COURT FILE NUMBER

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH OF ALBERTA

JUDICIAL CENTRE

1301-14151

CLERK OF THE COURT FILED APR 3 0 2014 CALGARY, ALBERTA

CALGARY

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS
ARRANGEMENT ACT, RSC 1985, c C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF THE BUSINESS CORPORATIONS ACT, RSA 2000, c B-9, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OF COMPROMISE OR ARRANGEMENT OF ALSTON ENERGY INC.

DOCUMENT

ADDRESS FOR SERVICE AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF PARTY FILING THIS DOCUMENT

AFFIDAVIT

DENTONS CANADA LLP

Bankers Court 15th Floor, 850 - 2nd Street S.W. Calgary, Alberta T2P OR8

Attention: David LeGeyt / Derek M. Pontin Ph. (403) 268-3075/6301 Fx. (403) 268-3100

File No.: 549521-6

AFFIDAVIT #4 OF DON UMBACH

Sworn on April 30, 2014

I, Don Umbach, of the City of Calgary, in the Province of Alberta, **MAKE OATH AND SAY THAT**:

Introduction

- 1. I am the President and CEO of Alston Energy Inc. ("Alston" or the "Company") and as such I have personal knowledge of the matters hereinafter deposed to, save where stated to be based on information and belief, in which case I verily believe the same to be true. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein are given the meaning ascribed to them in the Amended and Restated Initial Order filed in these proceedings on December 11, 2013.
- 2. I make this Affidavit in support of an Application by Alston for, among other things, (i) an extension of the Stay Period previously established in these proceedings, (ii) an Order vacating the Order (Sealing Confidential Appendices) granted by this Honourable Court on March 4, 2014, and unsealing the materials sealed by that Order; and (iii) related relief.
- 3. As set out below in greater detail, since its last appearance before this Honourable Court Alston has continued to act in good faith and with the due diligence toward formulating a plan of arrangement in these proceedings. More particularly, Alston has:

- (a) implemented a program to rectify various operational and mechanical issues effecting Alston's oil and gas interests in the Provost area of Alberta, with a view to restoring production to its current operating capacity;
- (b) commenced and continued discussions with suppliers and service providers with a view to continuing operations in a "business as usual" fashion;
- (c) closed the Asset Purchase Agreement with Black Powder Energy Inc. concerning Alston's assets in the area of Alexander, Alberta (the "Alexander Sale"), previously approved by this Honourable Court;
- (d) met with Sayer, the Monitor, and Alberta Treasury Branches ("ATB") to discuss and consider a confidential non-binding letter of intent executed by Alston which potentially provided a transaction capable of supporting a plan of arrangement in these proceedings (the "LOI"); and
- (e) received and responded to a Notice of Operations from Hawk Exploration Ltd. concerning the drilling of a well in the area of Provost, Alberta.
- 4. I believe Alston has been acting in good faith and with due diligence in these proceedings, and it is in the best interests of Alston and its shareholders that the Stay Period be extended to August 1, 2014, and that such an extension is warranted in the circumstances.

Operational Update

- 5. Alston continues to maintain regular communication with suppliers and service providers with a view to maintaining normal operations. To date there have not been any operational issues resulting from Alston initiating these CCAA proceedings.
- 6. Commencing in late January 2014, Alston initiated a program to rectify various operational and mechanical issues which were limiting production at Alston's Provost Assets. The program consisted of routine downhole well service work to repair broken rods, pumps and tubing strings in four previously shut-in oil wells. This program was completed in Q1 2014 and all wells are currently on production. In addition, a ruptured flowline used to transport disposal water to an injection well has been repaired and put back into service in April 2014. An application to permit injection into another downhole formation in an existing injection well has also been submitted to the Alberta Energy Regulator ("AER") to increase injection capacity if the need arises due to the added production. It is anticipated that these expenditures, combined with an ongoing program to repair routine well failures, will result in overall production levels from the Provost area to perform at historical levels. This will have a net positive impact on Alston's cashflow during the forecast period, all as set out in detail in the Third Report of the Monitor, filed in connection with this Application, and the Monitor's previous reports.
- 7. Alston has incurred expenditures consistent with its previous estimate of \$350,000 to complete the above referenced program. The expected results of this program were communicated to the ATB in late January, 2014, and are also shown in the cashflow statements and analysis contained in the Reports of the Monitor in these proceedings.

8. In addition Alston has been in regular communication with the AER and has been granted an extension of time within which Alston must implement certain operational repairs and well abandonment work required by the AER.

Notice of Operations

- 9. On March 28, 2014 Alston received an Operations Notice and related authority for expenditure ("AFE") from Hawk Exploration Ltd. ("Hawk"), which relate to the drilling of a well at 13-24-38-4W4 to test the Mannville Formation (the "Well"). Alston has a 30% working interest in this area and would have a 30% interest the Well. A copy of the Operations Notice and AFE are attached as Exhibit "A".
- 10. The lease to which the Operations Notice and AFE relate will expire within 180 days of the issuance of the Operations Notice by Hawk. As a result, under the agreements between Alston and Hawk, Alston would have forfeited its interest in the lease and the Well if Alston had elected not to participate in the Operations Notice. Accordingly, on April 24, 2014 Alston elected to participate in the Well and communicated this election to Hawk by accepting the Operations Notice.
- 11. As discussed below in greater detail, Alston executed a LOI with a counterparty in late February, 2014. The counterparty was made aware of the Operations Notice and AFE and expressed a desire for Alston to elect to participate in the Operations Notice in order to preserve Alston's interests in the lease and the Well. The counterparty has also expressed a willingness, if necessary, to enter into a farmin agreement with Alston to perform Alston's obligations under the Operations Notice and AFE on terms which Alston believes are better than any terms which Alston could achieve in the general market place for such an arrangement. Hawk has also expressed an interest to farmin if necessary, but no terms have been discussed with Hawk.
- 12. The Monitor was made aware of the Operations Notice and AFE and the status of the lease to which they relate, and Alston's reasons for electing to participate.

Marketing Process

- 13. As set out in the previous Affidavits filed in these proceedings, Alston previously engaged Sayer for the purpose of seeking both strategic alternatives and possible dispositions of Alston's assets. Sayer concluded a formal process in that regard on October 24, 2013, however no acceptable offers were generated by the process at that time. Nonetheless, Sayer and Alston maintained communication with the interested bidders and in December, 2013 advised interested bidders that they should re-submit bids through Sayer on or before January 20, 2014, if they remained interested (the "Informal Solicitation Process").
- 14. On January 20, 2014 date Alston received a variety of responses. One of these offers was for Alston's assets in the areas of Alexander, Alberta, which resulted in the Alexander Sale. Another offer related to a strategic corporate combination and resulted in the LOI. Each of these is discussed in detail below.

Alexander Sale

15. On March 4, 2014, this Honourable Court approved the Alexander Sale. The Alexander Sale subsequently closed on March 6, 2014. As a result of the Alexander Sale closing, there is no

- longer any need to maintain the confidentiality of the terms of the Alexander Sale, and its impact on Alston's financial position.
- 16. From the net proceeds of the Alexander Sale \$650,000 was paid to ATB in permanent reduction of Alston's indebtedness to ATB, and certain retainers were paid to the beneficiaries of the Administration Charge as a result of the reduction of the Administration Charge which followed the closing of the Alexander Sale. The balance of the net proceeds has been retained by Alston as working capital. Alston continues to anticipate that it will not require interim financing in these proceedings as a result of the Alexander Sale.

<u>LOI</u>

- 17. As a result of the Informal Solicitation Process one party submitted an offer in the nature of a corporate acquisition which could potentially form the basis for a plan of arrangement in these proceedings. After further negotiation, clarification, and refinement of the terms of this offer with the counterparty, Alston executed the LOI in late February 2014.
- 18. Following the execution of the LOI, Alston had numerous meetings with ATB, the Monitor, and the counterparty, all with a view to determining whether the terms of the LOI were acceptable to ATB. To accommodate the discussions between ATB and the counterparty the duration of the LOI was extended by agreement on two occasions.
- 19. In mid April 2014 ATB communicated to Alston and the counterparty that ATB did not support the LOI as it was presented. Subsequently, ATB identified specific aspects of the LOI which were not satisfactory to ATB, and the counterparty indicated a willingness to submit revised terms which addressed the concerns of ATB.
- 20. The LOI has now expired.
- 21. On April 28, 2014 the counterparty provided ATB with revised terms, which addressed the areas of concern identified by ATB. ATB is still considering these revised terms

Solicitation Process

- 22. In March and April 2014 Alston received unsolicited enquiries from third parties about submitting offers for various aspect of Alston, including offers in respect of Alston's tax losses. Alston was prevented from responding to these third parties as a result of the exclusivity provisions of the LOI, except where the counterparty consented to Alston responding.
- 23. As a result of these unsolicited offers and the expiry of the LOI it is now Alston's intention to implement a solicitation process whereby Alston would solicit both corporate offers and offers for its asset. The details of this process are yet to be determined, however Alston anticipates the following:
 - (a) The solicitation process would be commenced as soon as possible and would require 4 to 5 weeks from the date it is implemented to complete;
 - (b) The solicitation process would be implemented by Sayer and overseen by the Monitor;

- (c) The solicitation process would canvas the market a broadly with general information about Alston and the opportunity;
- (d) Interested parties desiring more detailed information would be granted access to a data room upon the execution of a confidentiality agreement; and
- (e) A deadline for submitting offers would be communicated to all interested parties.
- 24. On Monday, April 28, 2014, Alston participated in a teleconference with ATB, the Monitor, and their respective legal advisors, and I understand that from that teleconference that the Monitor support the proposed extension of the stay of proceedings for the purpose of implementing a solicitation process, and ATB is still considering its position in that regard.

Conclusion

25. I make this Affidavit in support of the Application of Alston for the relief described herein.

Sworn before me in the City of Calgary in the Province of Alberta, the 30th day of

April 2014.

Commissioner of Oaths in and for the

Province of Alberta

Don Umbach

David LeGeyt Barrister & Solicitor

RECEIVED MAR 2 8 2014



Alston Energy Inc. 1100, 744 – 4th Avenue SW Calgary, AB T2P 3T4 March 27, 2013 Hand Delivered THIS IS EXHIBIT " Treferred to in the Affidavit of Dan Umbach
Sworn before me this 1.70
Day of An A.D. 12014

ACOMISSIONER FOR CHIHS
NAND FOR THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

David LeGeyt Barrister & Solicitor

Attention: Land Manager

Re:

Operations Notice

Seismic Review Option Agreement dated February 1, 2013, as amended

March 20, 2013 ("JOA")

38-4W4: 24 Cadogan, Alberta

Hawk Exploration Ltd. ("Hawk") hereby submits this Operations Notice to drill a well to test the Mannville Formation at 13-24-38-4W4, to Alston Energy Inc. ("Alston").

Attached are two copies of an authority for expenditure and drilling cost estimate ("AFE") for this operation.

Hawk intends to commence this operation after April 20, 2014 and within the next 90 days and the estimated duration of the drilling portion of this operation is 4 days.

Pursuant to the JOA, this operation is classified as an exploration well and the penalty for non-participation is title forfeiture.

Please indicate below whether you wish to participate in this operation or not and return one signed copy of this letter to the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Erik DeWiel VP Land

Hawk Exploration Ltd.

Alston wishes to participate

Alston wishes **not** to participate

AUTHORIZATION FOR EXPENDITURE DRILL & CASE

HAWK EXPLORATION LTD.

WELL NAME	Hawk Exploration Ltd	PROVINCE	Alberta		A.F.E. #	14D020
OPERATOR	Hawk Exploration Ltd.	AREA	Cadogan		DEVELOP/ EXPLORE	Exploration
EASE	13-24-38-4w4	FILE#			START DATE	Q3/14
RIGHTS HELD	, ,				COMP DATE	
SPACING UNIT	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				BUDGET / NON	
(HA)					BUDGET	
	JUST	IFICATION FOR E	XPENDITURE			31/21/2
Funds required to	drill a 850 meter well to test the Mann	ville formation for oil pr	oduction			
ORIGINATOR/T	ITLE Steve Fitzmaurice		PHONE #	403-264-0191	FAX#	403-263-907
		EREST \ GROSS A	ND NET EXPE	NDITURES		
PARTICIPAN'		W.I.	D&A	D & Cased	Completion	Total
	wk Exploration Ltd.)	(%)	Costs	Costs	Costs	AFE
HAWK EXPLO		100.000	0 \$369,160	\$394,960		\$394,96
		nay en internal and				ļ
						
GROSS EXPI	ENDITURES	100.	0 \$378,400	\$402,000		\$402,00
	the state of the s	APPROVA	LS			L
	HAWK EXPLORATION LTD			Pa	rtners	
Hawk Exploration L	.td. Approvals:		Partner Approva	l:		
Land			Approved By:	n.C.		
			Title			
Finance			Company		·	
l xplorati eri		to the and an additional and a	Date:			usanana a saa
President	a commence of the contract of					
President						
President						
President						

Hawk Exploration Ltd.

DRILLING COST ESTIMATE

	Name: Hawk Cadogan 13-24-38-4W4 ictive: Mannvii - Oil	ı				T.D.: Spud:	850 Q3 2014
CODE	DESCRIPTION						ESTIMATE
			INTANGIBLE DRY HOLE				
							\$1.653
306	Lice: tes Pernits Feet						525 000
300	Surface Rights, Lease Acquis tion						\$6 000
303	Location Survey Site Road Constructions						\$35,000
303 303	Sit : Road Restoration						\$7,500
105	Constacto stat Hole						•
306	Permis taxes well-s						\$500
307	Land Services						\$2 000
308	Rig Move & Rig-up						\$35 000
309	Pre Site Assessment						\$1 500
310	D.: ectional Services insurance						
313	Driling Daywork (Fuel IN)		6	days 🙉	\$15 000	'd'	\$90,000
314	Inspection Services						\$1 000
315	Subsistence / Camp		8	days 📆	\$1 540	1	\$9 24)
317	Boiler						\$12 000
319	Bits & Reamers						\$5 000
338	Drilling Mud. Che-nicals						\$9 000
334	Mud Lagging						
329	Rig Water						\$1 500
33')	V. ater (Hauling)		6	days (A	\$1.270		\$7 200
350	Surface Equipment Rentals		8	days 📆	\$2 500	ıd	\$15 000
328	Trucking						29 000
333	Logging		850	•	\$12	meter	\$10 200
301	Environmental Services						\$0
301	Environmental Ceruices (LVVD)		6	tests 🏋	5850		55 100
339	Vacuum Truck		6	days 🕹	\$1 650		59 900
203	Surface Casing	219 1 mm	150	melers 🥷	559 00	-3	59 440
324	Surfa e Casing Accessories						\$2 007
134	Surface Casing Power Tungs						\$1 800
327	Surface On any Comment						\$- 000 \$2 000
353	Casi g Bust (rental - actiony)						\$2 600 \$9 600
7.49	Drilling Supervision						39 000
350	Genlog ca' Supervision						
348	Engine string Consuming						\$7.50")
214	At an tenment						\$25 (431)
1+ 9	Blac Out to trance		950	m. lers .vi	52	meter	\$1 0
395	Miscs innerus						\$5 10-
5//	Cante je icy	2					\$8 320
363	Overhead (3-2-1)						\$5 400
							\$378,400
	DRY HOLE (abandoned)						•
TOTAL INTANGIBLE	DRY HOLE (less abandonment)					A	\$353,400
			INTANGIBLE PRODUCTION C	ASING			
354	Production Caur j 13	39 7 i m	850	m⊬reis ⊖	\$30 ,	1	1 10 600
357	Producte (Case J Ac.: 55:00:3		200		• '		\$3.001
3,5	True Ling						5 411
354	Production Casing 1 - v. r Tv Tes						52 161
718	Production Casing Cont. d						\$11 92 -
TOTAL INTANGIBLE	PRODUCTION CASING					В	\$48,600
TOTAL INTANGIBLE	CASED HOLE					(A+B)	\$402,000

pa-

Fst: i *