## STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

APPLICATION OF CENTENNIAL RESOURCE CASE NOS. 20064, PRODUCTION, LLC FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, 20065, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO. 20067, 20068

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

EXAMINER HEARING

February 21, 2019

Santa Fe, New Mexico

BEFORE: MICHAEL MCMILLAN, CHIEF EXAMINER
TERRY WARNELL, TECHNICAL EXAMINER
DAVID K. BROOKS, LEGAL EXAMINER

This matter came on for hearing before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division, Michael McMillan, Chief Examiner, Terry Warnell, Technical Examiner, and David K. Brooks, Legal Examiner, on Thursday, February 21, 2019, at the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, Wendell Chino Building, 1220 South St. Francis Drive, Porter Hall, Room 102, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

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Page 2 1 APPEARANCES 2 FOR APPLICANT CENTENNIAL RESOURCE PRODUCTION, LLC: 3 SETH C. McMILLAN, ESQ. KAITLYN A. LUCK, ESQ. MONTGOMERY & ANDREWS LAW FIRM 4 325 Paseo de Peralta 5 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 (505) 982-3873 6 smcmillan@montand.com 7 FOR INTERESTED PARTIES MRC PERMIAN COMPANY, MATADOR RESOURCES COMPANY (Case 20067); MRC PERMIAN COMPANY, 8 MATADOR RESOURCES COMPANY AND MEWBOURNE OIL COMPANY (Case Number 20068): 9 JAMES G. BRUCE, ESO. 10 Post Office Box 1056 11 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504 (505) 982-2043 12 jamesbruc@aol.com 13 FOR INTERESTED PARTY EOG RESOURCES, INC.: 14 ERNEST L. PADILLA, ESQ. PADILLA LAW FIRM, P.A. 1512 South St. Francis Drive 15 Post Office Box 2523 16 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504 (505) 988-7577 17 padillalaw@qwestoffice.net 18 19 2.0 21 22 23 24 25

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- 1 (1:24 a.m.)
- 2 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Please proceed.
- 3 MR. McMILLAN: Okay. Mr. Examiner, we have
- 4 for you four cases, all applications of Centennial
- 5 Resource Production, LLC for compulsory pooling. The
- 6 cases are related, and we would ask that they be
- 7 consolidated for purposes of the hearing. They are
- 8 20064, 20065 -- no -- 20064, 20065, 20067 and 20068. I
- 9 have two witnesses with me today.
- 10 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Okay. Other
- 11 appearances?
- 12 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Examiner, in Case 20067,
- 13 Jim Bruce entering an appearance for MRC Permian Company
- 14 and Matador Resources Company, and in Case 20068, I'm
- 15 filing an entry of appearance for MRC Permian Company,
- 16 Matador Resources Company and Mewbourne Oil Company. I
- 17 have no witnesses.
- MR. PADILLA: Mr. Examiner, Ernest L.
- 19 Padilla for EOG Resources, Inc. in all four cases, and
- 20 we have no witnesses.
- 21 MR. McMILLAN: And, Mr. Examiner, for the
- 22 record, Seth McMillan and Kaitlyn Luck, from Montgomery
- 23 & Andrews, on behalf of the Centennial. And we have two
- 24 witnesses today.
- 25 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Would the witnesses

- 1 please stand up and be sworn in at this time?
- 2 (Mr. Harper and Ms. Thoreson sworn.)
- MR. McMILLAN: I would call at this time my
- 4 first witness, Taylor Thoreson.
- 5 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Please proceed.
- 6 TAYLOR L. THORESON,
- 7 after having been first duly sworn under oath, was
- 8 questioned and testified as follows:
- 9 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 10 BY MR. McMILLAN:
- 11 Q. Would you please state your full name and place
- 12 of residence?
- 13 A. Taylor Lynn Thoreson, and I live in Denver,
- 14 Colorado.
- 15 Q. And by whom are you employed and in what
- 16 capacity?
- 17 A. Centennial Resource Production, LLC, and I'm a
- 18 landman.
- 19 Q. Have you previously testified before the
- 20 Division?
- 21 A. I have not.
- 22 Q. In that case, would you please summarize your
- 23 education for the examiners?
- 24 A. Yes. I graduated in 2014 with a Bachelor's in
- 25 Business from the University of Oklahoma, and my degree

- 1 is in energy management.
- 2 Q. And would you please summarize your work
- 3 experience?
- 4 A. Yeah. I've been a full-time landman since
- 5 graduation for fours years, two of which have been at
- 6 Centennial, and the other two were at Encana.
- 7 Q. Are you familiar with the applications filed in
- 8 these cases?
- 9 A. I am.
- 10 Q. Are you familiar with the subject lands?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 MR. McMILLAN: Mr. Examiner, I would tender
- 13 Ms. Thoreson as an expert in petroleum land matters.
- 14 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Any objections?
- MR. BRUCE: No objection.
- MR. PADILLA: No objection.
- 17 EXAMINER McMILLAN: So qualified.
- MR. McMILLAN: Mr. Examiner, the way we
- 19 would like to do this -- and let me know if you prefer
- 20 to do it otherwise. But the way we laid this out was
- 21 to, essentially, these cases in chronological order,
- 22 bunching together -- consolidating 64 and 65, as the
- 23 wells are similar. And what I'd like to do is question
- 24 the land witness on all four cases and then move to the
- 25 geology witness, if that's okay.

1 EXAMINER McMILLAN: That's fine.

- MR. McMILLAN: Okay. Great.
- Q. (BY MR. McMILLAN) Let's start with 20064 and
- 4 20065. These are the so-called Dandie and Mastiff
- 5 wells, correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Could you please briefly state what Centennial
- 8 seeks in its applications in these two cases?
- 9 A. Yes. For Case 20064, Centennial seeks an order
- 10 pooling all uncommitted interests in the Bone Spring
- 11 Formation in the 160-acre horizontal spacing unit
- 12 comprised of the west half of the east half of Section
- 13 22, Township 23 South, Range 34 East in Lea County, New
- 14 Mexico. Said horizontal spacing unit will be dedicated
- 15 to our proposed Dandie 22 Federal Com #602H well, which
- 16 will be horizontally drilled for the surface in the
- 17 southwest quarter of the southeast quarter to a
- 18 bottom-hole location in the northwest quarter of the
- 19 northeast quarter of Section 22.
- 20 As for Case Number 20065, Centennial seeks
- 21 an order pooling all uncommitted interests in the Bone
- 22 Spring Formation in the 160-acre horizontal spacing unit
- 23 comprised of the east half of the east half of Section
- 24 22, Township 23 South, Range 34 East in Lea County,
- 25 New Mexico. The horizontal spacing unit will be

- 1 proposed for the Mastiff 22 Federal Com #601H, which
- 2 will be horizontally drilled from a surface location in
- 3 the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter to a
- 4 bottom-hole location in the northeast quarter of the
- 5 northeast quarter of Section 22.
- 6 Q. Have you prepared certain exhibits for
- 7 introduction in these cases?
- 8 A. I have.
- 9 O. Let's turn now to those. Let's take a look at
- 10 Exhibits 1 and 2. Are these the C-102s for the Dandie
- 11 and Mastiff wells, respectively?
- 12 A. They are.
- 13 Q. Have these C-102s been submitted?
- 14 A. They have been.
- 15 Q. Has an on-site been completed?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Are the surface- and bottom-hole locations for
- 18 these wells shown on Exhibits 1 and 2?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. These are both Bone Spring wells, correct?
- 21 A. They are.
- Q. What is the primary objective for these wells?
- 23 A. They are 3rd Bone Spring.
- Q. And what pool rules govern development in the
- 25 Bone Spring in this area?

1 A. They are the statewide pool rules, and it is

- 2 the Antelope Ridge; Bone Spring, West Pool.
- 3 Q. Great.
- 4 What are the setbacks for oil wells in this
- 5 pool?
- 6 A. They are 100 from north and south and 330, east
- 7 and west.
- 8 EXAMINER McMILLAN: What's the pool number?
- 9 THE WITNESS: It is 2209.
- 10 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Well done.
- 11 Q. (BY MR. McMILLAN) Will the wellbores and the
- 12 first and last take points for both the Dandie and
- 13 Mastiff wells be situated within those setbacks?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Does Centennial own the right or otherwise have
- 16 the right to drill in each tract that will be traversed
- 17 by the wellbore?
- 18 A. We own 100 percent in the southeast quarter,
- 19 and then EOG owns 100 percent in the northeast quarter
- 20 of that particular section. So we own a leasehold
- 21 interest in half of the wellbore.
- Q. And you're here today to pool the other half,
- 23 correct?
- A. Exactly.
- 25 Q. Let's take a look at Exhibit 3. Is this a

1 tract map showing Centennial's proposed unit in Case

- 2 20064?
- 3 A. It is.
- 4 Q. Does it reflect that the acreage in the unit is
- 5 both state and federal?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And is Exhibit 4 a tract map for the Mastiff
- 8 well, Case 20065?
- 9 A. Yes, it is.
- 10 Q. And does this exhibit reflect that acreage is
- 11 both state and federal in this unit?
- 12 A. Uh-huh. It does.
- 13 Q. Is Exhibit 5 an ownership breakdown for the
- 14 Dandie well?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And what is Centennial's ownership in this
- 17 particular horizontal spacing unit?
- 18 A. We will own 50 percent of the working interest
- 19 in the proposed unit.
- 20 Q. And let's take a look at Exhibit 6. Is this an
- ownership breakdown for the Mastiff?
- 22 A. Yes. It mirrors that of the Dandie, and we
- 23 will own 50 percent of that pooled unit.
- Q. In your opinion, has Centennial acted
- 25 diligently to develop the reserves in these units?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. Let's take a look at Exhibit 7. Is this a
- 3 well-proposal letter and AFE Centennial sent with
- 4 respect to the Dandie well?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And is Exhibit 8 a similar well-proposal letter
- 7 sent with respect to the Mastiff?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Are you asking the Division today to pool any
- 10 uncommitted interest owners?
- 11 A. We are.
- 12 Q. Were there any unlocatable mineral interests?
- 13 A. No.
- Q. Does Centennial seek the imposition of a 200
- 15 percent risk penalty against unjoined working interests?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Does Centennial seek to be designated operator
- 18 for the wells?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. In your opinion, has Centennial made a
- 21 good-faith effort to locate all of the unjoined
- 22 interests and communicate with them --
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. -- in order to obtain their voluntary
- 25 participation?

1 A. Yes, we have. We sent out initial elections to

- 2 EOG Resources, and we've had subsequent phone
- 3 conversations and email correspondence over the last six
- 4 months. And we're actually in negotiations with EOG to
- 5 acquire their interest in these wells, where Centennial
- 6 would then own 100 percent. And there is actually an
- 7 agreement drafted that is on their desk currently to
- 8 allow for such.
- 9 Q. Are the AFEs for the Dandie and Mastiff wells
- 10 attached to the respective well-proposal letters in
- 11 Exhibits 7 and 8?
- 12 A. Yes, they are.
- 13 (Examiner Brooks enters the room, 1:34
- 14 p.m.)
- 15 Q. Can you just, for the record, let us know what
- 16 the total amount is for each completed well?
- 17 A. Yes. They are both roughly \$8.6 million.
- 18 O. And are these AFE numbers still accurate?
- 19 A. Yes, they are.
- 20 Q. I should rephrase. Are these AFEs still
- 21 accurate estimates of well costs for these wells?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Are these estimated costs in line with what is
- 24 being charged by other operators in the area for similar
- 25 wells?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. Have you made an estimate of overhead and
- 3 administrative costs while drilling and producing?
- 4 A. Yeah. We are currently estimating \$7,000 per
- 5 month for initial drilling and then for production each
- 6 month, roughly 700.
- 7 Q. Are these costs in line with what's being
- 8 charged by other operators in the area?
- 9 A. They are, yes.
- 10 Q. And would you recommend that these overhead
- 11 rates be incorporated into the order that results from
- 12 this hearing?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Would Centennial request that the order provide
- 15 for an annual COPAS adjustment of those rates?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 MR. McMILLAN: Mr. Examiner, that's all I
- 18 have for consolidated Cases 20064 and 20065 with respect
- 19 to the land witness.
- 20 Would you like to ask questions now?
- 21 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 22 BY EXAMINER McMILLAN:
- Q. Okay. Any depth severances?
- A. There are not.
- 25 Q. Okay. So you are on record as saying 7,000 for

- 1 drilling and 700 for producing.
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. Now, just so you'll know, that's not what you
- 4 sent -- your letter says 7,500 --
- 5 A. It does.
- Q. -- and 750, and you're getting 7,000 and 700.
- 7 Is that your testimony?
- 8 A. That is correct. There have been -- we have
- 9 been in negotiations with EOG on a JOA, and it allows
- 10 for the 7,000 and the 700 in the event the trade did
- 11 not --
- 12 Q. Do these wells have API numbers?
- 13 A. They do, but I do not have them on me right
- 14 now.
- 15 MR. McMILLAN: We have that. We'll provide
- 16 them.
- 17 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Seth will provide them.
- THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 19 Q. (BY EXAMINER McMILLAN) And they're proposed,
- 20 right?
- 21 A. They have -- they are proposed, but they have
- 22 been approved.
- Q. Okay. But they haven't been spud, correct?
- 24 A. Exactly.
- 25 **Q.** Okay.

1 EXAMINER BROOKS: Under the circumstances,

- 2 I have no questions.
- 3 EXAMINER WARNELL: No questions.
- 4 CONTINUED DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 5 BY MR. McMILLAN:
- 6 Q. Let's move on to Case Number 20067, the
- 7 so-called Romeo wells. Would you please briefly state
- 8 what Centennial seeks in its application in Case Number
- 9 **20067?**
- 10 A. Yes. Centennial seeks an order pooling all
- 11 uncommitted interests in the Wolfcamp Formation in the
- 12 240-acre horizontal spacing unit comprised of the west
- 13 half of the west half of Section 22 and the west half of
- 14 the northwest quarter of Section 27, Township 24 South,
- 15 Range 34 East in Lea County, New Mexico. Said
- 16 horizontal spacing is for the two initial wells, the
- 17 proposed Romeo Federal Com 705H well and the Romeo
- 18 Federal Com 706H well. Both wells are to be drilled
- 19 horizontally from a surface location in the northwest
- 20 quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 22 with a
- 21 bottom-hole location in the southwest quarter of the
- 22 northwest quarter of Section 27.
- Q. Thank you for that.
- 24 Is Exhibit 9 the C-102s for the two Romeo
- 25 wells?

- 1 A. It is.
- Q. And can you just let us know the status of
- 3 those C-102s?
- 4 A. They have been approved.
- 5 O. Are these surface- and bottom-hole locations
- for the Romeo wells shown on Exhibit 9?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And these are Wolfcamp wells, correct?
- 9 A. That is correct.
- 10 Q. Please identify for us the primary objective
- 11 for the wells.
- 12 A. They are Upper Wolfcamp wells as currently
- 13 planned.
- 14 Q. And what pool rules govern development in the
- 15 Wolfcamp in this area?
- 16 A. They are the statewide pool rules for Antelope
- 17 Ridge; Wolfcamp, and that number is 2220.
- 18 O. So what are setbacks for oil wells here?
- 19 EXAMINER McMILLAN: 200- --
- 20 THE WITNESS: 2220? We both are having
- 21 trouble with numbers. 2220.
- 22 EXAMINER McMILLAN: I never pay attention
- 23 to pool names, just the pool codes.
- 24 MR. McMILLAN: 2220.
- 25 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Okay. Great.

1 O. (BY MR. McMILLAN) Will the wellbores and the

- 2 first and last take points for the two Romeo wells be
- 3 situated within the setbacks?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Does Centennial own the right or otherwise have
- 6 the right to drill in each tract that will be traversed
- 7 by the wellbore?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Is Exhibit 10 a tract map showing the proposed
- 10 unit for the Romeo wells?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Does it reflect that acreage in the unit is
- 13 federal and fee acreage?
- 14 A. It does.
- 15 Q. And is Exhibit 11 an ownership breakdown for
- 16 the Romeo wells?
- 17 A. Yes, it is.
- 18 Q. Please describe Centennial's ownership in this
- 19 proposed unit.
- 20 A. Centennial would have roughly a 54 percent
- 21 working interest in the proposed unit.
- 22 Q. And in your opinion, has Centennial acted
- 23 diligently to develop the reserves in this unit?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Turn to Exhibit 12, please. Is this a

1 well-proposal letter and AFE sent to interest owners

- with respect to these Romeo wells?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Are you asking the Division to pool today any
- 5 uncommitted interest owners?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Were there any unlocatable mineral interest
- 8 owners?
- 9 A. There were not.
- 10 Q. Does Centennial seek the imposition of a 20
- 11 percent risk penalty against unjoined working interests?
- 12 A. 200 percent, yes.
- 13 Q. 200 percent, yes.
- 14 A. 20 is not quite -- (laughter).
- 15 Q. Did I say 20? We are not doing well here with
- 16 numbers.
- 17 A. Numbers are hard for us.
- 18 (Laughter.)
- 19 Q. Okay. We're not doing numbers anymore.
- 20 Does Centennial seek to be designated
- 21 operator of the Romeo wells?
- 22 A. We do.
- 23 Q. In your opinion, has Centennial made a
- 24 good-faith effort to locate any unjoined interests and
- 25 communicate with them?

1 A. We have. We've had email correspondence and

- 2 then, of course, the initial election, as well as phone
- 3 conversations to discuss these wells.
- 4 Q. And are the AFEs for the proposed wells
- 5 attached to your well-proposal letter in Exhibit 12?
- 6 A. They are.
- 7 Q. Please, for the record, what's the total amount
- 8 for each well?
- 9 A. They are both roughly 11.6 million.
- 10 Q. And that's through completion?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Do the AFEs in Exhibit 12 still accurately
- 13 reflect estimated well costs for these wells?
- 14 A. They do.
- 15 Q. And are these costs in line with what is being
- 16 charged by other operators in the area?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. What are your estimated overhead and
- 19 administrative costs while drilling and producing?
- 20 A. They are 7,000 and then 700, so it's the same
- 21 change that was made on the prior wells.
- Q. And are these costs in line with what's being
- 23 charged by other operators in the area?
- A. They are.
- 25 Q. Do you recommend that these overhead rates be

1 incorporated into the order that results today?

- 2 A. I do.
- Q. Does Centennial request that the order provide
- for an annual COPAS adjustment of these rates?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 MR. McMILLAN: That's all I have for this
- 7 witness with respect to Case 20067.
- 8 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 9 BY EXAMINER McMILLAN:
- 10 Q. Is this an oil pool?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Any depth severances?
- 13 A. There are some depth severances, but they won't
- 14 affect this particular pool. It's just a
- 15 differentiation between Bone Spring and Wolfcamp.
- 16 Q. So within the pool, there are no depth
- 17 severances?
- 18 A. There's none. Exactly. That is correct.
- 19 Q. Do these have API -- API numbers?
- 20 A. They do, and we'll get you those.
- 21 Q. Seth will?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 24 BY EXAMINER BROOKS:
- Q. Overriding royalties? Are there any?

- 1 A. Not in this particular one, no.
- 2 O. You said no?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. Okay. Thank you. That's all I have.
- 5 MR. McMILLAN: Is that it?
- 6 EXAMINER WARNELL: That's it. No questions
- 7 here.
- 8 CONTINUED DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 9 BY MR. McMILLAN:
- 10 Q. Moving on to our fourth and final case, Case
- 11 Number 20068, this concerns the Solomon well. Would you
- 12 briefly let us know what Centennial seeks by this
- 13 application?
- 14 A. Yes. Centennial seeks an order pooling all
- 15 uncommitted interests in the Bone Spring Formation in
- 16 the 240-acre horizontal spacing unit comprised of the
- 17 west half of the east half of Section 22 and the west
- 18 half of the northeast quarter of Section 27, Township 24
- 19 South, Range 34 East in Lea County, New Mexico. The
- 20 horizontal spacing unit is to be dedicated to our
- 21 proposed Solomon Federal Com 505H well, which will be
- 22 horizontally drilled from a surface hole in the
- 23 northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 22
- 24 to a bottom-hole location in the southwest quarter of
- 25 the northeast quarter of Section 27.

1 Q. Is Exhibit 13 the C-102 to the -- for the

- 2 Solomon well?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Are the surface- and bottom-hole locations
- 5 shown on Exhibit 13?
- 6 A. They are.
- 7 Q. This is a Bone Spring well?
- 8 A. Yes, it is.
- 9 Q. And what is the primary objective?
- 10 A. The 2nd Bone Spring.
- 11 Q. Are statewide pool rules applicable here?
- 12 A. They are, and it will be the Ojo Chiso; Bone
- 13 Spring, South Pool.
- 14 Q. Is there a pool number for that -- or pool
- 15 **code?**
- 16 A. We asked for the pool code before this hearing,
- 17 but we have not yet received a response, so we can
- 18 supplement that.
- 19 MR. McMILLAN: I will, for the record,
- 20 supplement with the pool code --
- 21 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Yeah.
- MR. McMILLAN: -- for Case Number 20068.
- Q. (BY MR. McMILLAN) What are setbacks for oil
- wells in this pool?
- 25 A. They are 330 and 100.

1 Q. And is the Solomon orthodox within setbacks?

- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. Does Centennial own the right or otherwise have
- 4 the right to drill in each tract to be traversed by the
- 5 wellbore?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Is Exhibit 14 a tract map showing the proposed
- 8 unit?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Does it reflect that acreage is federal and fee
- 11 here?
- 12 A. It does.
- 13 Q. Is Exhibit 15 an ownership breakdown?
- 14 A. Yes, it is.
- 15 Q. Please let us know what Centennial's ownership
- is in the proposed unit.
- 17 A. Centennial will have roughly a 70 percent
- 18 working interest in this proposed unit.
- 19 Q. In your opinion, has Centennial acted
- 20 diligently to develop the reserves in this unit?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Is Exhibit 16 your well-proposal letter and AFE
- 23 sent to interest owners with respect to the Solomon
- 24 **well?**
- 25 A. It is.

1 Q. Are you asking the Division to pool uncommitted

- 2 interest owners?
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. Did you have any unlocatables?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. Does Centennial seek the imposition of a 200
- 7 percent risk penalty against unjoined working interests?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Does Centennial seek to be designated operator
- 10 for the well?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. In your opinion, has the Centennial made a
- 13 good-faith effort to locate the unjoined interests and
- 14 communicate with them?
- 15 A. We have. Like I said for the other wells, we
- 16 have made initial contact via well elections, and we've
- 17 had some subsequent phone conversations and email
- 18 correspondence.
- 19 Q. Great.
- 20 Is the AFE for the Solomon well attached to
- 21 your well-proposal letter in Exhibit 16?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. What's the total amount for the completed well?
- A. Roughly, \$11 million.
- 25 Q. Still an accurate estimate?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. Is this cost in line with what's being charged
- 3 by other operators in the area for similar wells?
- 4 A. It is.
- 5 Q. What are your overhead and administrative costs
- 6 while drilling and producing?
- 7 A. It will be the 7,000 and the 700.
- 8 Q. So 7,000 per month drilling overhead and \$700 a
- 9 month producing overhead?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Are these costs in line with what's being
- 12 charged other operators in the area?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Are there any depth severances in this acreage?
- 15 A. There are not within the pool.
- 16 Q. Within the pool. Great.
- 17 The drilling and producing overheads rates
- we just discussed, do you recommend these be
- incorporated into the order?
- 20 A. I do.
- 21 Q. Do you request they be adjusted annually using
- 22 COPAS?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. Now, with respect to all four of these cases,
- 25 is there anything about Centennial's drilling schedule

1 that necessitates a request for an expedited order?

- 2 A. Yes. The wells that we would request an
- 3 expedited order on would be the Romeo wells, so I guess
- 4 that was Case Number 20067 --
- 5 Q. Correct.
- 6 A. -- as we plan to spud those wells in June of
- 7 this year.
- 8 Q. In your opinion, would the granting of
- 9 Centennial's applications be in the best interest of
- 10 conservation, the prevention of waste and the protection
- 11 of correlative rights?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. Were Exhibits 1 through 16 prepared by you or
- 14 at your direction and control?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Turning now to Exhibit 29 -- well, let's do
- 17 this.
- 18 MR. McMILLAN: I would now move the
- 19 admission of Exhibits 1 through 16?
- 20 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Jim?
- 21 Ernie?
- MR. PADILLA: No objection.
- 23 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Jim, any objections?
- MR. BRUCE: No objection.
- 25 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Exhibits 1 through 16

- 1 are accepted as part of the record.
- 2 (Centennial Resource Production, LLC
- 3 Exhibit Numbers 1 through 16 are offered
- 4 and admitted into evidence.)
- 5 MR. McMILLAN: That's all I have for this
- 6 witness, and I'll go over the affidavit once you've
- 7 asked your questions.
- 8 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Cross?
- 9 MR. PADILLA: No.
- 10 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Jim?
- MR. BRUCE: No.
- 12 EXAMINER McMILLAN: I don't have any
- 13 questions.
- 14 EXAMINER WARNELL: No questions.
- 15 CROSS EXAMINATION
- 16 BY EXAMINER BROOKS:
- 17 Q. Overrides?
- 18 A. There is an override, but we already have the
- 19 right to pool it via a pre-existing agreement.
- Q. Okay. Thank you.
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 MR. McMILLAN: Well, you know what, I think
- 23 I'm done with this witness.
- 24 If nobody has any further questions for
- 25 her, may the witness be excused?

- 1 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Yes.
- THE WITNESS: Thank you-all for your time.
- 3 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Ernie, EOG is in all
- 4 the cases?
- 5 MR. PADILLA: In all the cases, yes. Those
- 6 are my instructions, so --
- 7 EXAMINER BROOKS: You were talking so fast,
- 8 I assumed you were in a hurry to get through this case.
- 9 I feel, on the other hand, like I ought to take this
- 10 brief conference with Deana, since I promised her 1:30
- 11 and I was five minutes late.
- 12 EXAMINER McMILLAN: We've already made a
- 13 deal for the live witnesses.
- 14 EXAMINER BROOKS: Okay. Good. I'm for
- 15 that. I don't believe in breaching contracts.
- 16 (Laughter.)
- 17 MR. McMILLAN: Moving right along.
- 18 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Yes.
- 19 MR. McMILLAN: I'll briefly discuss my
- 20 Notice of Affidavit that's going to be Exhibit 29, at
- 21 the very back. Now, this is a matter that I inherited
- 22 from Holland & Hart. They had done notice in all four
- of these cases before it landed in my lap. So the
- 24 affidavit I produced -- well, I'll just lead you through
- 25 it real quickly here. It identifies me as the attorney

1 for Centennial, not, Mr. Brooks, the attorney in fact or

- 2 any other sort of hedging language (laughter).
- 3 EXAMINER BROOKS: I understand. That was a
- 4 comment on one specific matter.
- 5 MR. McMILLAN: We fixed that.
- 6 The bottom line is that I reviewed the
- 7 mailing materials, USPS mailing materials, that were
- 8 produced as a result of Holland & Hart having sent out
- 9 the notice letters. They are -- those materials and the
- 10 notice letters are attached as Exhibits A1, A2, A3 and
- 11 A4. Those exhibits demonstrate to my satisfaction that
- 12 notice letters were timely mailed to all uncommitted
- interest owners on January 18, 2019. Now, those
- 14 exhibits also demonstrate that all uncommitted owners
- 15 whose interests are, in fact, to be pooled in these
- 16 proceedings did receive actual notice.
- 17 The examiner will note in looking at those
- 18 exhibits that were some letters that did not get to
- 19 their intended destination. As it turns out, those
- 20 folks are folks, it turned out, did not have an
- 21 interest. They do not have an interest to be pooled.
- 22 So to say we lucked out, I think I can say we kind of
- 23 lucked out there. The letters that didn't get where
- 24 they were supposed to go, as it turned out, didn't have
- 25 to get there. So with that understanding, actual notice

1 was delivered to those uncommitted interest owners whose

- 2 interests are to be pooled.
- There was also Affidavits of Publication
- 4 attached as B1, B2, B3 and B4, and those notices were
- 5 directed to all overriding royalty interests and pooled
- 6 parties and to my satisfaction currently identified the
- 7 lands at issue.
- 8 So in sum, it's my opinion that notice was
- 9 properly completed by prior counsel before I entered the
- 10 case. That's what I have for that piece.
- 11 EXAMINER BROOKS: Well --
- MR. McMILLAN: What am I missing?
- Oh, and I'd like to move for the admission
- 14 of Exhibit 29.
- MR. PADILLA: No objection.
- 16 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Jim?
- MR. BRUCE: No objection.
- 18 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Exhibit 29 may now be
- 19 accepted as part of the record.
- 20 (Centennial Resource Production, LLC
- 21 Exhibit Number 29 is offered and admitted
- into evidence.)
- 23 EXAMINER BROOKS: I was just going to say I
- 24 one time included some people in the title -- title
- 25 requirement who actually had no interest, and the lawyer

1 I was working for said, "Well, you better contact them

- 2 right away and tell them about your mistake before they
- 3 spend the bonus money."
- 4 (Laughter.)
- 5 MR. McMILLAN: I think I'll call my second
- 6 witness at this time, Mr. John Harper.
- JOHN HARPER,
- 8 after having been previously sworn under oath, was
- 9 questioned and testified as follows:
- 10 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 11 BY MR. McMILLAN:
- 12 Q. Would you please state your full name for the
- 13 record, sir?
- 14 A. John Harper.
- 15 Q. Where do you reside?
- 16 A. Denver, Colorado.
- 17 Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?
- 18 A. Centennial Resource Production, LLC as a
- 19 geologist.
- Q. Have you previously testified before the
- 21 Division and had your credentials as an expert in
- 22 petroleum geology accepted and made a matter of record?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. That was just about six months ago; is that
- 25 right?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. Are you familiar with the applications filed in
- 3 these cases?
- 4 A. Yes.
- Q. Are you familiar with the geology in the area?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 MR. McMILLAN: Mr. Examiner, I would tender
- 8 Mr. Harper as an expert in petroleum geology.
- 9 MR. BRUCE: No objection.
- MR. PADILLA: No objection.
- 11 EXAMINER McMILLAN: So qualified.
- 12 Q. (BY MR. McMILLAN) Let's start with Case Numbers
- 13 20064 and 20065. These are the -- these are Bone Spring
- 14 wells, correct --
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. -- the Dandie and the Mastiff?
- 17 A. Yes, sir.
- 18 Q. Have you conducted a geologic investigation
- 19 with respect to these applications?
- 20 A. I have.
- 21 Q. And have you determined whether each tract
- 22 comprising the proposed horizontal spacing units for the
- 23 Dandie and Mastiff wells is prospective for production?
- 24 A. Yes, I have.
- Q. What did you conclude?

- 1 A. I concluded that these wells will equally
- 2 produce from the one-mile laterals from the north and
- 3 south across the Devonian [sic].
- 4 Q. And will each tract contribute approximately
- 5 the same amount of reserves to the wells in each of the
- 6 intervals being developed?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Did you prepare certain exhibits for
- 9 presentation today?
- 10 A. I did.
- 11 Q. Let's take a look at your Exhibit 17. Can you
- 12 tell us what we're looking at here?
- 13 A. This is a location map of the area of interest.
- 14 The two black-dashed lines are the two wells of
- 15 interest, the Dandie 22 Federal Com 602 on the west and
- 16 then the Mastiff 22 Federal Com 601 on the east. All
- 17 the wells shown here with green bottom-hole locations at
- 18 their toes are Bone Spring producers -- various Bone
- 19 Spring producers, mostly 3rd Bone Spring sands and 2nd
- 20 Bone Spring sands. And I just highlighted our two
- 21 proposed wells here.
- Q. In looking at this exhibit, what would you say
- 23 the prevailing development pattern for the Bone Spring
- 24 is in this area?
- 25 A. The prevailing pattern is north-south.

1 Q. And is Centennial's unit orientation consistent

- with that prevailing pattern?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Let's take a look at your Exhibit 18. Can you
- 5 tell us what we're looking at here?
- 6 A. This is a subsea structure map on top of the
- 7 3rd Bone Spring Sand. The vertical wells have been
- 8 highlighted, and the subsea depths have been shown in
- 9 blue. The structured is benign across the one-mile
- 10 laterals. It's pretty flat, actually. Yes.
- 11 Q. Great.
- 12 Let's take a look at Exhibit 19. What do
- 13 we see here?
- 14 A. This is similar to the locator map from Exhibit
- 15 17. This is just showing where the cross section that
- 16 we were going to look at next is highlighted. We have a
- 17 number of vertical wells that will be traversing
- 18 past that gives us good well control. They're vertical
- 19 wells. There's a lot of good data -- a lot of good well
- 20 control in the area.
- Q. And is that a cross section, your Exhibit 20?
- 22 A. Yes, that's correct.
- Q. Let's take a look there, and tell us what we're
- 24 looking at.
- 25 A. This is a cross section from A to A prime.

- 1 A is north. A prime is south. The datum is the 3rd
- 2 Bone Spring Sand, which is what the structure map is
- 3 based off of previously. The left column is the gamma
- 4 ray track. The right column is the resistivity track,
- 5 and the middle column is the depth. The depths are both
- 6 in TVD and in subsea. The red line down at the bottom
- 7 is the Wolfcamp marker, and I've highlighted the target
- 8 intervals for both the Dandie and Mastiff 601, 602 wells
- 9 here.
- 10 Q. In your review, is the interval continuous
- 11 throughout the project area?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Are you seeing any faults or discontinuities
- 14 within this spacing unit?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. Do you observe any porosity differences
- 17 throughout the areal extent of the unit?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. Do you observe any thickening or thinning that
- 20 would be of concern?
- 21 A. Not of major concern. There is slight thinning
- 22 across the area but not in our target interval.
- Q. Great.
- 24 MR. McMILLAN: That's all I had for this
- 25 witness for Case Numbers 20064 and 20065.

- 1 MR. PADILLA: No questions.
- 2 MR. BRUCE: No questions.
- 3 EXAMINER McMILLAN: I'm fine.
- 4 EXAMINER WARNELL: No questions.
- 5 EXAMINER BROOKS: No questions.
- 6 MR. McMILLAN: Great.
- 7 CONTINUED DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 8 BY MR. McMILLAN:
- 9 Q. Let's move now to Case 20067. Are these the
- 10 Romeo wells?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Have you conducted a geologic investigation
- 13 here, and have you determined whether each tract
- 14 comprising the proposed horizontal spacing unit is
- 15 prospective for production?
- 16 A. Yes, I have.
- 17 Q. And what was your conclusion?
- 18 A. These wells will contribute equally across the
- 19 Wolfcamp pool.
- 20 **Q.** Great.
- 21 And each tract will contribute
- 22 approximately the same amount of reserves?
- 23 A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Looking at your Exhibit 21, can you tell us
- 25 what we see here?

1 A. So this is similar to the Dandie and Mastiff.

- 2 It's a locator map. Down in this area, there are a
- 3 mixture of Bone Spring horizontals and Wolfcamp
- 4 horizontals. The Wolfcamp horizontals have the red dot
- 5 at their bottom-hole location, and the Bone Spring
- 6 horizontals have the green dot at their bottom-hole
- 7 location. I've highlighted the two wells of interest in
- 8 the black-dashed line on the west half of Section 22.
- 9 Drilling from north to south, that is the Romeo Federal
- 10 Com 705 on the far west and the Romeo Federal Com 706
- 11 just to the east.
- 12 Q. And what is the prevailing development pattern
- 13 for the Wolfcamp in this area?
- 14 A. North to south.
- 15 Q. And so Centennial's unit orientation is
- 16 consistent, correct?
- 17 A. Correct.
- 18 Q. Let's look at your Exhibit 22.
- 19 A. This is a Wolfcamp structure map. This is
- 20 subsea present day. The vertical wells here, again,
- 21 have their subsea depths highlighted in blue. The
- 22 contour interval is 50 feet, and, again, this is
- 23 relatively flat, maybe slightly downdip for these wells.
- 24 Q. Okay. Looking at Exhibit 23, does this exhibit
- 25 show the A to A prime cross-section line --

- 1 A. It does, yes.
- 2 O. -- that is shown in cross section in Exhibit
- 3 **24?**
- 4 A. That is correct.
- 5 Q. Let's look at Exhibit 24. Walk us through this
- 6 exhibit, please.
- 7 A. This is a cross section from A to A prime more
- 8 or less northeast to southwest. The datum here is the
- 9 Wolfcamp, which is what the structure map was based off
- 10 of. The left track is the gamma ray. The far right is
- 11 the resistivity track -- resistivity log, and the middle
- 12 is the depth, both in TVD and subsea. The Wolfcamp
- 13 targets are highlighted here. They're Upper Wolfcamp
- 14 targets, the 705 and the 706.
- 15 Q. Great.
- 16 Is the interval generally continuous across
- 17 the horizontal spacing units?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Are there any faults or discontinuities within
- 20 the HSUs?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 Q. Do you observe my porosity differences
- 23 throughout the areal extent of the unit?
- 24 A. No, sir.
- 25 Q. And is there any thickening or thinning that

- 1 you observe that would be of concern?
- 2 A. Not at all.
- 3 MR. McMILLAN: That's all I have for this
- 4 witness for Case Number 20067.
- 5 MR. PADILLA: No questions.
- 6 MR. BRUCE: No questions.
- 7 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 8 BY EXAMINER BROOKS:
- 9 Q. Are you familiar with the issues involving the
- 10 drilling schedule that were raised by the land witness?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Do you know why does this well have to be
- 13 spudded in June?
- 14 A. That is -- that is ideally to help with the
- 15 current development package, to help with the completion
- 16 from the east and to continue our current development.
- 17 Q. Is it a matter that would affect the
- 18 productivity of the wells if you didn't get this in in
- 19 the time sequence, or is it some other factor?
- 20 A. There are multiple factors. That is one of
- 21 them. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Well, you're running up against the time
- 23 frame for getting this if you have an appeal. I think
- it won't be a problem if nobody takes it to the
- 25 Commission, and I don't know if these people that are

1 sitting here observing want to or not. We'll put it on

- 2 the expedited.
- 3 Please make a note of it, unless you
- 4 (indicating) write it yourself. If you write it
- 5 yourself, I'm sure it will get done promptly.
- 6 MR. McMILLAN: Thank you, Mr. Brooks.
- 7 EXAMINER BROOKS: Thank you.
- 8 MR. McMILLAN: Any questions for this
- 9 witness before I move on?
- 10 EXAMINER WARNELL: No questions.
- I appreciate your logs. You can actually
- 12 read them.
- 13 EXAMINER BROOKS: But even if you write it
- 14 yourself, you should put a note on it because some
- 15 people review these things, and they may get buried on
- 16 somebody's desk.
- 17 MR. McMILLAN: Put a big red "Expedited"
- 18 stamp on those particular orders.
- 19 EXAMINER BROOKS: We've had some problems
- 20 with getting expedites actually done. If the attorneys
- 21 are being unreasonable and asking for them, I want to
- 22 caution them, but on the other hand, we examiners need
- 23 to be cautious, too, so we don't hide them from
- 24 ourselves.
- 25 MR. McMILLAN: And I try to be careful

- 1 about when I make that request.
- 2 EXAMINER BROOKS: Well, yeah. That is much
- 3 appreciated because as you know, we have record-size
- 4 dockets.
- 5 MR. McMILLAN: Yes. Yes, indeed. These
- 6 are record-setting times.
- 7 CONTINUED DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 8 BY MR. McMILLAN:
- 9 A. Okay. Moving now to Case Number 20068, this is
- 10 the Solomon well --
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 **Q.** -- correct?
- Okay. Have you conducted a geologic
- 14 investigation here to determine whether each tract
- 15 comprising the proposed spacing unit for the Solomon
- well is prospective for production?
- 17 A. I have.
- 18 Q. What's your conclusion?
- 19 A. I have concluded that this area in particular
- 20 is very good for Bone Spring producing and will
- 21 effectively develop this Bone Spring area.
- Q. Will each tract contribute approximately the
- 23 same amount of reserves to the well in each of the
- 24 interval being developed?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Let's look at your Exhibit 25. Briefly

- 2 describe this exhibit to us.
- 3 A. This is a locator map showing the Solomon
- 4 Federal Com 505H highlighted in the dashed black line.
- 5 This is the same area from the Romeo wells we previously
- 6 discussed. The red wells, again, are the Wolfcamp
- 7 producers in the area, and the green wells are the Bone
- 8 Spring producers in the area.
- 9 Q. And we did this earlier, but the prevailing
- development pattern for the Bone Spring is?
- 11 A. North and south.
- 12 O. And Centennial's unit orientation here is
- 13 consistent with that prevailing pattern?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. Exhibit 26, please describe.
- 16 A. This is a -- this is a structure map showing
- 17 the Solomon Federal Com 505H. Again, the contour
- 18 intervals here are 50 feet, and the structure looks
- 19 benign.
- 20 Q. Okay. Turning to Exhibit 27, does this show
- 21 you're a to A prime cross-section line?
- 22 A. Yes, it does.
- Q. And is Exhibit 28 that cross section?
- A. Yes, it is.
- 25 Q. Let's turn there and please describe your

- 1 exhibit.
- 2 A. This is A to A prime northeast to southwest
- 3 across the area of interest. The datum is the 3rd Bone
- 4 Spring Carbonate seen at the red line. The highlighted
- 5 target interval is in the 2nd Bone Spring Sand bracketed
- 6 by the red brackets. The gamma ray track is on the far
- 7 left. The resistivity track is on the far right, and,
- 8 again, the depth track is right in the middle of TVD and
- 9 subsea depths.
- 10 Q. And from your study, did you find that the
- interval is continuous throughout the area?
- 12 A. It is.
- Q. Are there any faults or discontinuities that
- 14 you noted and are concerned about?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. Did you observe any porosity differences
- 17 throughout the areal extent of the proposed unit?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. Did you observe any thickening or thinning
- 20 within the proposed unit that you'd be concerned about?
- 21 A. There is slight thickening to the southwest in
- 22 the gross interval in the 2nd Bone Spring Sand.
- 23 However, our target interval does not vary.
- 24 Q. In your opinion -- and this question goes to
- 25 all four cases -- would the granting of Centennial's

1 applications be in the best interest of conservation,

- 2 the prevention of waste and the protection of
- 3 correlative rights?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Were Exhibits 17 through 28 prepared by you or
- 6 at your direction and control?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 MR. PADILLA: No objection.
- 9 MR. BRUCE: No objection.
- 10 MR. McMILLAN: Okay (laughter). I tender
- 11 these exhibits for admission.
- 12 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Exhibits 17 through 28
- 13 may now be accepted as part of the record.
- 14 (Centennial Resource Production, LLC
- 15 Exhibit Numbers 17 through 28 are offered
- and admitted into evidence.)
- 17 MR. McMILLAN: Thank you. That's all I
- 18 have for this witness on any of these cases.
- 19 EXAMINER BROOKS: No questions.
- 20 EXAMINER WARNELL: No questions.
- 21 EXAMINER McMILLAN: No questions.
- 22 MR. McMILLAN: Great. Then I would ask
- 23 that these four cases be taken under advisement and that
- 24 Case Number 20067 be addressed on an expedited basis.
- 25 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Any closing comments?

Page 45 1 MR. PADILLA: None. 2 MR. BRUCE: No. 3 MR. McMILLAN: None. EXAMINER McMILLAN: Okay. Matador, what 4 5 cases are you in? Jim? Didn't MRC make an appearance? 6 MR. McMILLAN: 67 and 68. 7 MR. BRUCE: 67 and 68. Mewbourne in Case 8 68. 9 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Okay. Well, so --MR. McMILLAN: I think that's it. I'd ask, 10 11 yeah, that these cases be taken under advisement. 12 EXAMINER McMILLAN: Cases 20064, 67 and 68 13 and 20065 may now be taken under advisement. 14 Thank you. MR. McMILLAN: Thank you very much. 15 16 THE WITNESS: Thank you. 17 (Case Numbers 20064, 20065, 20067 and 20068 18 conclude, 2:07 p.m.) 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

Page 46 1 2 STATE OF NEW MEXICO 3 COUNTY OF BERNALILLO 4 5 CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER 6 7 I, MARY C. HANKINS, Certified Court 8 Reporter, New Mexico Certified Court Reporter No. 20, 9 and Registered Professional Reporter, do hereby certify that I reported the foregoing proceedings in 10 11 stenographic shorthand and that the foregoing pages are 12 a true and correct transcript of those proceedings that were reduced to printed form by me to the best of my 13 ability. 14 I FURTHER CERTIFY that the Reporter's 15 16 Record of the proceedings truly and accurately reflects the exhibits, if any, offered by the respective parties. 17 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither 18 19 employed by nor related to any of the parties or 20 attorneys in this case and that I have no interest in the final disposition of this case. 21 DATED THIS 27th day of March 2019. 22 23 24 MARY C. HANKINS, CCR, RPR 25 Certified Court Reporter

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1	Date of CCR Expiration: 12/31/2019
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