

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 15 & 22, TOWNSHIP 4 NORTH, RANGE 62 )	DOCKET NO. <i>To be assigned</i>
WEST, 6 <sup>TH</sup> P.M., AND ESTABLISHING 1,280-ACRE )	
DRILLING AND SPACING UNITS FOR SAID SECTIONS 15 )	
& 22, 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) vacating the approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing units established for Sections 15 and 22, Township 4 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., for production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell and Niobrara Formations; (2) establishing an approximate 1,280-acre drilling and spacing unit for said Sections 15 and 22, 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 (3) establishing an approximate 1,280-acre drilling and spacing unit for said Sections 15 and 22, 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 4 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.

Section 15: All

Section 22: 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 Exhibit 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.

*Vacating the 640-acre Drilling Units for Horizontal Well Development of the Codell and Niobrara Formations*

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 Section 15, Township 4 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., 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. On or about June 17, 2013, the Commission entered Order Nos. 407-798 which, among other things, established 640-acre drilling and spacing units for Section 22, Township 4 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., and approved up to sixteen (16) horizontal wells within the unit, for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell and Niobrara Formations, with the treated interval of the permitted wellbore to be located no closer than 460 feet from the boundaries of the unit and an inter-well setback of not less than 150 feet from the treated interval of any other wellbore located in the unit.

6. Applicant requests the Commission vacate the approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing units previously established for the Application Lands, for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell and Niobrara Formations. 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

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

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. 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*

10. 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.

11. 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.

12. 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.

\* \* \*

13. Applicant states that any horizontal wells to be drilled under this Application will be drilled from no more than four (4) 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.

14. 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.

15. 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. Vacating the approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing units previously established for Sections 15 and 22, Township 4 North, Range 62 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell and Niobrara Formations.

B. Establishing an approximate 1,280-acre drilling and spacing unit for Sections 15 and 22, Township 4 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.

C. Establishing an approximate 1,280-acre drilling and spacing unit for Sections 15 and 22, Township 4 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.

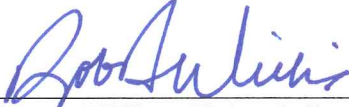
D. Requiring that any permitted wells to be drilled under this Application should be drilled from no more than four (4) multi-well pads on the surface of the drilling unit, or on adjacent lands with consent of the landowner, without exception being granted by the Director.

E. For such other findings and orders as the Commission may deem proper or advisable in the premises.

DATED this 16 day of January, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

BILL BARRETT CORPORATION

By: 

Robert A. Willis (Colorado Bar No. 26308)  
Beatty & Wozniak, P.C.  
Attorney for Applicant  
216 16th Street, Suite 1100  
Denver, Colorado 80202

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.

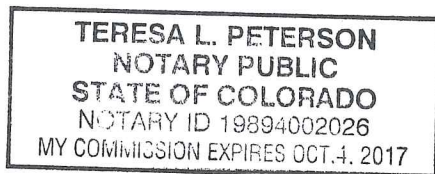
BILL BARRETT CORPORATION


  
Colleen Kennedy

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2014, by Colleen Kennedy, Land Manager for Bill Barrett Corporation.

Witness my hand and official seal.

My commission expires: 10-04-17



  
Notary Public

Application Lands - 

Sec. 15 & 22, T4N, R62W  
Weld County

**Exhibit A**  
Application Map

13	18	17	16	15	14	13	18	17
24	19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20
25	30	29	T4N 28	R62W 27	26	25	30	29
36	31	32	33	34	35	36	31	32
1	6	5	4	3	2	1	6	5
12	7	8	9	T3N 10	R62W	11	7	8
13	18	17	16	15	14	13	18	17

## EXHIBIT B

### INTERESTED PARTIES

The names and addresses of the interested parties (owners within Sections 15 and 22, Township 4 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 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 2300  
Denver, CO 80202

Anschutz Exploration Corporation  
555 17th Street  
Suite 2400  
Denver, CO 80202

Continental Resources, Inc.  
P.O. Box 269007  
Oklahoma City, OK 73126

Hart Energy, LLC  
P.O. Box 50190  
Casper, WY 82605

Kathryn B. Stahlman and  
Robbin L. Peppler as  
Trustees of the Grandchildren's Trust I  
1540 Bench Trail  
Shertz, TX 78154

Richard J. Bartels and  
Robbin L. Peppler as  
Trustees of the Grandchildren's Trust II  
2131 62nd Avenue Court  
Greeley, CO 80634

Anschutz Family  
Investment Company, LLC  
555 17th Street, Suite 2400  
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

Tom Schreiner, Energy Liaison  
Colorado Parks and Wildlife  
Northeast Region Office  
6060 Broadway  
Denver, CO 80216

BEFORE THE OIL & GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

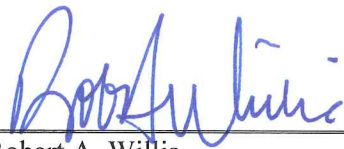
IN THE MATTER OF AN APPLICATION BY BILL )  
BARRETT CORPORATION FOR AN ORDER ) CAUSE NOS. 407 & 535  
VACATING 640-ACRE DRILLING AND SPACING )  
UNITS ESTABLISHED FOR SECTIONS 15 & 22, ) DOCKET NO. *To be assigned*  
TOWNSHIP 4 NORTH, RANGE 62 WEST, 6<sup>TH</sup> P.M., )  
AND ESTABLISHING 1,280-ACRE DRILLING AND )  
SPACING UNITS FOR SAID SECTIONS 15 & 22, )  
FOR HORIZONTAL WELL DEVELOPMENT OF THE )  
CODELL AND NIOBRARA FORMATIONS, )  
WATTENBERG FIELD, WELD COUNTY, )  
COLORADO )

AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING

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

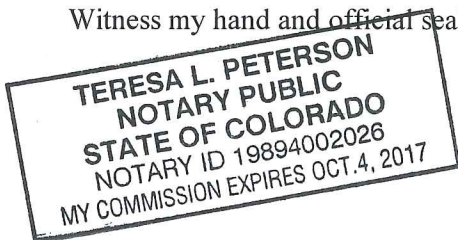
Robert A. Willis, of lawful age, and being first duly sworn upon his oath, states and declares:


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.



  
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Notary Public