

Noble Pad Alternatives Analysis and Siting Rationale

Nickel Road has evaluated the proposed location and potential alternative locations to assess compliance with Federal, state and local regulations and the landowner's preference as documented in the SUA. In conducting the siting analysis, mineral lease obligations, SUA contractual obligations, regulatory setbacks and potential impacts were all taken into consideration. Based on the information provided in this siting rationale, alternative sites to the north, south, east and west aren't feasible for the location. Nickel Road believes that the proposed location is the best option to locate the proposed well pad as it has been located as far as possible from the 2 building units that fall within the Buffer Zone setback.

PROPOSED LOCATION

Surface & Downhole Considerations

Consideration was given to locations available to reach all wellbore laterals from a single well pad rather than multiple pads. The proposed oil and gas location is planned to accommodate 12 horizontal wellbores. Nickel Road has valid existing lease(s) to drill these wells from the proposed location and an agreement has been reached with the landowner. The pad has been sited in an area that allows access to the wellbores and has been designated by the surface owner as having the least amount of surface disturbance impact on the property and to the current land use (dry crop land).

Based on the horizontal wellbore locations in relationship to the location of the well pad, Nickel Road has determined that it is economically and technically feasible using proven existing technologies to reach all wellbore laterals from the proposed pad location.

Health, Safety and Nuisance Concerns

The proposed location doesn't appear to present any traffic or safety concerns that would adversely affect this location, nor present any greater concerns than other locations in similar settings.

There is a potential for short-term noise and lighting nuisances associated with construction, drilling and completions for the building units in close proximity to the well pad location. However, Nickel Road will work with the permitting agencies and the surface owner to mitigate or eliminate potential nuisances through compliance with regulations, best management practices (BMPs), and conditions of approval (COAs).

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS CONSIDERED

An alternative location was initially considered in the NE/4 of the SE/4 of the same section. This location was not utilized as it is located closer to several additional residences to the east.

An alternative location to the north would not be feasible due to the inability to effectively reach the proposed wellbore landing points, maximizing mineral development and resource recovery. An alternative location to the south would place the location in closer proximity to the building units already located within the Buffer Zone and would likely result in a higher potential for short-term noise and lighting nuisances associated with drilling and completion operations.