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May 17, 2011

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 318A.a Surface Location Exception (Outside 318A Drilling Window)**  
**Request to the Director for 318A.e. Directional Drilling Exception**  
**Irvine PC E02-18**  
Codell/Niobrara New Drill  
Township 6 North, Range 65 West, 6th P.M.  
Section 2: SW/4NE/4: 1411' FNL & 2507' FEL (Surface Location)  
Weld County, Colorado

Mr. Neslin:

Noble Energy Inc. (NEI) is planning to drill the above mentioned well to the Codell/Niobrara formations.

The surface location of NEI's proposed well has been staked outside of the 318Aa drilling window. This well is planned as a vertical well and does not meet the directional drilling requirement of Rule 318A.e. The location is being permitted as an exception location. NEI has obtained written permission in a waiver from the surface owner.

Thank you for your attention to the enclosed. Noble respectfully requests that the COGCC review the enclosed information and approve the requested exception location waivers and Application for Permit to Drill the captioned well.

Respectfully,

Justin Garrett  
Regulatory Specialist  
Noble Energy Inc.