IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLORADO

Civil Action No. 17-cv-3025-PAB

HIGH COUNTRY CONSERVATION ADVOCATES, et al.,

Plaintiffs/Petitioners,

v.

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE, et al.,

Federal Defendants/Respondents, and

MOUNTAIN COAL COMPANY, LLC,

Respondent/Defendant-Intervenor.

PLAINTIFFS' REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO EXPEDITE CONSIDERATION OF PLAINTIFFS' EMERGENCY MOTION TO ENFORCE REMEDY

The U.S. Forest Service <u>et al.</u> (Federal Defendants) and Mountain Coal Company (Mountain Coal) take no position on Plaintiffs High Country Conservation Advocates <u>et al.</u>'s (Conservation Groups) Motion to Expedite Consideration of Plaintiffs' Emergency Motion to Enforce Remedy, ECF No. 94. Mountain Coal's response to that motion states that "[w]ork related to SS2 is not expected to begin until at least October 2, 2020." ECF No. 97 at 1–2. But nothing prohibits Mountain Coal from bulldozing drilling pads and drilling methane ventilation boreholes at any time.

Conservation Groups have well-founded concerns that Mountain Coal may commence, and complete, such construction before this Court rules on the merits of their Emergency Motion to Enforce Remedy, ECF No. 77. As previously explained, Mountain Coal bulldozed a nearly 4,000-foot illegal road through the Sunset Roadless Area in only two days. ECF No. 94 at 2.

Conservation Groups' counsel inquired as to whether Mountain Coal would commit to no construction until October 2 and, in the alternative, to provide Conservation Groups with three business days'-notice before construction begins. Mountain Coal declined to do either.

Accordingly, Conservation Groups respectfully request that this Court rule on Conservation Groups' Emergency Motion to Enforce Remedy as soon as possible, mindful that Plaintiffs will be irreparably harmed if an order is not issued by October 2.

Respectfully submitted September 24, 2020,

/s/ Robin Cooley

Robin Cooley Marta Darby Earthjustice 633 16th Street, Suite 1600 Denver, CO 80202 (303) 623-9466 Fax: (720) 550-5757 rcooley@earthjustice.org mdarby@earthjustice.org

Attorneys for Plaintiffs High Country Conservation Advocates, et al.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on September 24, 2020, I filed the foregoing **PLAINTIFFS**' **REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO EXPEDITE CONSIDERATION OF PLAINTIFFS' EMERGENCY MOTION TO ENFORCE REMEDY** with the Court's electronic filing system, thereby generating service upon the following parties of record:

Michael Drysdale DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP 50 South Sixth Street, Ste. 1500 Minneapolis, MN 55402-1498 Telephone: (612) 340-5652 Facsimile: (612) 340-8800

Email: drysdale.michael@dorsey.com

Attorney for Respondent/Defendant-Intervenors Mountain Coal Company

John S. Most
Paul Turcke
United States Department of Justice
Natural Resources Section
Virginia Bar No. 27176
P.O. Box 7611
Washington, D.C. 20044
Tel: (202) 616-3353
john.most@usdoj.gov
paul.turcke@usdoj.gov

Attorney for Federal Defendants/Respondents

s/ Robin Cooley

Scott P. Sinor DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP 1400 Wewatta Street, Suite 400 Denver, CO 80202 Telephone: (303) 629-3400

Facsimile: (303) 629-3450 Email: sinor.scott@dorsey.com

Attorney for Respondent/Defendant-Intervenors Mountain Coal Company