Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation.
- 7. On June 17, 2013, the Commission entered Order Nos. 407-811 and 535-360 which, among other things, pooled all interests in the approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing unit established for Section 14, Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., for the development and operation of the Niobrara Formation.
- 8. BBC presently operates the Dutch Lake #12-14H Well (API #05-123-33954) (drilled on or about November 30, 2012) under Order No. 535-4 within Section 14, Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., with production from the Niobrara Formation. This Application is not seeking to modify production payments from this well or include production from this well into the approximate 1,280-acre drilling and spacing unit proposed herein for the Application Lands.

### Vacating Certain Provisions of Order No. 407-879

- 9. On October 28, 2013, the Commission entered Order No. 407-879 which, among other things, approved an additional seven (7) horizontal wells, for up to eight (8) horizontal wells, for the approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing united established for Section 14, Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation.
- 10. BBC presently operates the Dutch Lake #12-14H Well (API #05-123-33954) (drilled on or about November 30, 2012) under Order No. 535-4 within Section 14, Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., with production from the Niobrara Formation.
- 11. Applicant requests the Commission vacate that portion of Order No. 407-879 which authorizes an additional seven (7) horizontal wells in the approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing unit established for Section 14, Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation. This request is made to allow for horizontal well development of the Application Lands with horizontal wellbores with long laterals which will cross the section line leading to more economical and efficient recovery of the resources, while minimizing surface impacts, creating efficiencies for drilling and production, increasing the ultimate recovery of the reserves, preventing waste, and protecting correlative rights.

### Vacating the 640-acre Drilling Unit for Horizontal Well Development of the Codell Formation

- 12. On October 28, 2013, the Commission entered Order No. 407-879 which, among other things, established an approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing unit, approving one horizontal well within the unit, for Section 14, Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell Formation.
- 13. Applicant requests the Commission vacate the approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing unit previously established for Section 14, Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell Formation. This request is made to allow for horizontal well development of the Application Lands with horizontal wellbores with long laterals which will cross the section line leading to more economical and efficient recovery of the resources, while minimizing surface impacts, creating efficiencies for drilling and production, increasing the ultimate recovery of the reserves, preventing waste, and protecting correlative rights.

### <u>Establishment of a 1,280-acre Drilling Unit for Horizontal Well Development of the Niobrara</u> Formation

- 14. Applicant requests the Commission establish the Application Lands as an approximate 1,280-acre drilling and spacing unit for the Niobrara Formation pursuant to Rule 503.b.(1) and §34-60-116(2), C.R.S. For the Application Lands, the proposed drilling unit is not smaller than the maximum area that can be economically and efficiently drained by the horizontal wells proposed to be drilled under this Application and completed in the Niobrara Formation.
- 15. Applicant requests it be authorized to drill and complete sixteen (16) horizontal wells in the approximate 1,280-acre drilling and spacing unit for the Application Lands, for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation, as necessary to economically and efficiently recover resources, while minimizing surface impacts, creating efficiencies for drilling and production, increasing the ultimate recovery of the reserves, preventing waste, and protecting correlative rights.
- 16. Applicant states that, for any permitted wells to be drilled under this Application, the treated intervals of the wellbore should be not less than 460 feet from the unit boundaries with an inter-well setback of not less than 150 feet from the treated interval of a well producing from the Niobrara Formation, without exception being granted by the Director.

# Establishment of a 1,280-acre Drilling Unit for Horizontal Well Development of the Codell Formation

- 17. Applicant requests the Commission establish the Application Lands as an approximate 1,280-acre drilling and spacing unit for the Codell Formation pursuant to Rule 503.b.(1) and §34-60-116(2), C.R.S. For the Application Lands, the proposed drilling unit is not smaller than the maximum area that can be economically and efficiently drained by the horizontal wells proposed to be drilled under this Application and completed in the Codell Formation.
- 18. Applicant requests it be authorized to drill and complete four (4) horizontal wells in the approximate 1,280-acre drilling and spacing unit for the Application Lands, for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell Formation, as necessary to economically and efficiently recover resources, while minimizing surface impacts, creating efficiencies for drilling and production, increasing the ultimate recovery of the reserves, preventing waste, and protecting correlative rights.

19. Applicant states that, for any permitted wells to be drilled under this Application, the treated intervals of the wellbore should be not less than 460 feet from the unit boundaries with an inter-well setback of not less than 150 feet from the treated interval of a well producing from the Codell Formation, without exception being granted by the Director.

\* \* \*

- 20. Applicant states that any horizontal wells to be drilled under this Application will be drilled from no more than five (5) multi-well pads on the surface of the drilling unit, or on adjacent lands with consent of the landowner, without exception being granted by the Director.
- 21. The granting of this Application is in accord with the Oil and Gas Conservation Act, found at §34-60-101, et seq., C.R.S., and the Commission rules.
- 22. That the names and addresses of the interested parties (owners within the proposed drilling unit) according to the information and belief of the Applicant are set forth in Exhibit B attached hereto. The Applicant shall submit a certificate of service for the Application within the seven days as required by Rule 503.e.

WHEREFORE, Applicant respectfully requests that this matter be set for hearing, that notice be given as required by law and that upon such hearing this Commission enter its order:

- A. Maintaining the approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing units established for Sections 11 and 14, Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., for existing oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons produced from the Niobrara Formation.
- B. Vacating that portion of Order Nos. Order No. 407-879 which authorizes the drilling of an additional (7) horizontal wells within the approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing unit established for Section 14, Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation.
- C. Vacating the approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing unit previously established for Section 14, Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell Formation.
- D. Establishing an approximate 1,280-acre drilling and spacing unit for Sections 11 and 14, Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., and authorizing the drilling of up to sixteen (16) horizontal wells within the proposed unit, for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation, with the treated intervals of the wellbore of any permitted wells to be located not less than 460 feet from the outer boundary of the proposed unit and not less than 150 feet from the treated interval of any well being drilled or producing from the Niobrara Formation, without exception being granted by the Director.
- E. Establishing an approximate 1,280-acre drilling and spacing unit for Sections 11 and 14, Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., and authorizing the drilling of up to four (4) horizontal wells within the proposed unit, for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell Formation, with the treated intervals of the wellbore of any permitted wells to be located not less than 460 feet from the outer boundary of the proposed unit and not less than 150 feet from the treated interval of any well being drilled or producing from the Codell Formation, without exception being granted by the Director.

- F. Requiring that any permitted wells to be drilled under this Application should be drilled from no more than five (5) multi-well pads on the surface of the drilling unit, or on adjacent lands with consent of the landowner, without exception being granted by the Director.
- G. For such other findings and orders as the Commission may deem proper or advisable in the premises.

DATED this day of January, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

**BILL BARRETT CORPORATION** 

By: Willis

Robert A. Willis (Colorado Bar No. 26308)

Beatty & Wozniak, P.C. 216 16th St., Suite 1100 Denver, CO 80202 (303) 407-4499

Kenneth A. Wonstolen Senior Vice-President & General Counsel Bill Barrett Corporation

Applicant's Address:
Bill Barrett Corporation
Colleen Kennedy, Land Manager
1099 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 2300
Denver, CO 80202

### **VERIFICATION**

STATE OF COLORADO	)
	) ss.
CITY & COUNTY OF DENVER	)

Colleen Kennedy, Land Manager for Bill Barrett Corporation, upon oath deposes and says that she has read the foregoing Application and that the statements contained therein are true to the best of her knowledge, information and belief.

**BILL BARRETT CORPORATION** 

Colleen Kennedy

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of January, 2014, by Colleen Kennedy, Land Manager for Bill Barrett Corporation.

Witness my hand and official seal.

My commission expires: 10 - 4-17

V

TERESA L. PETERSON
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF COLORADO
NOTARY ID 19894002026
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES OCT. 4, 2017

Notary Public

### **EXHIBIT B**

#### **INTERESTED PARTIES**

The names and addresses of the interested parties (owners within Sections 11 and 14, Township 6 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.) according to the information and belief of the Applicant are set forth in this Exhibit B.

Bill Barrett Corporation 1099 18th Street, Suite 2300 Denver, CO 80202

Heirs of Charles Verne Philp, decd 212 Saturn Dr. Ft. Collins, CO 80525

Estate of Elmer Klingenberg, decd. Rt. 3 Briggsdale, CO 80611

Estate of Ronald Max Klingenberg, decd. 1006 Osage Neodesha, KS 66757

Diamond Resources Co. P.O. Box 1938 Williston, ND 58802

Continental Resources, Inc. 20 N. Broadway Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102

Tom Schreiner, Energy Liaison Colorado Parks and Wildlife Northeast Region Office 6060 Broadway Denver, CO 80216 Robert A. Willis Beatty & Wozniak, P.C. 216 16th St., Suite 1100 Denver, CO 80202

Estate of Alice Klingenberg, decd 4336 W 165<sup>th</sup> St. Lawndale, CA 90260

Estate of Max O. Klingenberg, decd. 1006 Osage Neodesha, KS 66757

Marathon Oil Company 5555 San Felipe Houston, TX 77056

DJ Resources , LLC 1600 Broadway #1960 Denver, CO 80202

David Bauer Weld County 1111 H Street Greeley, CO 80632

Kent Kuster
Oil & Gas Consultant Coordinator
Colorado Department of
Public Health & Environment
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, CO 80246-1530

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

IN THE MATTER OF AN APPLICATION BY BILL BARRETT CORPORATION FOR AN ORDER VACATING 640-ACRE DRILLING AND SPACING UNITS ESTABLISHED FOR	)	CAUSE NOS. 407 & 535
SECTIONS 11 & 14, TOWNSHIP 6 NORTH, RANGE 62 WEST, 6 <sup>TH</sup> P.M., AND ESTABLISHING 1,280-ACRE DRILLING AND SPACING UNITS FOR SAID SECTIONS 11 & 14, FOR HORIZONTAL WELL DEVELOPMENT OF THE CODELL AND NIOBRARA FORMATIONS, WATTENBERG FIELD, WELD COUNTY, COLORADO	))))))	DOCKET NO. To be assigned
AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING	,	
STATE OF COLORADO )		
CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER )		

Robert A. Willis, of lawful age, and being first duly sworn upon his oath, states and declares:

That he is an attorney for Bill Barrett Corporation, that on or before January 23, 2014, he caused a copy of the attached Application to be deposited in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the parties listed on Exhibit B to the Application.

Robert A Willis

Subscribed and sworn to before me January 16, 2014.

Witness my hand and official seal.

TERESA L. PETERSON NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF COLORADO

NOTARY ID 19894002026 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES OCT.4, 2017 Notary Public