

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE PROMULGATION AND) CAUSE NO. 407
ESTABLISHMENT OF FIELD RULES TO GOVERN)
OPERATIONS IN THE WATTENBERG FIELD,) DOCKET NO. 1204-UP-109
WELD COUNTY, COLORADO)

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES AND TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

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 of the Cretaceous Age Formations from the base of the Dakota Formation to the surface. Pursuant to Rule 318A.k., Rule 318A. supersedes all prior Commission drilling and spacing orders affecting well location and density requirements of Greater Wattenberg Area wells. Rule 318A.d. provides that an operator may allocate production to any drilling and spacing unit with respect to a particular Cretaceous Age Formation consistent with the provisions of Rule 318A. Section 22, Township 3 North, Range 63 West, 6th P.M. is subject to Rule 318A., for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation.

On June 27, 2011, the Commission entered Order No. 407-560 (Originally, Order No. 535-44), which among other things, established nine approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing units, and approved one horizontal well within each unit, for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation, with the treated interval of the wellbore to be no closer than 460 feet from the unit boundaries without exception being granted by the Director. Section 22, Township 3 North, Range 63 West, 6th P.M. is subject to this Order for the Niobrara Formation.

On December 12, 2011, the Commission entered Order No. 407-528, which among other things, established 51 approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing units, and approved two horizontal wells within each unit, for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation, with the treated interval of the wellbore to be no closer than 460 feet from the unit boundaries without exception being granted by the Director. Section 22, Township 3 North, Range 63 West, 6th P.M. is subject to this Order for the Niobrara Formation.

On February 16, 2012, Marathon Oil Company ("Marathon" or "Applicant"), by its attorneys, filed with the Commission pursuant to § 34-60-116 C.R.S., a verified application ("Application") for an order to pool all nonconsenting interests in an approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing unit for the below-described lands ("Application Lands"), for the development and operation of the Niobrara Formation, effective as of the earlier of the date of the Application, or the date that any of the costs specified in C.R.S. § 34-60-116(7)(b)(II) were first incurred for the drilling of the well, and to subject any nonconsenting interests to the cost recovery provisions of C.R.S. § 34-60-116(7):

Township 3 North, Range 63 West, 6th P.M.
Section 22: All

Applicant further requested applicant be able to drill its horizontal well or wells to the Niobrara Formation such that they penetrate, and produce from, mineral interests exclusively owned by nonconsenting parties within the Application Lands.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to: 1) the general jurisdiction granted to the Oil and Gas Conservation Commission of the State of Colorado (Commission) under § 34-60-105 C.R.S.; 2) specific powers granted pursuant to § 34-60-106 C.R.S.; 3) the Colorado Administrative Procedures Act at § 24-4-105 C.R.S.; and 4) the Commission's Series 500 Rules at 2CCR 404-1, that the Commission has scheduled the above-entitled matter for hearing on:

Date: Monday, April 16, 2012
Tuesday, April 17, 2012
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Place: COGCC Offices
1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 801

Denver, Colorado 80203

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if any party requires special accommodations as a result of a disability for this hearing, please contact Margaret Humecki at (303) 894-2100 ext. 5139, prior to the hearing and arrangements will be made.

Pursuant to said hearing in the above-entitled matter at the time and place aforesaid, or at any adjourned meeting, the Commission will enter such orders as it deems appropriate to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public and to prevent the waste of oil and gas, either or both, in the operations of said field, and to carry out the purposes of the statute.

In accordance with Rule 509., any interested party desiring to protest the granting of the application or to intervene on the application should file with the Commission a written protest or intervention no later than April 2, 2012, briefly stating the basis of the protest or intervention. Such interested party shall, at the same time, serve a copy of the protest or intervention to the person filing the application. An original and 13 copies shall be filed with the Commission. **Anyone who files a protest or intervention must be able to participate in a prehearing conference during the week of April 2, 2012.** Pursuant to Rule 503.g., if a party who has received notice under Rule 503.b. wishes to receive further pleadings in the above-referenced matter, that party must file a protest or intervention in accordance with these rules. In accordance with the practices of the Commission, should no protests or interventions be filed in this matter by **April 2, 2012, the Applicant may request that an administrative hearing be scheduled beginning April 2, 2012.** In the alternative, pursuant to Rule 511., if the matter is uncontested, the applicant may request, and the Director may recommend approval on the basis of the merits of the verified application and the supporting exhibits.

IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

By 
Peter J. Gowen, Acting Secretary

Dated at Suite 801
1120 Lincoln Street
Denver, Colorado 80203
March 9, 2012

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