

**STRAIN, DENNIS & BATES, L.L.P.**

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

318 ST. CHARLES STREET  
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70802  
TELEPHONE (225) 343-0100  
FAX (225) 343-0344  
E-MAIL [bates@sdmblaw.com](mailto:bates@sdmblaw.com)

106 HEYMANN BOULEVARD  
P. O. BOX 53319  
LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA 70505-3319  
TELEPHONE (337) 237-5900  
FAX (337) 233-9095

P. O. BOX 41086  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77241-1086  
TELEPHONE (832) 467-2180  
FAX (832) 467-2181

**JAMES C. BATES**  
PARTNER  
BATON ROUGE OFFICE

November 8, 2005

Hon. James H. Welsh  
Commissioner of Conservation  
P. O. Box 94275  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Re: 12,200' (Hackberry) Sand, Reservoir  
E, and 12,200' (Hackberry) Sand,  
Reservoir F, in Bayou Choupique  
Field, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana

Application is hereby made on behalf of Noble Energy, Inc. to the Commissioner of Conservation for the calling of a public hearing, after legal notice, pertaining to the following matters relative to the 12,200' (Hackberry) Sand, Reservoir E, and 12,200' (Hackberry) Sand, Reservoir F, in Bayou Choupique Field, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana:

**12,200' (Hackberry) Sand, Reservoirs E and F**

1. To establish rules and regulations governing the exploration for and production of gas and condensate from the 12,200' (Hackberry) Sand, Reservoirs E and F, located in Bayou Choupique Field, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana;
2. To create two (2) single drilling and production units for the 12,200' (Hackberry) Sand, Reservoirs E and F, designated as the 12200 (HBY) RE SUA and 12200 (HBY) RF SUA, as shown on the plat attached hereto;
3. To force pool and integrate all separately owned tracts, mineral leases and other property interests within the unit so created on a surface acreage basis of participation;
4. To allow the Commissioner of Conservation to reclassify the reservoir by supplemental order, without the necessity of a public hearing, should the producing characteristics of the reservoir change and evidence to justify reclassification is submitted to and accepted by the Commissioner of Conservation;

Hon. James H. Welsh  
Commissioner of Conservation  
Page 2

5. To consider such other matters as may be pertinent to the 12,200' (Hackberry) Sand, Reservoirs E and F.

The 12,200' (Hackberry) Sand, in the Bayou Choupique Field, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, was previously defined in Office of Conservation Order No. 480-A-1, effective July 8, 2003 as that gas and condensate bearing sand encountered between the depths of 12,244 feet and 12,346 feet (electrical log measurements) in the Samedan (California Co.) - John S. Brannon No. 2 (1) Well, located in Section 17, Township 11 South, Range 10 West, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana.

No request for the pre-application conference was received, and accordingly IT WILL NOT BE HELD. No opposition is expected at the hearing on this matter.

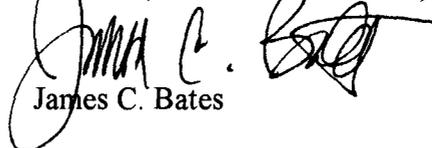
In addition to furnishing the legal notice to all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties, the applicant will provide for posting of the legal notice and unit plat in a prominent place in the area of Bayou Choupique Field. Additionally, the legal notice will be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the vicinity of Bayou Choupique Field at least fifteen (15) days before the hearing date.

All pertinent data relating to this proposed application may be obtained **AT THE COST OF THE REQUESTING PARTY** from James F. Hardwick & Associates, P. O. Box 80972, Lafayette, Louisiana, 70598-0972, (337) 232-7756.

Enclosed to the Commissioner of Conservation and District Manager **ONLY** is a plat outlining the proposed 12200 (HBY) RE SUA and 12200 (HBY) RF SUA, in the Bayou Choupique Field, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, which is the same plat attached to the pre-application notice. Also enclosed to the Commissioner of Conservation and District Manager **ONLY** is a list of Interested Owners, Interested Parties and Represented Parties to whom a copy of this application is being sent. Copies of the plat and list will be provided upon request. A reasonable effort has been made to ascertain the names and addresses of all Interested Owners, Interested Parties or Represented Parties. Also enclosed is our check payable to the Office of Conservation representing the required hearing application fee.

Very truly yours,

STRAIN, DENNIS & BATES, L.L.P.



James C. Bates

JCB/cmf  
encls.

cc: Mr. Richard Hudson  
District Manager

Interested Parties  
Interested Owners  
Represented Parties

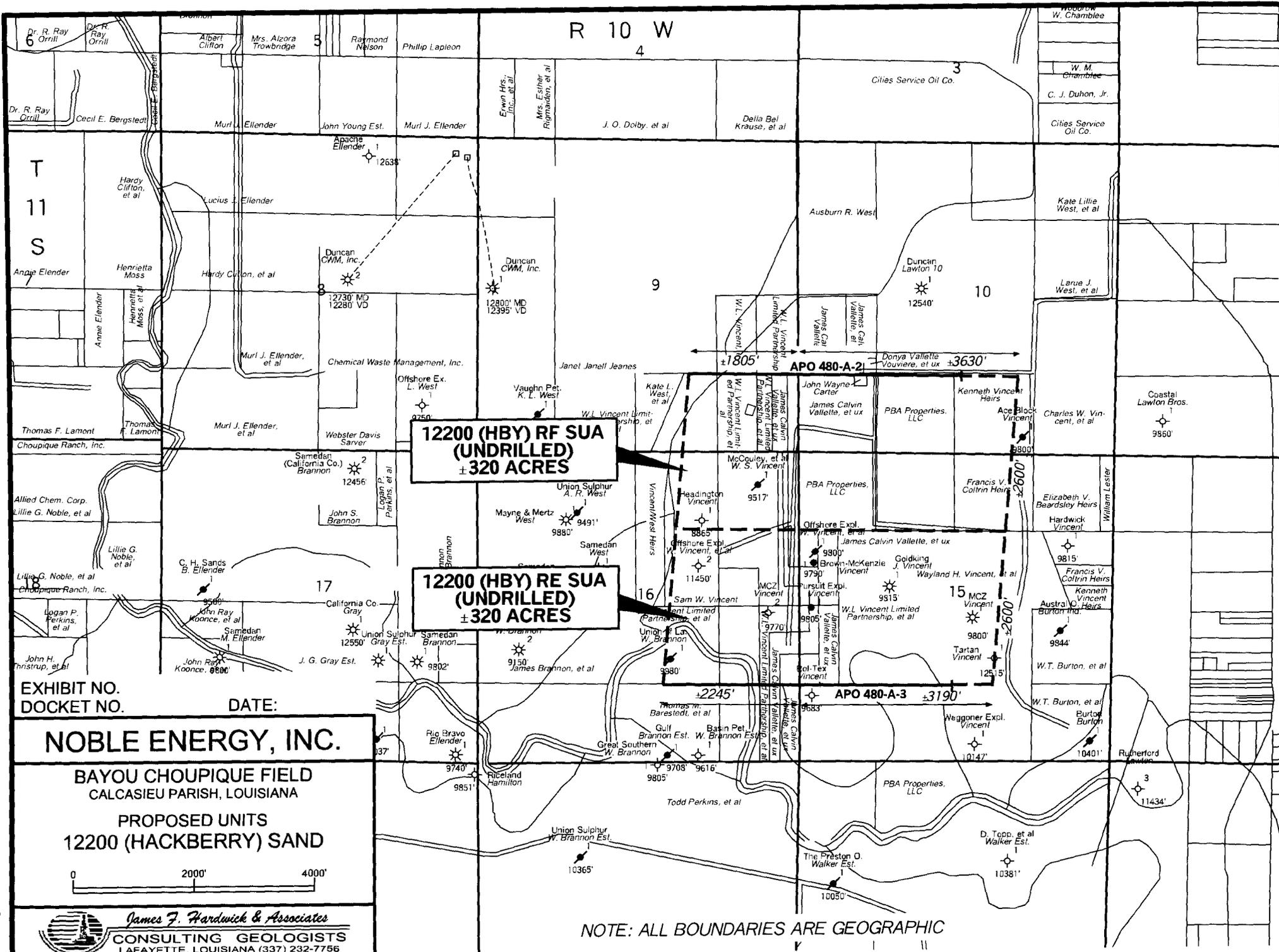


EXHIBIT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
DOCKET NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**NOBLE ENERGY, INC.**

**BAYOU CHOUPIQUE FIELD**  
CALCASIEU PARISH, LOUISIANA

PROPOSED UNITS  
**12200 (HACKBERRY) SAND**

0 2000' 4000'

*James F. Hardwick & Associates*  
**CONSULTING GEOLOGISTS**  
LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA (337) 232-7756

NOTE: ALL BOUNDARIES ARE GEOGRAPHIC