

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 FOR THE CODELL AND NIOBRARA) DOCKET NO. 17300116
FORMATIONS, WATTENBERG FIELD, WELD)
COUNTY, COLORADO) TYPE: SPACING
)

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES AND TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

APPLICATION LANDS

Township 5 North, Range 66 West, 6th P.M.
Section 31: All
Section 32: All
Section 33: All
Section 34: All

APPLICATION

On or before January 19, 2017, Noble Energy, Inc. (Operator No. 100322) ("Noble" or "Applicant"), filed a verified application pursuant to §34-60-116, C.R.S. for an order:

1) Establishing an approximate 2,560-acre drilling and spacing unit for Sections 31, 32, 33 and 34, Township 5 North, Range 66 West, 6th P.M., and approve up to 26 new horizontal wells in the unit in order to efficiently and economically develop and recover the Codell and Niobrara Formations in the unit.

2) Providing that the treated interval of any horizontal well shall be no closer than 460 feet from the unit boundaries, and not less than 150 feet from the treated interval of another well within the unit, and authorizing up to four well pads within the unit, or adjacent thereto, unless an exception is granted by the Director.

3) Finding that the approximate 2,560-acre drilling and spacing unit for the development of oil, gas, and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell and Niobrara Formations underlying the Application Lands will prevent waste, protect correlative rights, and maximize the efficient and economic production of the Codell and Niobrara Formations in Sections 31, 32, 33 and 34, Township 5 North, Range 66 West, 6th P.M.

4) For such other findings and orders as the Commission may deem proper or advisable in this matter.

APPLICABLE ORDERS AND RULES

(available online at: <http://cogcc.state.co.us>, under "Regulation," then select "Orders" or "Rules")

- On February 19, 1992, the Commission entered Order No. 407-87 (amended August 20, 1993) which, among other things, established 80-acre drilling and spacing units for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Codell and Niobrara Formations, with permitted well locations in accordance with the provisions of Order No. 407-1.
- 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. On December 5, 2005, Rule 318A was amended to allow interior infill and boundary wells to be drilled and wellbore spacing units to be established. On August 8, 2011, Rule 318A was amended to, among other things, address drilling of horizontal wells but did not prohibit the establishment of drilling and spacing units within the Greater Wattenberg Area. The lands encompassing the Application Lands are subject to Rule 318A for wells drilled and producing in the Codell and Niobrara Formations and are also subject to 460' subsurface setback.
- On June 1, 2010 the Commission entered Order No. 407-371, which, among other things, pooled all nonconsenting interests in a designated 160-acre wellbore spacing unit consisting of the W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 33, Township 5 North, Range 66 West, 6th P.M., for the development and operation of the Codell, Niobrara, and "J" Sand Formations, pursuant to the provisions of §34-60-116, C.R.S., as amended, of the Oil and Gas Conservation Act.
- On June 1, 2010 the Commission entered Order No. 407-372, which, among other things, pooled all nonconsenting interests in a designated 160-acre wellbore spacing unit consisting of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 33, Township 5 North, Range 66 West, 6th P.M., for the development and operation of the Codell and Niobrara Formations, pursuant to the provisions of §34-60-116, C.R.S., as amended, of the Oil and Gas Conservation Act.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to §§ 34-60-101 to -130, C.R.S., and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 2 CCR 404-1, that the Commission has scheduled this matter for hearing on:

Date: March 20-21, 2017

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: The Larimer County Conference Center at The Ranch
First National Bank Building
5280 Arena Circle
Loveland, CO 80538

Additional information about the hearing on this Application will be in the Commission's Agenda, which is posted on the Commission website approximately 3 days before the hearing.

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.

At hearing, the Commission will consider the Application and enter an order pursuant to its authority under the statute. **Any interested party desiring to protest or intervene should file with the Commission a written protest or intervention in accordance with Rule 509, no later than March 6, 2017.** Such interested party shall, at the same time, serve a copy of the protest or intervention to the person filing the application. One electronic (cogcc.hearings_unit@state.co.us), one original and two 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 March 6, 2017.** Pursuant to Rule 511, if the matter is uncontested, it may be approved without a hearing.

OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

By *Peter A. Gowen*
for Julie Murphy, Secretary

Dated: February 8, 2017

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