

STATE OF COLORADO

Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Thomas E. Remington, Director
6060 Broadway
Denver, Colorado 80216
Telephone: (303) 297-1192
wildlife.state.co.us



*For Wildlife-
For People*

NW Region Service Center
711 Independent Ave.
Grand Junction, CO 81505

July 23, 2009

Noble Energy Inc.
Attn: Ms. Kate Shirley
1625 Broadway, Suite 2200
Denver, CO 80202

RE: Noble Energy Inc. 18-43A (17LPad)

Dear Ms. Kate Shirley;

The Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) has reviewed the permit application for the above-referenced Oil and Gas Facility located within NW quarter of the SW quarter of Section 17, Township 7 South, Range 94 West, Garfield County. Based on the presence of elk winter concentration area CDOW has prepared a list of operating standards and conditions of approval (COAs) specific to the subject location (see Attachment). CDOW recommends that these provisions be incorporated into your permit as COAs to minimize impacts to wildlife resources.

If you have questions about the operating standards and COAs that we have provided, please contact our Energy Liaison to discuss alternative measures and Best Management Practices that could be implemented at the location. Otherwise, please return a signed copy of the Attachment to our office by July 28, 2009. If we have not heard back from you by this date, we will forward the Attachment to the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) for incorporation into your permit.

Note that COGCC's regulations require surface owner consent for some operating standards and some permit-specific wildlife COAs. If you have questions, please contact Land Use Specialist, Michael Warren at 970-255-6180. We look forward to working with you for the benefit of wildlife.

Sincerely,

JT Romatzke
Area Wildlife Manager

cc: Dean Riggs, Assistant Regional Manager
Kim Kaal, Energy Liaison
Dan Skinner, District Wildlife Manager

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, Harris D. Sherman, Executive Director
WILDLIFE COMMISSION, Brad Coors, Chair • Tim Glenn, Vice Chair • Dennis Buechler, Secretary
Members, Jeffrey Crawford • Dorothea Farris • Roy McAnally • John Singletary • Mark Smith • Robert Streeter
Ex Officio Members, Harris Sherman and John Stulp

JT Romatzke, Area Wildlife Manager
John Broderick, Sr. Terrestrial Biologist
Steph Duckett, Terrestrial Biologist
Dennis Ahlstrand – COGCC; *via e-mail* dennis.ahlstrand@state.co.us

On Friday, July 17, 2009 Noble Energy Inc returned a phone call regarding Hyrup 2-34B and 18-43A (17LPad) permits and timing stipulations. Noble indicated that they would be disinclined to accept the conditions of approval and would prefer to move forward through the COGCC process as described in the Rules.

Conditions of Approval Noble Energy Inc. 18-43A (17LPad)

Elk Winter Concentration Area

- Where oil and gas activities must occur in mule deer critical winter range or elk winter concentration areas, conduct these activities outside the time period from December 1 through April 15.
- Restrict post-development well site visitations to between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. and reduce well site visitations between December 1 and April 15 in mule deer and elk winter range.
- Establish company guidelines to minimize wildlife mortality from vehicle collisions on roads.
- Gate single-purpose roads and restrict general public access to reduce traffic disruptions to wildlife.
- Close and immediately reclaim all roads that are redundant, not used regularly, or have been abandoned to the maximum extent possible to minimize disturbance and habitat fragmentation.
- Avoid aggressive non-native grasses and shrubs in mule deer and elk habitat restoration.
- Reclaim mule deer and elk habitats with native shrubs, grasses, and forbs appropriate to the ecological site disturbed.
- Restore appropriate sagebrush species or subspecies on disturbed sagebrush sites. Use locally collected seed for reseeded where possible.

Kate Shirley for
Noble Energy Inc.
1625 Broadway, Suite 2200
Denver, CO 80202

Joan Savage
5953 CR 320
Rifle CO, 81650