

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF	)	
WHITING OIL AND GAS CORPORATION FOR	)	
AN ORDER VACATING ORDER NO. 535-417	)	
AS IT APPLIES TO SECTION 9, TOWNSHIP 10	)	Cause No. 535
NORTH, RANGE 59 WEST, 6TH P.M. ONLY,	)	
AND ESTABLISHING A 960-ACRE DRILLING	).	Docket No. 151000563
AND SPACING UNIT APPLICABLE TO THE	)	
DRILLING AND PRODUCING OF WELLS FROM	)	Type: SPACING AND
THE NIOBRARA AND CODELL FORMATIONS	)	INCREASED DENSITY
COVERING CERTAIN LANDS IN TOWNSHIP 10	)	
NORTH, RANGE 59 WEST, 6TH P.M., WELD	)	
COUNTY, COLORADO.	)	
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## **APPLICATION**

Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation ("Applicant"), Operator No. 96155 by and through its attorneys, Welborn Sullivan Meck & Tooley, P.C., respectfully submits this Application to the Oil and Gas Conservation Commission of the State of Colorado ("Commission") for an order vacating Order No. 535-417 as it applies to Section 9, Township 10 North, Range 59 West, 6th P.M. only, and establishing a 960-acre drilling and spacing unit covering all of Section 9 and the N½ of Section 16, Township 10 North, Range 59 West, 6th P.M., and approving additional wells and modified well setbacks in the new 960-acre and existing drilling and spacing unit described in this Application, applicable to the drilling of wells and producing of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara and Codell Formations covering certain lands in Weld County, Colorado. In support of its Application, Applicant states as follows:

1. Applicant owns leasehold interests in the following lands ("Application Lands"):

Township 10 North, Range 59 West, 6th P.M.

Section 9: All Section 16: N½

A reference map of the Application Lands is attached hereto.

2. Rule 318.a. provides that a well drilled in excess of 2,500 feet in depth shall be located not less than 600 feet from any lease line, and shall be located not less than 1,200 feet from any other producible or drilling oil or gas well when drilling to the same source of supply, unless authorized by order of the Commission upon hearing. There are no other specific Commission Orders applicable to the Codell Formation underlying the Application Lands.

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- 3. By Order No. 535-417 dated September 16, 2013, the Commission approved an application establishing four (4) approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing units and allowing up to sixteen (16) horizontal wells within each unit for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation. The order further allows for the initial perforation and the bottomhole location to be no closer than 100 feet from a unit boundary unless such boundary abuts or corners lands for which the Commission has not at the time of the drilling permit application granted the right to locate the treated interval of the wellbore no closer than 100 feet from a unit boundary, and no closer than 200 feet from the treated interval of any other wellbore located in the unit, without exception being granted by the Director. All of Section 9, Township 10 North, Range 59 West, 6th P.M. is subject to this Order.
- 4. The Niobrara Formation in the area of the Application Lands is defined as the stratigraphic equivalent of the interval between 5,777 feet (top of the Niobrara) and 6,101 feet (base of the Niobrara) as found in the Walker #3 Well located in Section 31, Township 10 North, Range 58 West, 6th P.M., Weld County, Colorado. The Niobrara Formation is a common source of supply under the Application Lands.
- 5. The Codell Formation in the area of the Application Lands is defined as the stratigraphic equivalent of the interval between 6,101 feet (top of Codell) and 6,115 feet (base of Codell) as found in the Walker #3 Well located in Section 31, Township 10 North, Range 58 West, 6th P.M., Weld County, Colorado. The Codell Formation is a common source of supply under the Application Lands.
- 6. Applicant has drilled, tested and completed wells in the Niobrara and Codell Formations on the Application Lands and on lands in close proximity to the Application Lands.
- 7. To the best of Applicant's knowledge, as of the date of this Application, no applications for permits to drill have been filed with the Commission covering lands subject to Order No. 535-417.
- 8. To promote efficient drainage of the Niobrara and Codell Formations within the Application Lands and to avoid waste, the Commission should (1) vacate Order No. 535-417 as it applies to Section 9, Township 10 North, Range 59 West, 6th P.M. only, (2) establish a 960-acre drilling and spacing unit covering all of Section 9 and the N½ of Section 16, Township 10 North, Range 59 West, 6th P.M., and (3) allow an appropriate number of wells, not to exceed 32 wells, in the new 960-acre drilling and spacing unit covering the Application Lands in order to efficiently and economically recover oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara and Codell Formations.
- 9. Applicant requests the surface location for each proposed horizontal well be located at a legal location in the above-described drilling and spacing unit or on adjacent lands, but from no more than four (4) drilling pads. Applicant further requests that the distance between treated intervals of each wellbore be no closer than 100 feet from the treated interval of any other wellbore producing from the Niobrara and/or Codell Formations, and no closer than 100 feet from a unit boundary unless such boundary abuts or corners lands for which the Commission has not at the time of the drilling permit application granted the right to locate the treated interval of the wellbore no closer than 100 feet from a unit boundary. If the Commission has not at the time of the

drilling permit application granted to owners of adjacent or cornering lands the right to locate the treated interval of the wellbore no closer than 100 feet from a unit boundary, then the treated interval of the wellbore shall be located no closer than 300 feet, or the distance permitted in the adjacent or cornering lands, whichever is less, without exception being granted by the Director.

- 10. Applicant requests authority to drill only those wells necessary to determine the well density which allows the most efficient drainage of the Niobrara and Codell Formations, prevents waste, does not adversely affect correlative rights, and assures the greatest ultimate recovery of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbon substances from the Niobrara and Codell Formations. Applicant further maintains that a well drilled in the above-proposed drilling and spacing unit will have no adverse effect on correlative rights of adjacent owners.
- The names and addresses of the interested parties according to the information and belief of the Applicant are set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof, and the undersigned certifies that copies of this Application shall be served on each interested party within seven days after filing of the original application as required by Rules 503.e. 507.b.1, and 507.b.5.

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 consistent with Applicant's proposals as set forth above.

Dated this 21 day of August, 2015.

Respectfully submitted.

WELBORN SULLIVAN MECK & TOOLEY, P.C.

Chelsey J. Russell

Joseph C. Pierzchala

Welborn Sullivan Meck & Tooley, P.C.

Attorneys for Applicant

1125 - 17th Street, Suite 2200

Denver, CO 80202

303-830-2500

# Applicant's Address:

Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation 1700 Broadway, Suite 2300 Denver, CO 80290-2300

Attn: Scott McDaniel, Regional Land Manager

Phone: 303-390-4261

# <u>VERIFICATION</u>

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

Scott McDaniel, Regional Landman with Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation, upon oath deposes and says that he has read the foregoing Application and that the statements contained therein are true to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

WHITING OIL AND GAS CORPORATION

Scott McDaniel, Regional Landman

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24 day of August, 2015 by Scott McDaniel, Regional Landman for Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation.

Witness my hand and official seal.

MICHELLE MURPHY
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF COLORADO
NOTARY ID # 20154023719
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES JUNE 16, 2019

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

#### **EXHIBIT A**

#### INTERESTED PARTIES

John A. Ehmke John A. Ehmke Ranch P.O. Box 58519 CR 107 Grover, CO. 80729

Hillman Land & Livestock 61331 Highway 71 Stoneham, CO. 80754

Nancy L. White P.O. Box 328 Lliff, CO. 80736

Naomi K. McEndaffer 61331 Highway 71 Stoneham, CO. 80754

Nelson Ranches, Inc. 58900 WCR 382 Grover, CO. 80729

Danny Paul Hart & Joann Mary Hart 33049 Pikes Peak Drive Greely, CO. 80634

Gary Buhler 474 Centennial Circle Sterling, CO 80751

Tyrone Thompson Drawer 5150 Avon, 81620

Carizzo (Niobrara) LLC 500 Dallas Street Suite 2300 Houston, TX 77002 IOCL (USA) Inc. 333 Clay St. Suite 3300 Houston, TX 77002

Oil India (USA) Inc. 333 Clay St. Suite 3300 Houston, TX 77002

Terry J. Cammon 10455 W 73 rd. Place Arvada, CO 80005

Foundation Energy Fund III-A, Ł.P. 16000 Dallas Parkway Suite 875 Dallas, TX 75248

Foundation Energy Fund III-B Holding, L.L.C. 16000 Dallas Parkway Suite 875 Dallas, TX 75248

Haimo Oil & Gas, LLC 2901 Wilcrest Drive, Suite 285 Houston, TX 77042

Foundation Energy Fund IV-A, L.P. 16000 Dallas Parkway Suite 875 Dallas, TX 75248

Foundation Energy Fund IV-B Holding, L.L.C. 16000 Dallas Parkway Suite 875 Dallas, TX 75248 Ray Schramm 3318 S. Dayton Ct. Denver, CO 80231

Mile Hi Oil & Gas, Inc. P.O. Box 621609 Littleton, CO 80612

Palace Energy Company 5 East 59th Street, 5th Floor New York, NY 10022

Western Operating Company 518 17th St, Suite 200 Denver, CO 80202

McGahey Oil, LLC 5305 W Jewell Ave Lakewood, CO 80232

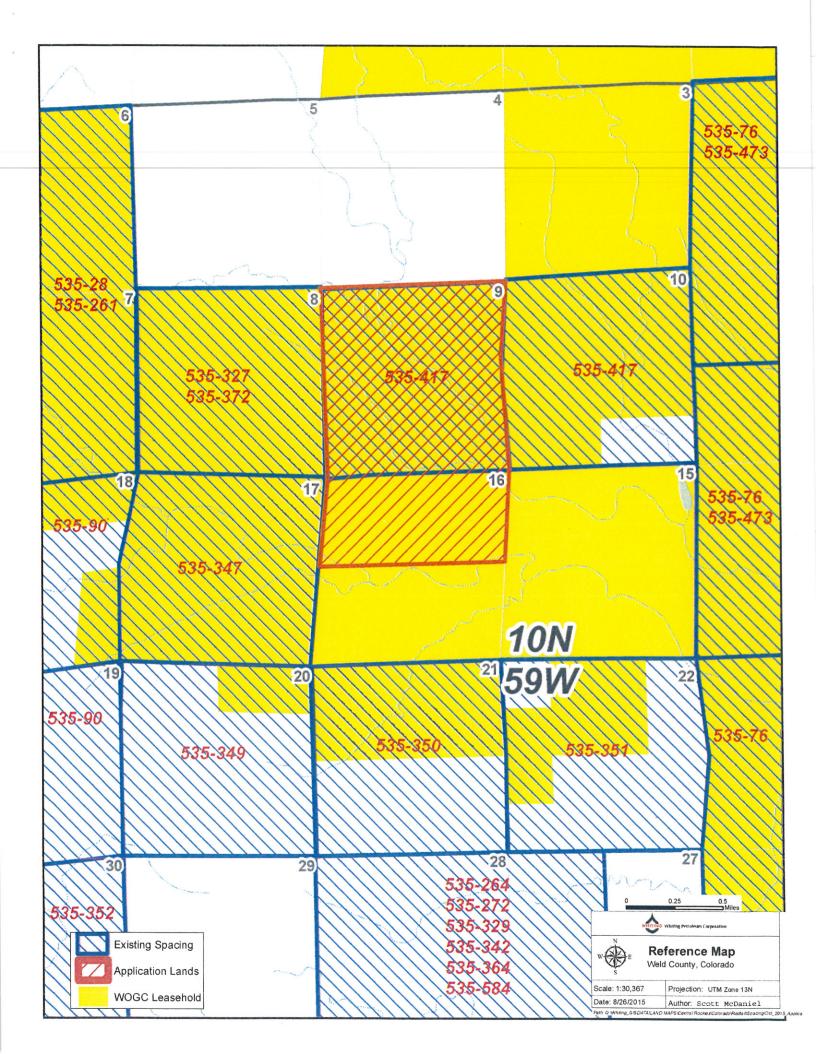
Tom Schreiner, Energy Liaison Colorado Parks and Wildlife 6060 Broadway Denver, CO 80216

Kent Kuster
Oil & Gas Consultant Coordinator
Colorado Department of Public Health and
Environment
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, CO 80246-1500

Patrick Gallagher Bureau of Land Management 2850 Youngfield St. Lakewood, CO 80215

Timothy Kelly State Board of Land Commissioners 1127 Sherman Street, Suite 300 Denver, CO 80203

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COUNTY, COLORADO.	)	

## AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING

STATE OF COLORADO 888 CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

I, Chelsey J. Russell, of lawful age, and being first duly sworn upon my oath, state and declare:

That I am the attorney for Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation and that on or before 28 August 2015, I caused a copy of the attached Application to be deposited in the United States mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the parties listed on Exhibit A to the Application.

Chelsey J. Russell

Subscribed and sworn to before me August 3%, 2015.

Witness my hand and official seal.

MELISSA A. MORMAN **NOTARY PUBLIC** STATE OF COLORADO NOTARY ID 19894012434 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES AUGUST 29, 2017

Mussa A. Morman

Notary Public
My commission expires: 8/29/2017