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May 6, 2012

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.m. GWA Minimum Intrawell Distance Exception**  
**THISTLE DOWN PC F36-63HN**  
Niobrara New Drill  
Township 5 North, Range 65 West, 6th P.M.  
Section 36: SE/4NE/4: 2360' FNL & 279' FEL (Surface Location)  
Weld County, Colorado

Mr. Neslin:

Noble Energy Inc. (NEI) is planning to drill the above mentioned well to the Niobrara formation. The lateral path of NEI's proposed horizontal well will be less than the 150' minimum distance from another well(s) as required by Rule 318A.m. (see wells listed below). Noble is the Operator of the encroached upon wells, therefore no waiver is required. Please see Noble's Anti-Collision Mitigation BMP noted below.

STATE EHRLICH 36-32	STATE SCHMIDT 36-35	STATE SCHMIDT 36-8	EHRLICH STATE PC F36-33D
API No. 05-123-19011	API NO. 05-123-26329	API NO. 05-123-13366	API NO. 05-123-32545
NWSW Sec. 36, T5N-R65W	SWSW Sec. 36, T5N-R65W	NESW Sec. 36, T5N-R65W	NWSW Sec. 36, T5N-65W

**Anti-collision:**

Prior to drilling operations, Operator will perform an anti-collision scan of existing offset wells that have the potential of being within close proximity of the proposed well. This anti-collision scan will include definitive MWD or gyro surveys of the offset wells with included error of uncertainty per survey instrument, and compared against the proposed wellpath with its respective error of uncertainty. If current surveys do not exist for the offset wells, Operator may have gyro surveys conducted to verify bottomhole location. The proposed well will only be drilled if the anti-collision scan results indicate that there is not a risk for collision, or harm to people or the environment. For the proposed well, upon conclusion of drilling operations, an as-constructed gyro survey will be submitted to COGCC with the Form 5.

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

Respectfully,

Susan Miller  
Regulatory Analyst III