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WALKER RIVER IRRIGATION DISTRICT

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

WALKER RIVER PAIUTE TRIBE,

Plaintiff-Intervenor,

vs.

WALKER RIVER IRRIGATION DISTRICT,

a corporation, et al.,

Defendants.

IN EQUITY NO. C-125-ECR
SUBFILE NO. C-125-C

**MOTION TO REQUIRE
MINERAL COUNTY TO
IDENTIFY AND FILE A
REPORT CONCERNING THE
STATUS OF SERVICE ON
EACH INDIVIDUAL WALKER
RIVER CLAIMANT**

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LANCER S. WILSON
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BY
DEPUTY

The Walker River Irrigation District (the "District") hereby moves this Court for an order requiring Mineral County by a date certain to identify, on an individual basis, all claimants to the waters of the Walker River and its tributaries (the "Walker River Claimants") against whom it seeks permission to assert the claims set forth in its proposed First Amended Complaint. In addition, the District moves the Court for an order requiring Mineral County

[Handwritten signature]

1 by a date certain to file a report concerning the status of service of its Intervention
2 Documents with respect to each individual it identifies as a Walker River Claimant.

3 This Motion is based on the following memorandum of points and authorities and all
4 of the pleadings and papers on file herein.

5 DATED this 10th day of March, 1997.

6
7
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15 **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

16 **I. INTRODUCTION**

17 In October of 1994, Mineral County filed documents with this Court in an attempt to
18 intervene in the above-captioned lawsuit. As a result, in February of 1995 this Court entered
19 an order requiring Mineral County to serve its Intervention Documents on all claimants to the
20 waters of the Walker River and its tributaries (the "Walker River Claimants") pursuant to
21 Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (the "Service Order"). See Docket No. 19.
22

23 Since the entry of the Service Order, Mineral County has attempted to serve its
24 Intervention Documents on numerous individuals and entities. In conducting these service
25 efforts, however, Mineral County has failed and refused to take into consideration a
26 paramount factor that must be established in every lawsuit. Mineral County has not identified
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1 the parties against whom it proposes to assert its claims. In other words, Mineral County has
 2 failed and refused to identify each and every individual and entity that it claims is a Walker
 3 River Claimant and is therefore a necessary and proper party to this action. Absent this
 4 identification, Mineral County's proposed intervention cannot possibly proceed.

5 **II. THE COURT SHOULD REQUIRE MINERAL COUNTY TO IDENTIFY**
 6 **(BY NAME) ALL PERSONS AND ENTITIES IT CLAIMS ARE**
 7 **WALKER RIVER CLAIMANTS AND TO FILE A REPORT WITH THE**
 8 **COURT CONCERNING THE STATUS OF ITS SERVICE WITH**
 9 **RESPECT TO EACH**

10 In order to comply with the Court's orders addressing service of its Intervention
 11 Documents (See Docket Nos. 19, 44, 48, 74), Mineral County must identify each individual
 12 and entity it proposes to assert claims against and offer the Court evidence concerning
 13 completed or attempted service on those individuals and entities. Until Mineral County
 14 submits this information to the Court, it is impossible for Mineral County to be relieved of
 15 service or ordered to complete service through publication.

16 On or about June 2, 1995, Mineral County filed a list with this Court under the cover
 17 "Proof of Service by Mailing." Mineral County has not, however, indicated whether all or
 18 merely some of the names contained in the Proof of Service by Mailing list comprise the list
 19 of Walker River Claimants against whom Mineral County proposes to assert its claims.
 20 Therefore, at the present time, neither the Court nor any other party knows the specific
 21 identity of the individuals and entities that Mineral County will assert claims against if
 22 allowed to intervene in this matter.

23 In February of 1996, Mineral County claimed that it had complied with the Court's
 24 orders concerning service and had served substantially all Walker River Claimants. To rebut
 25 this claim, it was necessary for the District to attempt to determine the status of Mineral
 26 County's service by reviewing the information contained in the Return of Service and Waiver
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1 of Service forms (the "Service Forms") filed by Mineral County. By comparing the
 2 information contained in the Service forms to the names appearing on the "Proof of Service
 3 by Mailing" list, the District determined that Mineral had not complied with the Court's
 4 service orders or served substantially all Walker River Claimants.

5 At this point in Mineral County's attempted intervention, however, the initial burden of
 6 determining the status of service should be on Mineral County and not the District or any
 7 other party. As a proposed plaintiff, Mineral County should have the initial burden to
 8 establish that it has effected service on all necessary and proper parties, as defined by the
 9 Court, and that its proposed intervention is therefore ready to move forward. To make this
 10 initial showing, Mineral County must first name each individual Walker River Claimant that
 11 may someday be impacted by its claims and then, with respect to each, make a representation
 12 as to whether or not service has been accomplished. If service has not been accomplished on
 13 a specific individual or entity, Mineral County should state the reason for failing to effect
 14 service.
 15

16 17 III. CONCLUSION

18 In order for this Court to relieve Mineral County of further service obligations or to
 19 order the completion of service through publication, Mineral County must first identify the
 20 Walker River Claimants that it proposes to assert claims against. In addition, to comply with
 21 the Court's service orders, Mineral County must establish completed service or offer reasons
 22 as to why service is not complete with respect to each individual and entity that it identifies
 23 as a Walker River Claimant. Initially, the burden of making this showing should fall on
 24 Mineral County as the proposed plaintiff.
 25

26 Given these circumstances, the District respectfully requests that the Court enter an
 27 order: 1) requiring Mineral County by a date certain to identify, by name, each individual and
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1 entity it believes comprises the Walker River Claimants; and 2) requiring Mineral County by
2 a date certain to file a report concerning the status of service of its Intervention Documents
3 with respect to each individual Walker River Claimant which, in the event service is
4 incomplete for a particular Walker River Claimant, states the reason as to why service has not
5 been effected.
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7
8 DATED this 10th day of March, 1997.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that I am an employee of the law firm of WOODBURN AND WEDGE and that on this ^{10th} ~~16th~~ day of ^{MARCH} ~~JULY~~, 199⁷~~6~~, I deposited for mailing at Reno, Nevada a true and correct copy of the foregoing document, to the following:

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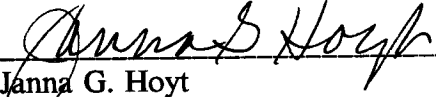
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