IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA No. DA 22-0064

MONTANA ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION CENTER and SIERRA CLUB,

Plaintiffs / Appellees,

v.

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY,

Respondent / Appellant,

and

WESTERN ENERGY CO., NATURAL RESOURCE PARTNERS L.P., INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS, LOCAL 400, and NORTHERN CHEYENNE COAL MINERS ASSOCIATION,

Respondent-Intervenors / Appellants,

and

MONTANA BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Respondent / Appellant

UNOPPOSED JOINT MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE OPENING BRIEFS

On Appeal from the Montana Sixteenth Judicial District Court, Rosebud County, Cause No. DV 19-34, the Honorable Katherine M. Bidegaray Presiding

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Counsel for Appellants/Respondent-Intervenors Westmoreland Rosebud Mining, LLC, Natural Resource Partners, L.P., International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 400, Northern Cheyenne Coal Miners Association. The Respondent/Appellant Montana Department of Environmental Quality ("DEQ") and Respondent/Appellant Westmoreland Rosebud Mining, LLC, *et al.* ("Westmoreland") (collectively, "Joint Movants") respectfully request a 30-day extension of time until August 10, 2022, in which to prepare, serve, and file their opening briefs in the above-entitled matter. Their opening briefs are presently due on July 11, 2022, and this is DEQ's first extension request. Joint Movants also request that Respondent/Appellant Montana Board of Environmental Review ("BER") opening brief be due the same date: August 10, 2022.

This motion is made due to the heavy workload under which the undersigned is presently working, making an extension of time necessary to properly research, consider, and brief the issues within the time allotted. Counsel for the BER and Petitioner/Appellees Montana Environmental Information Center and Sierra Club (collectively, "MEIC") have been contacted concerning this motion and they do not object.

A proposed order granting Joint Movants' motion is filed concurrently. For these reasons, Joint Movants respectfully request that its motion be granted.

¹ Westmoreland previously filed for a motion for extension for its opening brief in Docket DA 22-0068, but the effect of that motion was overtaken by this Court

Respectfully submitted this 30th day of June, 2022.

/s/ Jeremiah Langston JEREMIAH LANGSTON

Counsel for Respondent/Appellant Montana Department of Environmental Quality.

/s/ Samuel R. Yemington
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Counsel for Appellants/Respondent-Intervenors Westmorland Rosebud Mining, LLC, Natural Resource Partners, L.P., International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 400, Northern Cheyenne Coal Miners Association.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Jeremiah Radford Langston, hereby certify that I have served true and accurate copies of the foregoing Motion - Unopposed to the following on 06-30-2022:

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Electronically signed by Catherine Ann Armstrong on behalf of Jeremiah Radford Langston Dated: 06-30-2022