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December 28, 2009

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

Attn: Mr. David Neslin, Acting Director

RE: **Request to the Director for 502.b variance to rule 603.a (1).**
Wakefield Trust 41-12B
Township 2 South, Range 45 West, 6th P.M.
Section 12: NENE: 1250' FNL & 200' FEL (Surface Location)
Yuma County, Colorado

Mr. Neslin:

The surface location of Noble Energy Inc's (NEI) proposed well has been staked 141' from an above ground utility and a public road. Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) Rule 603.a(1) states that any well drilled must be at one hundred fifty (150) feet or one and one-half (1 ½) times the height of the derrick, whichever is greater, from any building unit, public road, major above ground utility line, or railroad.

The height of the derrick in this matter is 75' tall. One and one-half times the height of the derrick is 112.5'. This ensures the safety of the public and all (NEI) employees while drilling. This variance is necessary to comply with surface owners request (Mr. and Mrs. Wakefield) that this well be drilled where it is staked.

Thank you for your attention in this matter. Noble respectfully requests that the COGCC review the enclosed information and approve the requested variance and Application for Permit to Drill the captioned well.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Linda Pavelka'.

Linda J. Pavelka
Noble Energy Inc.
Regulatory Manager