## STATE OF NEW MEXICO

## ENERGY, MINERALS, AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN RE THORNTON OPERATING CORPORATION CASE 21556

## REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF VIRTUAL PROCEEDINGS

EXAMINER HEARING

DECEMBER 16, 2020

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

This matter came on for virtual hearing before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division, HEARING OFFICER FELICIA ORTH on December 16, 2020, through the Webex Platform.

Reported by: Irene Delgado, NMCCR 253

PAUL BACA PROFESSIONAL COURT REPORTERS

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2	For OCD:	
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5	For Thornton Operating Corporation:	
6	Robert Thornton	
7	7928 Vista Ridge Drive Ft. Worth, TX 76152	
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1 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: It's Wednesday morning,

- 2 We are set for 10 o'clock this morning. My name is Felicia
- 3 Orth, I'm the hearing officer appointed by the director of
- 4 the Oil Conservation Division to conduct the hearing in this
- 5 matter, this notice of violation, which is the Thornton
- 6 Company.
- 7 I am on the hearing session. I see Mr. Eric
- 8 Ames, a lawyer for the Division. I see Mr. Daniel Sanchez,
- 9 who was noticed up in your prehearing statement as the
- 10 witness for the Division and inspector. I see Marlene
- 11 Salvidrez, the hearing clerk for this hearing, and Irene
- 12 Delgado the court reporter from Paul Baca Court Reporters.
- 13 I don't see any other participants in the hearing session.
- 14 And as I look at the screen, there is no one
- 15 waiting to be allowed into the hearing, and that is to say,
- 16 there are no participants waiting in what we might call the
- 17 waiting room.
- 18 So my proposal, Mr. Ames, would be to wait to see
- 19 if a representative of Thornton will be joining us in the
- 20 event he is having technical difficulties, for example, and
- 21 then I will ask you how you would like to proceed if, in
- 22 fact, no one joins us as representative of the respondent.
- 23 MR. AMES: Thank you, Ms. Orth. One question.
- 24 It's possible Mr. Thornton may be trying to call in as
- 25 opposed to appear by video. Will you know that as well?

1 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Yes, I will. Yes, I

- 2 will.
- 3 MR. AMES: Okay. Thank you.
- 4 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: I'm going to mute myself
- 5 and walk away for just a while, but I will be back in five
- 6 or six minutes.
- 7 MR. AMES: We will be waiting for you, thank you.
- 8 All right. Daniel, we are just on hold for the moment.
- 9 (Recess taken.)
- 10 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: So I'm going to begin the
- 11 hearing in this case. I'm glad you're with us,
- 12 Mr. Thornton. My name is Felicia Orth. I'm the Hearing
- 13 Officer appointed by the Director of the Oil Conservation
- 14 Division to conduct the hearing in this matter, which was a
- 15 notice of violation to, to your company, Mr. Thornton.
- 16 The hearing will be conducted under 19.15.5 of
- 17 the New Mexico Administrative Code, and particularly
- 18 Subsection 10 of that, of that regulation.
- 19 Essentially what it calls for is that testimony
- 20 be taken under oath, you will be subject to cross-
- 21 examination and that the Division has both the burden of
- 22 going forward, meaning they go first with their evidence,
- 23 and the burden of proof, meaning that they have to prove by
- 24 a preponderance of the evidence that the statements they
- 25 have made in the notice of violation are true.

1 So what I would like to do is to invite Mr. Ames

- 2 to make his appearance, introduce his witness, but let me
- 3 ask you first if you have any questions about the procedure
- 4 we will be following this morning whereby we would hear from
- 5 the Division first and then from you.
- 6 MR. THORNTON: No, I have no questions.
- 7 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: All right. Thank you.
- 8 Mr. Ames, if you would.
- 9 MR. AMES: Thank you, Ms. Orth.
- 10 Good morning. My name is Eric Ames. I'm an
- 11 attorney with office of general counsel in the Energy,
- 12 Minerals and Natural Resources Department. I'm here today
- 13 representing the Oil Conservation Division. And as a
- 14 witness is Mr. Daniel Sanchez of the Oil Conservation
- 15 Division. He is the administrative and compliance manager.
- 16 I will be examining Mr. Sanchez for testimony.
- 17 But before beginning I would like to make a very
- 18 brief opening statement. This NOV stems from the Thornton
- 19 Operating Corporation's failure to plug and abandon an
- 20 inactive well and then subsequently it's a change of address
- 21 as operator without notification to the Division.
- The Division's calculated civil penalties for
- 23 both violations. The -- the alleged violator,
- 24 Thornton Operating Company, has not filed an answer in this
- 25 matter and has not filed a prehearing statement. Therefore,

1 pursuant to the rules, Thornton cannot present testimony.

- 2 However, it's my understanding that Mr. Thornton
- 3 contacted Mr. Sanchez late yesterday. This was the first
- 4 time we have heard from Mr. Thornton despite two attempts to
- 5 reach him through certified mail regarding the notice of
- 6 violation and electronic mail as well.
- 7 But Mr. Thornton did reach out to Mr. Sanchez and
- 8 indicated that he was interested in resolving this matter.
- 9 So at the conclusion of our testimony, or as part of our
- 10 testimony, we will address that issue, and then if
- 11 Mr. Thornton would like to respond, the OCD would consider
- 12 entering into a stipulated order subject to the Hearing
- 13 Officer's approval.
- 14 So with that said, I would like to call
- 15 Mr. Sanchez.
- 16 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Mr. Sanchez, if you would
- 17 please raise your right hand. Do you swear or affirm that
- 18 the testimony you are about to give will be the truth, the
- 19 whole truth and nothing but the truth?
- THE WITNESS: I do.
- 21 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Thank you. Please go
- 22 ahead.
- MR. AMES: Thank you.

24

25

- 1 DANIEL SANCHEZ
- 2 (Sworn, testified as follows:)
- 3 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 4 BY MR. AMES:
- 5 Q. Good morning, Daniel.
- 6 A. Good morning.
- 7 Q. Would you please state your name for the record?
- 8 A. Daniel Sanchez.
- 9 Q. And where do you work, Mr. Sanchez?
- 10 A. I work for the Oil Conservation Division, the
- 11 Division of the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources
- 12 Department.
- 13 Q. What do you do there?
- 14 A. I'm the administrative compliance and enforcement
- 15 manager.
- 16 Q. What does that job entail?
- 17 A. Overseeing all compliance with the rules, OCD's
- 18 rules, basically, but mainly in bonding, well activity
- 19 production, those kind of issues.
- Q. And how long have you done that?
- 21 A. A little over 16 years.
- Q. Can you tell us your education, please?
- 23 A. I have a bachelor's of science and mechanical
- 24 engineering from New Mexico State University.
- Q. Did you prepare a CV or curriculum vitae for this

- 1 proceeding?
- 2 A. Yes, I did.
- 3 O. Is that the document that was submitted and
- 4 labeled Exhibit 1?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Is Exhibit 1 a true and accurate copy of your
- 7 curriculum vitae?
- 8 A. Yes, it is.
- 9 MR. AMES: I move the admission of Exhibit 1.
- 10 Can't hear you.
- 11 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Mr. Thornton, do you have
- 12 any objection to the admission of Mr. Sanchez's --
- 13 MR. THORNTON: Oh, no. I'm sorry, I didn't
- 14 realize -- I'm sorry, no, I have no objection.
- 15 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Thank you, it's admitted.
- 16 (Exhibit 1 admitted.)
- 17 MR. AMES: Thank you, Ms. Orth.
- 18 Q. Daniel, did the OCD issue a notice of violation
- 19 to Thornton Operating Corporation?
- 20 A. Yes, we did.
- 21 MR. AMES: And going forward I'm going to refer
- 22 to Thornton Operating Corporation simply as Thornton and I
- 23 mean the corporation, not Mr. Thornton personally.
- 24 When did OCD issue that notice of violation?
- 25 A. Back in August 27, I believe it was.

- 1 Q. Is that NOV Exhibit 2?
- 2 A. Yes, it is.
- 3 MR. AMES: Move the admission of Exhibit 2.
- 4 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Mr. Thornton, any
- 5 objection?
- 6 MR. THORNTON: No. No objection.
- 7 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Exhibit 2 is admitted.
- 8 (Exhibit 2 admitted.)
- 9 MR. AMES: Thank you.
- 10 Q. Daniel, what does the NOV that was issued on
- 11 August 27 allege?
- 12 A. That the well in question, the Stevens Federal
- 13 Number 3, which is a well of Thornton Operating has not been
- 14 active and has exceeded its 15 month inactivity period, at
- 15 which time it needs to be either plugged or placed on
- 16 temporary abandon status.
- 17 Q. What kind of well is Stevens Federal 3?
- 18 A. It's a salt water disposal well.
- 19 Q. And so the disposal well, it's not reporting
- 20 injection; is that correct?
- 21 A. It has not reported an injection since January of
- 22 2018.
- 23 Q. Is Exhibit 14 a copy of the page entitled well
- 24 detail regarding this particular well from OCD's database?
- 25 A. Yes, it is.

1 Q. So is it a true and accurate copy of that

- 2 particular web page?
- 3 A. Yes, it is.
- 4 MR. AMES: Move admission of Exhibit 14.
- 5 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Objection, Mr. Thornton?
- 6 MR. THORNTON: No objection.
- 7 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Thank you. Exhibit 14 is
- 8 admitted.
- 9 (Exhibit 14 admitted.)
- 10 Q. Daniel, in the NOV what does OCD order Thornton
- 11 to do regarding Steven's Federal Number 3.
- 12 A. Within 30 days of the receipt of the notice of
- 13 violation, he was to put together a plan as to plugging it
- 14 or requesting temporary abandonment status. After 60 days
- 15 it would have to be plugged.
- 16 Q. Did OCD propose a civil penalty for the violation
- 17 of 19.15.25.8 NMAC regarding Steven's Federal Number 3?
- 18 A. Yes, we did.
- 19 Q. And how much was that civil penalty?
- 20 A. \$1200.
- Q. Did OCD provide a civil penalty calculation for
- 22 that violation for the notice of violation itself?
- A. Yes, we did.
- Q. Is that reproduced as Exhibit 3?
- 25 A. Yes, it is.

- 1 MR. AMES: Move admission of Exhibit 3.
- 2 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Objection?
- 3 MR. THORNTON: No objection.
- 4 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Thank you, Exhibit 3 is
- 5 admitted.
- 6 Q. Did OCD serve the NOV electronically and by
- 7 certified mail to the address of record to Thornton
- 8 Operating Corporation?
- 9 A. Yes, we did.
- 10 Q. Was electronic service of the NOV rejected?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. Does Exhibit 4 show the electronic mail message
- 13 transmitting the NOV and civil penalty calculations to
- 14 THORNTON?
- 15 A. Yes, it does.
- 16 MR. AMES: Move admission of Exhibit 4.
- 17 MR. THORNTON: No objection.
- 18 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Thank you. Admitted.
- 19 (Exhibit 4 admitted.)
- 20 Q. Daniel, while electronic service OF the NOV was
- 21 not rejected, what happened to the certified mail?
- 22 A. It was undeliverable.
- 23 Q. So I direct your attention to Exhibit 5. Is
- 24 Exhibit 5 the certified mail ticket that OCD prepared to
- 25 serve the NOV on Thornton?

- 1 A. Yes, it is.
- 2 Q. And is Exhibit 6 the page from the USPS tracking
- 3 showing that the certified mail was undeliverable under
- 4 terms of OCD?
- 5 A. Yes, it is.
- 6 MR. AMES: Move admission of Exhibits 5 and 6.
- 7 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Objection, Mr. Thornton?
- 8 MR. THORNTON: No objection.
- 9 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: They are admitted.
- 10 (Exhibits 5 and 6 admitted.)
- 11 Q. Daniel, was OCD able subsequently to locate and
- 12 confirm the address for Thornton Operating Corporation?
- 13 A. Yes, we were.
- 14 Q. And did OCD reissue the NOV?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. When did it do that?
- 17 A. On October 1.
- 18 Q. Is Exhibit 7 a copy of the NOV issued on October
- 19 **1, 2020?**
- 20 A. Yes, it is.
- 21 O. Move admission of Exhibit 7.
- 22 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Objection, Mr. Thornton?
- MR. THORNTON: No objection.
- 24 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Admitted.
- 25 (Exhibit 7 admitted.)

1 Q. Daniel, what does the revised NOV -- that's how I

- 2 will refer to the October 1 version -- what does the revised
- 3 NOV allege in terms of violation?
- 4 A. It alleges the initial violation issued in that
- 5 first notice of violation and also the -- the -- I'm
- 6 sorry. The violation of 19.15.9.8, which is failure to
- 7 provide OCD with a change of address.
- 8 Q. What was Thornton's address of record -- I'm
- 9 sorry, complete what you were saying.
- 10 A. No, I was going to say, I think it included both
- 11 of those violations.
- 12 Q. Thank you. What was Thornton's address of record
- with OCD as of October 1?
- 14 A. 7920 Vista Ridge North Drive, Ft. Worth, Texas.
- 15 Q. Let me rephrase that. What was Thornton's
- 16 address of record in OCD's database?
- 17 A. Oh, okay. I'm sorry about that. 5427 Collinwood
- 18 Avenue, Ft. Worth, Texas.
- 19 Q. Is Exhibit 13 a true and accurate copy of the OCD
- 20 permitting page for Thornton Operating Corporation?
- 21 A. Yes, it is.
- 22 Q. Does it show the address of record that you just
- 23 Stated, 5427 Collinwood Avenue, Ft. Worth?
- 24 A. Yes.
- MR. AMES: Move admission of Exhibit 13.

1 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Objection, Mr. Thornton?

- 2 MR. THORNTON: No objection.
- 3 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: 13 is admitted.
- 4 (Exhibit 13 admitted.)
- 5 Q. Daniel, what is Thornton Operating Corporation's
- 6 new address based on our research?
- 7 A. 7928 Vista Ridge North Drive, Ft. Worth, Texas.
- 8 Q. Did Thornton Operating Corporation notify OCD in
- 9 writing within 30 days of this change?
- 10 A. No, they did not.
- 11 Q. Has Thornton Operating Corporation notified OCD
- 12 at all up to this point regarding the change of address?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 Q. What did the revised NOV order Thornton Operating
- 15 Corporation to do?
- 16 A. Again, to submit a plan within 30 days as to the
- 17 plugging of the well in question and after 60 days have that
- 18 well plugged. Also to provide the OCD in writing the
- 19 current address of record.
- 20 Q. Did OCD again propose a civil penalty for the
- 21 violation of 19.15.25.8 NMAC?
- 22 A. Yes. That was for \$1200.
- 23 Q. So essentially the same civil penalty as
- 24 previously proposed?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Did OCD propose a penalty for the violation of

- 2 the requirement to update the address of record?
- 3 A. Yes, we did, and that was for \$600.
- 4 Q. Did OCD provide a copy of those calculations to
- 5 Thornton Operating Corporation?
- 6 A. Yes, we did.
- Q. Was that provided with the NOV issued on
- 8 October 1?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Are Exhibits 8 and 9 true and accurate copies of
- 11 the calculations done by OCD for the two violations?
- 12 A. Yes, they are.
- 13 MR. AMES: Move admission of Exhibits 8 and 9.
- 14 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Objection, Mr. Thornton?
- MR. THORNTON: No objection.
- 16 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: They are admitted.
- 17 (Exhibits 8 and 9 admitted.)
- 18 Q. Daniel, what does the revised NOV say regarding
- 19 informal resolution?
- 20 A. That Thornton had 30 days after the receipt of
- 21 the letter to talk with the OCD to try to resolve the issue,
- 22 and that would have been November 6 of this year.
- 23 Q. Was the NOV -- and so calculations -- or were the
- NOV and civil penalty calculations served electronically?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. To Thornton Operating?
- 2 A. Yes, they were.
- 3 Q. Was electronic service rejected?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. Is Exhibit 10 a copy of the e-mail transmitting
- 6 the NOV and civil penalty calculations?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 MR. AMES: Move admission of Exhibit 10.
- 9 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Objections, Mr. Thornton?
- 10 MR. THORNTON: No objection.
- 11 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: 10 is admitted.
- 12 (Exhibit 10 admitted.)
- 13 Q. Daniel, the NOV and civil penalty calculations
- 14 were served by certified mail as well; correct?
- 15 A. That's correct.
- 16 Q. Was that certified mail accepted?
- 17 A. Yes, it was.
- 18 Q. When was it accepted?
- 19 A. There wasn't a date on the signed receipt, but I
- 20 believe it was October 3.
- 21 Q. And how do we know that?
- 22 A. That was the stamp on the letter certified mail
- 23 ticket.
- Q. I direct your attention to Exhibit 12. Is
- 25 Exhibit 12 is a copy of the USPS tracking page for this

- 1 certified mail?
- 2 A. Yes, it is.
- 3 Q. And what date does that say it was served?
- 4 A. October 7.
- 5 Q. October 7. Okay. So is Exhibit 11 a true and
- 6 accurate copy of the certified mail ticket prepared by OCD
- 7 and Exhibit 12 a true and accurate copy of the USPS tracking
- 8 page for the certified mail?
- 9 A. Yes.
- MR. AMES: Move admission of Exhibits 11 and 12.
- 11 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Objection, Mr. Thornton?
- MR. THORNTON: No objection.
- 13 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Thank you. 11 and 12 are
- 14 admitted.
- 15 (Exhibits 11 and 12 admitted.)
- 16 Q. Daniel, did Thornton Operating Corporation
- 17 contact OCD during the informal resolution period?
- 18 A. No, they did not.
- 19 Q. What relief is OCD requesting today?
- 20 A. We are requesting that Thornton plug the well in
- 21 question, and if he is unable to, that the hearing officer
- 22 issue an order allowing the OCD to do the plugging itself
- 23 and also go after the penalties assessed in the NOV, the
- 24 second NOV.
- Q. Would it be fair to say that OCD would, would

- 1 agree to an order that required Thornton Operating
- 2 Corporation to plug the well within a certain period of
- 3 time, and that if it did not, OCD would be authorized to
- 4 plug that well and Thornton would be liable for the assessed
- 5 civil penalties?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Thank you.
- 8 MR. AMES: Nothing further.
- 9 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Thank you, Mr. Ames and
- 10 Mr. Sanchez. Mr. Thornton, based on what you've heard in
- 11 Mr. Sanchez's testimony, do you have any questions of him?
- MR. THORNTON: No, no questions.
- 13 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: All right. Thank you.
- 14 And do you have a statement that you would like to make on
- 15 your own behalf?
- 16 MR. THORNTON: Yeah, I quess so. I have -- I
- 17 realize I'm in violation, I just --
- 18 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: You know what, I'm sorry,
- 19 Mr. Thornton, I forgot to swear you in.
- MR. THORNTON: I'm sorry.
- 21 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Do you swear or affirm
- 22 that the testimony you are about to give will be the truth,
- 23 the whole truth and nothing but the truth?
- MR. THORNTON: I so swear.
- 25 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: All right. Thank you.

- 1 Please go ahead.
- 2 MR. THORNTON: Okay. I really don't have any
- 3 excuse. I mean, when I -- this well had a -- this is the
- 4 the only well I operate at the current time, and I'm trying
- 5 to get out of it. I'm 70 years old and incapable of really
- 6 handling any wells anymore.
- 7 And this well was my last remnant. It had some
- 8 issues, and we went in to try to fix them and we lost -- we
- 9 couldn't get down. I mean, I spent -- I lost over a
- 10 quarter of a million dollars trying to get down, and it just
- 11 kept getting worse and worse.
- 12 And so I just, I kind of lost all -- I
- 13 liquidated -- you know, I was in retirement. I was in semi-
- 14 retirement. I came out of semi-retirement. I work for the
- 15 post office delivering mail at \$18.60 an hour trying to get
- 16 out of the financial mess I'm in.
- 17 So I'm trying my best, but I didn't try my best
- 18 on this, I admit. I kind of buried my head in the sand
- 19 because I didn't see any way out. I'm going to -- as I
- 20 told Mr. Sanchez yesterday, I have some family members that,
- 21 that -- I basically liquidated all of my liquid assets.
- I do have some family, you know, started by my
- 23 father, some company assets that are limited liquidity, I
- 24 guess you'd say. But I told Mr. Sanchez I would try to
- 25 get -- I don't have any idea what it costs to plug a well,

- 1 and so -- but I will try to hire somebody to try and plug
- 2 the thing and borrow some money from my sisters to see if I
- 3 can take care of this obligation and get out of it. That's
- 4 really all I have to say.
- 5 As far as the address, I'm a little surprised
- 6 about the address because I have basically been at Vista
- 7 Ridge Drive North, the address you currently have, for some
- 8 25 years, and I was only one year that I moved temporarily
- 9 to Collinwood because we were going to sell the place and
- 10 move to California. That situation evaporated, so we
- 11 moved -- we had rented our house out and took it back over
- 12 and moved back into the same house that we had.
- So I'm a little surprised that your records were
- 14 still -- nowhere along the line from my communications to
- 15 the time the state said that it didn't get changed in your
- 16 records back in (unclear), but I can't account for that. So
- 17 I don't know.
- 18 Anyway, all I know is that I'm trying to -- I'm
- 19 trying to get out of this mess, and I will make an effort to
- 20 keep in touch and get this thing plugged within -- as
- 21 quickly as I can and I will keep in touch with Mr. Sanchez.
- 22 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: All right. Thank you,
- 23 Mr. Thornton. Mr. Ames, do you have questions for
- 24 Mr. Thornton?
- 25 MR. AMES: I do not, Ms. Orth. I do have a

1 proposal along what we previously outlined to potentially

- 2 move this thing forward.
- 3 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Please go ahead.
- 4 MR. AMES: First I will say that, as a matter of
- 5 personal perspective, I'm sorry to hear about the financial
- 6 hardships that Mr. Thornton has experienced with respect to
- 7 this well.
- 8 Of course, we were not privy to any of this in
- 9 the preparation of this NOV. We tried to contact
- 10 Mr. Thornton to discuss this. We sent him an NOV. It was
- 11 an opportunity for discussion, not once, but twice, and we
- 12 did not hear from him. So we are in this situation
- 13 primarily because we were unable to have this kind of a
- 14 communication informally.
- That said, as I said earlier, OCD would agree to
- 16 an order that requires Mr. Thornton or require Thornton
- 17 Operating Corporation to plug and abandon this well properly
- 18 as required by OCD rules by a date certain which we would be
- 19 prepared to set out some 60 days out, but that if Mr. --
- 20 that if Thornton Operating Corporation does not actually
- 21 achieve the plugging and abandonment in compliance with the
- 22 rules, that OCD will be authorized to do so, and that
- 23 Mr. Thornton's liability at that point would be limited to
- 24 the civil penalties that have been assessed.
- MR. THORNTON: Yes.

1 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Thank you, Mr. Ames.

- 2 Mr. Thornton, how does that sound to you?
- 3 MR. THORNTON: That sounds good to me. If I
- 4 can't do it, then you'll do it and charge me. But I will
- 5 make every effort I can to get it done because, you know, on
- 6 my half directly because that happened (unclear)
- 7 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: All right. Thank you.
- 8 And just checking, I guess the Division now is clear on your
- 9 address. Do you need to verify any other contact
- 10 information, Mr. Ames?
- 11 MR. AMES: I'm sorry, Ms. Orth, I did not hear
- 12 your entire statement.
- 13 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Do you need to verify any
- 14 other contact information in order to move the order to
- 15 execution?
- 16 MR. AMES: Thank you for reminding me of that.
- 17 We would ask that the order also require Mr. Thornton to
- 18 update, or Thornton Operating Corporation to send an e-mail
- 19 to Mr. Sanchez -- well, if you don't mind, Daniel, what is
- 20 the proper process for updating an address of record?
- 21 MR. SANCHEZ: It's the operator's responsibility
- 22 to get into the user operator administrator license, and
- 23 they can get in there and make the changes themselves.
- MR. AMES: Thank you, Daniel. I apologize, Ms.
- 25 Orth. Ms. Orth, if the order would also require

1 Mr. Thornton to update his address of record through the OCD

- 2 database, that would be appropriate, and I would suggest
- 3 that Mr. Thornton should feel free to call Mr. Sanchez if he
- 4 needs help to do that.
- 5 MR. THORNTON: Okay.
- 6 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Thank you, Mr. Thornton.
- 7 I did hear you just now agree to do that.
- MR. THORNTON: I agree.
- 9 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Would you be submitting a
- 10 draft order?
- 11 MR. AMES: I will prepare a draft order if you
- 12 would like me to, yes. And I will circulate that to
- 13 Mr. Thornton prior for his review prior to submittal.
- 14 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: I would really appreciate
- 15 that.
- MR. AMES: Will do.
- 17 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Is there anything else we
- 18 need to talk about while we are all in session?
- MR. AMES: Not from OCD, ma'am.
- MR. THORNTON: No further from me.
- 21 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: All right. Thank you,
- 22 Mr. Thornton. Thank you, Mr. Ames, Mr. Sanchez.
- 23 MR. AMES: There is actually one thing more, but
- 24 it's not for -- this doesn't necessarily involve you. I
- 25 need to confirm Mr. Thornton's telephone number and e-mail

1 address so that we can communicate to him by those means as

- 2 well. Mr. Thornton, if you wouldn't mind.
- 3 MR. THORNTON: I will give that to you here. My
- 4 e-mail address is T as in tango -- spell it out
- 5 phonetically because there's a bunch of letters that sound
- 6 the same -- T as in tango, O as in oscar, P as in papa, C as
- 7 in Charlie, O as in oscar, TOPCO@att.net, that's alpha tango
- 8 tango.net.
- 9 And my phone number is 817 -- my home phone is
- 10 817-361-1909. And my mobile phone number 817-966-7054. And
- 11 you have a better chance of getting me on my mobile phone
- 12 number.
- MR. AMES: Thank you.
- 14 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Thank you, Mr. Thornton.
- 15 Is there anything else we can talk about while we are on
- 16 this session?
- 17 MR. THORNTON: No, I think I'm finished. I will
- 18 get in contact with, e-mail Mr. Sanchez and call him
- 19 tomorrow or something, or my next day off and we'll get
- 20 something arranged.
- 21 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Thank you for that. Mr.
- 22 Ames, nothing further?
- 23 MR. AMES: Nothing further, Ms. Orth. Thank you.
- 24 HEARING EXAMINER ORTH: Thank you all. And we
- 25 are adjourned from this hearing.

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Page 26 STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF BERNALILLO 2. 3 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE 5 I, IRENE DELGADO, New Mexico Certified Court 6 7 Reporter, CCR 253, do hereby certify that I reported the 8 foregoing virtual proceedings in stenographic shorthand and 9 that the foregoing pages are a true and correct transcript 10 of those proceedings to the best of my ability. I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither employed by 11 nor related to any of the parties or attorneys in this case 12 13 and that I have no interest in the final disposition of this 14 case. 15 I FURTHER CERTIFY that the Virtual Proceeding was of poor to good quality. 16 Dated this 16th day of December 2020. 17 18 /s/ Irene Delgado 19 Irene Delgado, NMCCR 253 20 License Expires: 12-31-20 2.1 22 23 2.4 25