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October 3, 2012

Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission  
The Chancery Building  
1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 801  
Denver, CO 80203  
Attn: Mr. Matt Lepore, Director

RE: **Request to the Director for 318A.m. GWA Minimum Intrawell Distance Exception**  
**Wells Ranch State USX AA16-68-1HNL**  
Niobrara New Drill  
Township 6 North, Range 63 West, 6th P.M.  
Section 14: NW/4NW/4: 577' FNL & 240' FWL (Surface Location)  
Weld County, Colorado

Dear Director:

Noble Energy Inc. (NEI) is planning to drill the above mentioned well to the Niobrara formation(s).

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 well, therefore no waiver is required. Please see Noble's Anti-Collision Mitigation BMP noted below.

Wells Ranch USX AA15-17  
NENE 15 6N 63W 6PM Weld  
API: 05-123-25046  
Operator: Noble Energy  
120' from directional data lateral

Bashor State AA16-17  
SENE 16 6N 63W 6PM Weld  
API: 05-123-29262  
Operator: Noble Energy  
173' from directional data lateral

Bashor State 16-18  
NENW 16 6N 63W 6PM Weld  
API: 05-123-29272  
Operator: Noble Energy  
75' from directional data lateral

**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,

Justin Garrett  
Regulatory Specialist