UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

SOUTHERN UTAH WILDERNESS ALLIANCE, et al.,)))
Plaintiffs,)
v.) Case No. 1:20-cv-03654-RC) The Honorable Rudolph Contreras
DEBRA HAALAND, in her official capacity as Secretary of the Interior, <i>et al.</i> ,))
Federal Defendants,))
and)
PURE HELIUM, LLC, et al.,))
Defendant-Intervenors.))

JOINT STATUS REPORT

On December 8, 2021, the Court granted Plaintiffs' and Federal Defendants' joint motion for a stay of all deadlines and proceedings in this case for sixty days, to facilitate a negotiated final resolution to this case. On April 9, 2022, following a series of joint status reports requesting continuations of the stay, the Court ordered the parties to file a joint status report on or before May 9, 2022, updating the Court on the status of those negotiations. *See* Order of April 9, 2022.

Plaintiffs and Federal Defendants have reached an agreement in principle on the terms of a settlement agreement. They respectfully request that the stay of proceedings in this action be continued for another thirty days, until June 8, 2022, to allow them to discuss the proposed settlement with intervenors and obtain the necessary approvals to formally enter into such an agreement. Achieving settlement in this case will serve the interests of judicial efficiency and

economy by avoiding further time-consuming and costly litigation, thus conserving the resources of the Court and the parties.

If at the end of the period of stay Plaintiffs and Federal Defendants are still in the midst of finalizing settlement, they will file a further joint status report updating the Court on the status of negotiations. However, if at the end of the period of stay Plaintiffs and Federal Defendants agree that they cannot finalize a settlement, the parties will submit a proposed amendment to the briefing schedule previously established in this Court's November 10, 2021 Minute Order.

Dated: May 9, 2022 Respectfully submitted,

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