

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE PROMULGATION AND  
ESTABLISHMENT OF FIELD RULES TO GOVERN  
OPERATIONS FOR THE NIOBRARA FORMATION,  
UNNAMED FIELD, ADAMS COUNTY, COLORADO

CAUSE NO. 535  
DOCKET NO. 171000710  
TYPE: POOLING

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES AND TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

APPLICATION LANDS

Township 3 South, Range 64 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.  
Section 31: All

Township 3 South, Range 65 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.  
Section 36: All

APPLICATION

On August 31, 2017, amended September 18, 2017, ConocoPhillips Company (Operator No. 19160) and its wholly owned subsidiary Burlington Resources Oil & Gas Company LP (Operator No. 26580) (together, "Applicant" or "COPC"), filed a verified application pursuant to §34-60-116, C.R.S., for an order to:

1. Pool all interests in the Application Lands underlying an approximate 1,280-acre drilling and spacing unit established for the Application Lands, for the development and operation of the Niobrara Formation; and
2. Subject any non-consenting interests to the cost recovery provisions of §34-60-116(7), C.R.S., effective as of the earlier of the date of the Application, or the date that any of the costs specified in §34-60-116(7)(b), C.R.S., are first incurred for the drilling of Big Sandy 3-65 36-31 2CH Well (API No. 05-001-10073), the Big Sandy 3-65 36-31 1DH Well (API No. Pending), the Big Sandy 3-65 36-31 2BH Well (API No. Pending), and the Big Sandy 3-65 36-31 2AH Well (API No. Pending) ("Wells")
3. 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 December 12, 2011, the Commission entered Order No., 535-101, which granted a well location exception to the requirements of Commission Rule 318.a. for certain lands in Section 19 and 31, Township 3 South, Range 64 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., and Section 19, Township

3 South, Range 65 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., for the development and production of the oil, gas and related hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation, providing that the surface location for each horizontal well drilled within a given section of said lands may be located anywhere within the section or on adjoining lands with appropriate surface owner approval, the lateral of a given horizontal well may enter the Niobrara Formation no closer than 300 feet from the section line, the treated interval within the Niobrara Formation may be located not closer than 460 feet from the section line, and the distance between the treated interval of Niobrara wells within the Application Lands shall not be less than 920 feet.

- On September 15, 2014, the Commission entered Order No. 535-531, which vacated a well location exception established by Order No. 535-101 for Section 31, Township 3 South, Range 64 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., and established a 1,280-acre exploratory drilling and spacing unit for Sections 31 and 32, Township 3 South, Range 64 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., and approving a total of up to two horizontal wells within the unit for production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation, providing that the productive interval of the wellbore shall be located no closer than 460 feet from the unit boundaries, and no closer than 960 feet from the productive interval of any other wellbore located in the unit, without exception being granted by the Director.
- On September 14, 2015, the Commission entered Order No. 535-702, which established an approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing unit for Section 36, Township 3 South, Range 65 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., and approved a total of up to two horizontal wells within the unit, for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation, providing that the productive interval of the wellbore will be located no closer than 460 feet from the unit boundaries, and no closer than 150 feet from the productive interval of any other wellbore located in the unit, unless an exception is granted by the Director, and that ConocoPhillips shall submit a Communitization Agreement to the BLM for any existing wells within 60 days of the entry of the Order, and that ConocoPhillips shall submit a Communitization Agreement to the BLM at least 90 days before the anticipated date of first production (as defined in the Commission's Rules) from the initial well drilled within the drilling and spacing unit.
- On March 20, 2017, the Commission entered Order No. 535-769 which, among other things, 1) vacated an approximate 1280-acre exploratory drilling and spacing unit established by Order No. 535-531 for Sections 31 and 32, Township 3 South, Range 64 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., for the production of oil, gas, and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation; 2) vacated an approximate 640-acre drilling and spacing unit established by Order No. 535-702 for Section 36, Township 3 South, Range 65 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., for the production of oil, gas, and associated hydrocarbons from the Niobrara Formation; and 3) established an approximate 1280-acre drilling and spacing unit for Section 36, Township 3 South, Range 65 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., and Section 31, Township 3 South, Range 64 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., and approve one horizontal well in the unit for the production of oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from of the Niobrara Formation.
- On August 3, 2017, Applicant filed a verified application in Docket No. 171000648 pursuant to §34-60-116, C.R.S. for an order 1) authorizing an additional three horizontal wells, for a total of four horizontal wells in an established approximate 1,280-acre drilling and spacing unit for Section 36, Township 3 South, Range 65 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., and Section 31, Township 3 South, Range 64 West, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., in order to efficiently and economically

develop and recover the oil, gas and associated hydrocarbons from of the Niobrara Formation in the unit; 2) providing that the treated interval any horizontal well shall be no closer than 460 feet from the boundaries of the unit and not less than 150 feet from the treated interval of another well within the unit, and authorizing up to two well pads in the unit, or adjacent thereto, unless an exception is granted by the Director; 3) finding that the authorization of up to four horizontal wells in an approximate 1,280-acre drilling and spacing unit for the development of the Niobrara Formation on the Application Lands will prevent waste, protect correlative rights, and maximize the efficient and economic production of the Niobrara Formation in the Application Lands; and 4) for such other findings and orders as the Commission may deem proper or advisable in this matter. COPC's Application in Docket No. 171000648 is scheduled to be heard at the Commission's October 2017 hearing.

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: October 30-31, 2017  
Time: 9:00 a.m.  
Place: The Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission  
The Chancery Building  
1120 Lincoln St. Suite 801  
Denver, CO 80203

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 October 16, 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 October 16, 2017, if a prehearing conference is requested by the Applicant, or any person who has filed a protest or intervention.** 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   
Julia Spence Prine, Secretary

Dated: September 18, 2017

Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission  
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