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September 15, 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 Setback Variance of Rule 603a1**
CHENOWITH C20-25D
Codell/Niobrara New Drill
Township 4 North, Range 64 West, 6th P.M.
Section 20: SE/4SW/4: 151' FSL & 2391' FWL (Surface Location)

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 at a location approximately 139' from County Road 42. A large North to East County Road 49 (Kersey road) is approximately one mile to the west. As prescribed by the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission ("COGCC") Rule 603.a.(1) states: At the time of initial drilling of the well, the wellhead shall be located a distance of 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 reasons Noble would like you to approve our request:

- A. Both County Roads 42 and 49 have large volumes of traffic during the day and night, it would prove to be too large a burden on local traffic to try and close these roads during the drilling phase.
- B. Noble Energy plans to drill with a rig that is 76" tall, which means one and one half times the derrick height would equal 115'. Name of rig is the Ensign 126.
- C. Noble Energy is twining an existing well and the Chenowith C20-25D is 21' west of the Balboa C20-24D which is being currently permitted. This is to minimize surface disturbance at the request of the surface owner.
- D. This is the most efficient use of the surface for the land owner.

Thank you for your attention to the enclosed. Noble respectfully requests that the COGCC review the enclosed information and approve the requested variances and Application for Permit to Drill the captioned wells.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Jan Kajiwara'.

Jan Kajiwara
Regulatory Analyst II