

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Mark: NE (Stylized)	§	
	§	
Registration No. 3,092,964	§	
	§	Atty. Docket No. NBEG.T0004US.AP1
Registered: May 16, 2006	§	
	§	
Registrant: Noble Energy, Inc.	§	

**RESPONSE TO POST-REGISTRATION OFFICE ACTION DATED JUNE 10, 2016**

Examiner has refused Registrant's specimen of use submitted with its renewal application, contending that the specimen does not demonstrate use of the mark in connection with the goods covered by the registration ("Hydrocarbons, namely, natural gas for distribution to public utilities, electric power producers, natural gas processors, pipeline companies, marketing intermediaries, and large industrial concerns; and crude oil" in class 4). Registrant notes that, given the nature of the goods, it is impractical for Registrant to submit a traditional specimen of use such as a label or invoice for the listed goods. Moreover, the specimen submitted directly refers to the goods covered by the registration ("Noble Energy, Inc. is a global independent oil and natural gas exploration and production company with a diverse portfolio of high-quality assets, a track record of success and a sound strategy for the future." "Noble Energy enhanced its onshore U.S. position in 2011 by acquiring Marcellus Shale properties in southwest Pennsylvania and northwest West Virginia, which provide significant exposure to the core onshore U.S. natural gas play.") Finally, the second page of the specimen submitted is identical to the specimen Registrant submitted with its Section 8 Affidavit on February 22, 2012, which was accepted by the PTO as proof of use. As such, Registrant respectfully submits that its specimen of use should be held sufficient proof of use, and the renewal of the registration should be approved.