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November 30, 2009

Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission  
The Chancery Building  
1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 801  
Denver, CO 80203

Attn: Mr. David Neslin, Director

RE: **Request to the Director for 502.b variance to rule 603.a (1).**  
NELSON USX WW09-24D  
Township 1 North, Range 66 West, 6th P.M.  
Section 9: SWSE: 476' FSL & 1819' FEL (Surface Location)  
Weld County, Colorado

Mr. Neslin:

The surface location of Noble Energy Inc's (NEI) proposed well has been staked 145' from an above ground utility line. Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) Rule 603.a(1) states that any well drilled must be at least 150' from a major above ground utility. NEI will utilize a drilling rig with the derrick height of 76'. One and one half times that height equals 114', therefore NEI feels the potential damage to the utility line has been mitigated.

Noble respectfully requests that the COGCC consider the rig height information and approve the statewide setback variance and Application for Permit to Drill the captioned well.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Mari Clark'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Mari Clark  
Regulatory Analyst II  
Noble Energy Inc.