

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF BONANZA	)	
CREEK ENERGY OPERATING CO., LLC, FOR AN ORDER	)	CAUSE NO. 407
POOLING ALL INTERESTS WITHIN AN APPROXIMATE	)	
320-ACRE RULE 318A. HORIZONTAL WELLBORE	)	DOCKET NO. <i>To be assigned</i>
SPACING UNIT ESTABLISHED FOR E½ E½ OF SECTION	)	
22 AND W½ W½ OF SECTION 23, TOWNSHIP 5 NORTH,	)	TYPE: Pooling
RANGE 63 WEST, 6 <sup>TH</sup> P.M., FOR DEVELOPMENT AND	)	
OPERATION OF THE NIOBRARA FORMATION, AND	)	
AUTHORIZING COST RECOVERY AND RISK	)	
PENALTIES FROM CERTAIN NONCONSENTING	)	
OWNERS FOR THE NORTH PLATTE E-A-23HNC WELL	)	
TO BE DRILLED WITHIN THE UNIT, WATTENBERG	)	
FIELD, WELD COUNTY, COLORADO	)	

**APPLICATION**

Bonanza Creek Energy Operating Co., LLC (“Bonanza Creek” or “Applicant”), Operator #8960, by and through its below-signed attorneys, The Shanor Group LLC, respectfully submits this application to the Oil and Gas Conservation Commission of the State of Colorado (“Commission” or “COGCC”) for an order pooling all interests within an approximate 320-acre Rule 318A. horizontal wellbore spacing unit established for the E½ E½ of Section 22 and W½ W½ of Section 23, Township 5 North, Range 63 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., for development and operation of the Niobrara Formation, and authorizing cost recovery and statutory risk penalties from certain nonconsenting owners for the North Platte E-A-23HNC well to be constructed within said unit. In support of this Application (“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 COGCC.
2. Applicant owns substantial leasehold interests in the below-listed lands (“Application Lands”):

Township 5 North, Range 63 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.  
Section 22: E½ E½  
Section 23: W½ W½

An Application Map depicting the Application Lands is attached hereto and marked Exhibit A.

3. On April 27, 1988, 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 Rule 318A. for the Niobrara Formation.

4. Acting pursuant to notice requirements found in Rule 318A.e.(5), Bonanza Creek established an approximate 320-acre horizontal wellbore spacing unit (defined by Rule 318A.a.(4)D.) for the Application Lands, for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation. Following the establishment of the unit, Cub Creek submitted an Application for Permit-to-Drill (one horizontal well per unit), which was subsequently approved by the Director and described in the table below:

<i>Well Name / Number</i>	<i>API Number</i>	<i>Target Formation</i>
North Platte E-A-23HNC	05-123-44435	Niobrara

5. Acting pursuant to relevant provisions of §34-60-116(6), C.R.S., Applicant seeks an order pooling all interests in the approximate 320-acre Rule 318A. horizontal wellbore spacing unit established for the Application Lands, for the development and operation of the Niobrara Formation.

6. Rule 530. provides that an application for involuntary pooling may be filed at any time prior or after the drilling of a well, with any pooling order retroactive to the date the application is filed with the Commission unless the payor agrees otherwise. Bonanza Creek will provide Rule 530. well proposal materials to putative nonconsenting owners within the approximate 320-acre horizontal wellbore spacing unit established for the Application Lands, thereby allowing those owners at least 35 days to make an election as to their participation in the drilling of the North Platte E-A-23HNC well, or leasing their interests, if unleased.

7. Acting pursuant to §34-60-116(6) & (7), C.R.S., and Rule 530., Applicant hereby seeks an order authorizing cost recovery and statutory risk penalties associated with the drilling, completion and operation of the North Platte E-A-23HNC well, from interests belonging to those nonconsenting owners, for the development and operation of the Niobrara Formation.

8. 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 COGCC rules.

9. Applicant requests that relief granted as result of this Application should be effective on oral order by the Commission, and Applicant hereby agrees to be bound by the oral order of the Commission.

10. That the names and addresses of interested parties (those persons who own any interest in the mineral estate of the tracts to be pooled, except owners of overriding royalty interest) according to the information and belief of the Applicant will be set forth in Exhibit B and submitted with a certificate of service for the Application within seven days as required by Rule 503.e.

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

A. Pooling all interests in the approximate 320-acre horizontal wellbore spacing unit established for the Application Lands, for development and operation of the Niobrara Formation, with the pooling order effective as of the date of the Application.

B. Providing that the interests of any owners, with whom the Applicant has been unable to secure a lease or other agreement to participate in the drilling of the North Platte E-A-23HNC well, for production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation, having been pooled by operation of statute, pursuant to §34-60-116(6) & (7), C.R.S., are made subject to cost recovery and risk penalties provided therein.

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

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DATED this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

BONANZA CREEK ENERGY OPERATING CO., LLC

By: *Robert A. Willis*  
Robert A. Willis (Colorado Bar #26308)  
The Shanor Group LLC  
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Denver, CO 80202  
(303) 995-5120

Applicant's Address:  
Bonanza Creek Energy Operating Co., LLC  
410 Seventeenth St., Suite 1400  
Denver, CO 80202

VERIFICATION

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

Braggston Morris, Landman for Bonanza Creek Energy Operating Co., LLC, 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.

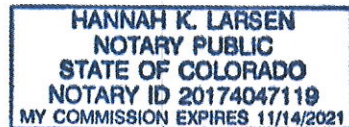
BONANZA CREEK ENERGY OPERATING CO., LLC

*Braggston Morris*  
Braggston Morris

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2018, by Braggston Morris, Landman for Bonanza Creek Energy Operating Co., LLC.

Witness my hand and official seal.

My commission expires: 11/14/2021



*Hannah K. Larsen*  
Notary Public



**Application  
Lands**

Township 5 North, Range 63 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.

Exhibit A  
Application Map

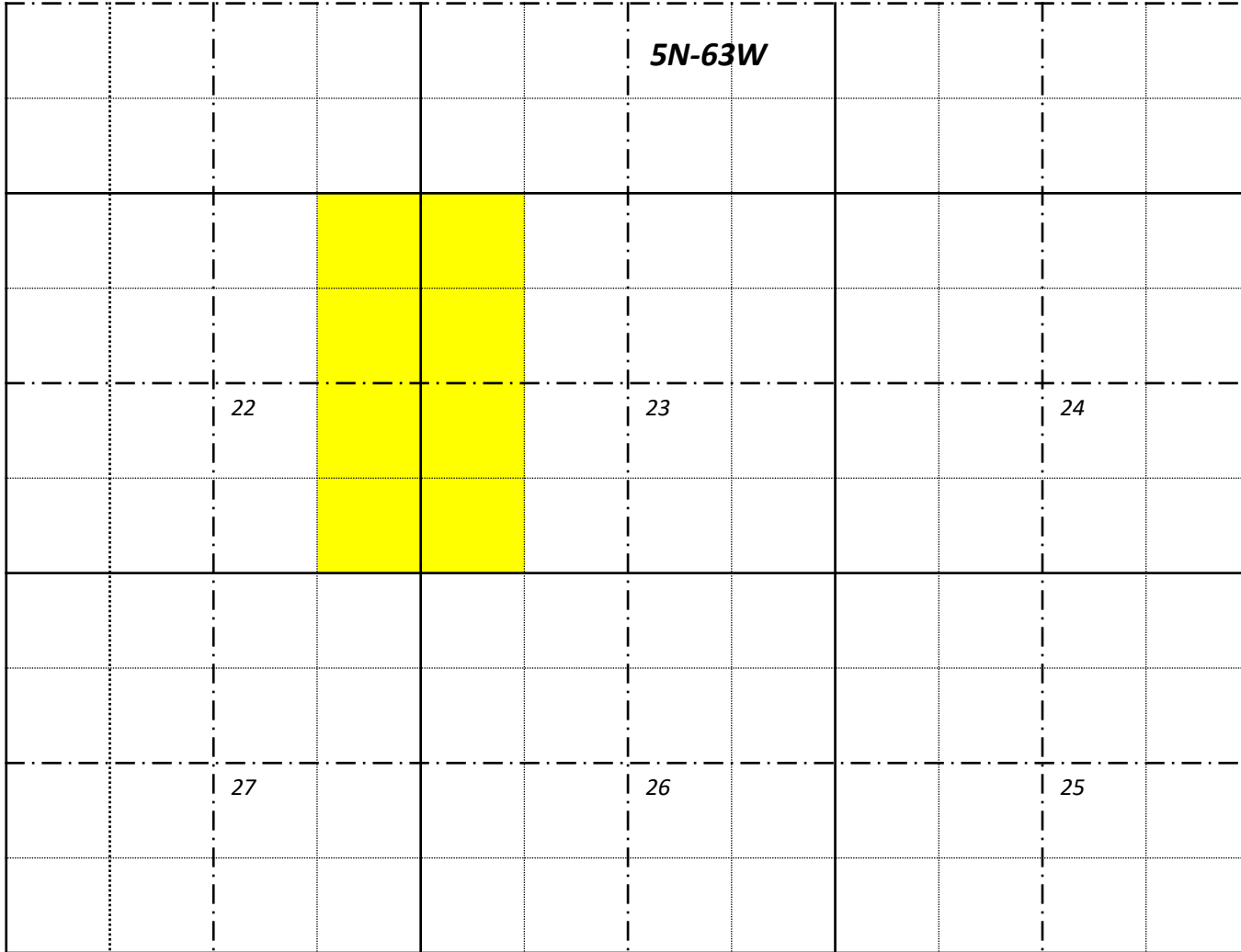


EXHIBIT B

INTERESTED PARTIES

Robert Willis, Esq.  
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