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June 11, 2020

Via Electronic Mail Only

Special Master Michael J. Melloy United States Courthouse 111 Seventh Avenue, S.E. P.O. Box 22

Cedar Rapids, IA 52401

Email: TXvNM141@ca8.uscourts.gov

Re: State of Texas v. State of New Mexico and State of Colorado

United States Supreme Court, Original Jurisdiction No. 141

Selection of Mediator

Dear Judge Melloy:

As requested, the Parties have met and conferred with respect to the selection of a mediator in this matter. We have agreed that the following, in order of preference, would be acceptable to us:

- 1. Oliver Wanger, U.S. District Court Judge (Ret.)
- 2. Arthur Boylan, U.S. Magistrate Judge (Ret.)

We have appended a CV of Judge Wanger. We believe you are familiar with Magistrate Judge Arthur Boylan. If necessary, we can meet and confer and produce additional names for your consideration.

We jointly suggest that you contact the above-referenced potential mediators to determine their availability and to yourself evaluate their suitability for the role of mediator.

Additionally, the Parties agree that a technical advisor should be available to assist with the mediation. As you had suggested, we believe that the role and involvement of the technical advisor should, in the first instance, be left to the selected mediator's discretion. We have agreed that the following technical advisors would be acceptable to the Parties:

- 1. Jeff Fassett
- 2. Mary Anderson

Judge Michael J. Melloy

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Mr. Fassett is a former State Engineer for both the State of Wyoming and the State of Nebraska. We have enclosed a 2013 resume for your information. This was before Mr. Fassett was the Nebraska State Engineer. Information on Dr. Anderson can be found at:

http://www.geology.wisc.edu/~andy/anderson.html https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary_P._Anderson

We also jointly suggest that the mediation process *start* among the Parties only. While we believe that amici will need to be involved in the mediation process, it is our view that the mediator should evaluate and determine the best way to involve amici in the mediation process, including timing for that involvement and the scope of that involvement.

Finally, we have discussed the means to split the costs of the mediator among the Parties. We suggest division of those costs as follows: 30% Texas, 30% New Mexico, 30% United States, 10% Colorado. To the extent that amici are involved in the mediation, we believe that the percentages should be adjusted to reflect costs to be allocated to amici as the Special Master may determine.

The Parties will be prepared to discuss the above recommendations and suggestions further at the June 12, 2020 Status Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

See attached service list

cc: SLS:cr

Somach Simmons & Dunn	Montgomery & Andrews
s/ Stuart L. Somach Stuart L. Somach Counsel of Record State of Texas	s/ Jeffrey Wechsler Jeffrey Wechsler State of New Mexico
s/ James J. Dubois James J. Dubois Counsel of Record United States	s/ Chad M. Wallace Chad M. Wallace Counsel of Record State of Colorado
Encs.	

HON. OLIVER W. WANGER (U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE [RET.]) CV

Education

Colorado School of Mines (1958-1960)

B.S., University of Southern California (1963)

L.L.B., University of California (Boalt Hall) (1966)

Judicial

United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California 1991-2011

Pro Tem Trial and Settlement Judge, Superior Court of California, County of Fresno (1986-91)

Arbitration, Mediation, Private Trials

FedArb - Arbitrator, Mediator, Trial Consultant, Private Judge American Arbitration Association: Panel Member International Center for Dispute Resolution, Large Complex Case Panel, Construction Industry Panel, Labor/Employment Panels

Expert Witness

Qualified in State and Federal Courts and Arbitrations,
Judicial Ethics, Performance, and Standards; Attorney
Ethics and Professional Conduct, Standards of Care,
Attorneys' Fees and Billing; Insurance Coverage Issues Tripartite Relationship, Cummis and Buss Issues; Trial
Practice and Performance

Professional

Fellow, American College of Trial Lawyers (by invitation only limited to 1% of U.S. trial lawyers)

Fellow, International Academy of Trial Lawyers (by invitation only limited to 500 trial lawyers worldwide)

Advocate, American Board of Trial Advocates

Former President of San Joaquin Valley Chapter American
Board of Trial Advocates and National Director, ABOTA

Founder and Diplomate of the American Board of Professional Liability Attorneys

Founder and First President, San Joaquin Valley Inn of Court Founder and Fellow, Litigation Counsel of America (Rank of Centurion) (Emeritus)

Former Certified Civil Trial Specialist by the National Board of Trial Advocacy

Shareholder, Wanger Jones Helsley PC (2011-present)

Partner, McCormick, Barstow, Sheppard, Wayte & Carruth,

Fresno, CA (1974-1991)

Partner, Gallagher, Baker & Manock, Fresno, CA (1969-1974)
Deputy District Attorney, County of Fresno (1967-1969)
Tried as lead counsel or presided over more than 600 jury trials to verdict, Federal-State Courts

Auditor for City of Fresno - Fresno Police Department Video Surveillance Program (2012-2016)

Expert Witness - Legal Ethics, Professional Responsibilities, Judicial Ethics, Trial Practice Consulting, Courtroom Performance, Standards of Care, Attorney's Fees, Insurance - Bad Faith, Tri Partite Relationship; Coverage; Duties and Responsibilities in Cumis and Buss Issue Cases

Academic

Co-Founder, Former President (1980-1995), Chairman of the Board of Trustees (1982-1995), Dean of the Law School (1980-1982); Adjunct Professor of Law (1970-1994, 2011) (Civil Procedure, Constitutional Torts, Trial Practice, Federal Courts, Remedies, Real Property); Teacher of the Year (1991), San Joaquin College of Law

Adjunct Professor of Law, Humphreys College of Law (1968-69) Criminal Law and Procedure

Moderator and Instructor, numerous California C.E.B.,
Rutter Group, and California Judges Association
programs on trial practice, civil procedure,
trial evidence, and jury selection; frequent speaker on
water law issues in California, before Association of
California Water Agencies, California Citrus Mutual,
Southern California Water Committee, Association of
California Water Agencies, and ABA 2012 30th Annual Water
Law Conference; Western Growers Annual Conference 2015;
State Bar Annual Environmental Law Conference, Panelist;
Speaker and Panelist - Eastern District of California
Judicial Conferences (2006-2011)

Arbitration, Mediation, Private Trials 2012-present

Awards

Congressional Tribute, U.S. House of Representatives (2011)

American Board of Trial Advocates Civility Award for Integrity, Professionalism and Civility (2018)

Marquis Who's Who Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award for Career Longevity and Demonstrated Unwavering Excellence (2018); Humanitarian Award (2019)

Honorable Robert E. Coyle Professionalism Award,

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Federal Bar Association (San Joaquin Valley) (2015)
Bernard Witkin Lifetime Achievement Award, Fresno County Bar
Association (2012)

Benchmark Litigation California 2019 California Litigation Star, Environmental/Land Use/Water Rights Noted Star

America's Most Honored Professionals Top 1% (2016)

America's Top 100 Attorneys Lifetime Achievement Northern California (2017)

Top 100 Registry Business Leaders and Professionals 2019 Attorney of the Year
Lifetime Achievement Award in Recognition and Appreciation of Exemplary Accomplishments and Contributions in the Field of Law

Top 100 Registry 2018 Professional of the Year (2018)

Martindale Hubbell 25 Year Preeminent Rating, 5 of 5, in Legal Ability and Ethical Standards (Highest)

Fresno NAACP Image Award (2005)

Central California Legal Services Champion of Justice Award (2005)

Hugh Goodwin Bar Association Founders Award (2002)

Beta Gamma Sigma (Business Honorary Society)

Phi Alpha Delta (Honorary Member)

Top Attorneys in Northern California Super Lawyer (2012-2019)

Top 100 Lawyers in Northern California Super Lawyers (2012-2013, 2018-2019)

Los Angeles Daily Journal Top 100 California Lawyers (2008)

Military

United States Marine Corps Reserve (1960-67), Sergeant E-5

RESUME

GORDON W. "JEFF" FASSETT, P.E.

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1720 Carey Avenue, Cheyenne, WY
Cheyenne, WY 82001
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FAX. (307) 778-9501
Cell. (307) 421-4710
EMAIL: Jeff.Fassett@hdrinc.com

EDUCATION

B.S. Civil Engineering, University of Wyoming, 1974
Continuing education short courses — 1976 to present
Graduate Studies — Hydraulics and Water Law, University of Wyoming
Chatham High School, Chatham, NJ, 1970

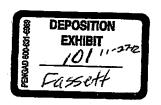
EXPERIENCE

JULY 2006 – PRESENT, DIRECTOR OF WATER RIGHTS STRATEGIC PROGRAM HDR ENGINEERING, INC

Joined HDR Engineering as their Director of Water Rights Strategic Program involved with water supply, water rights and water resources development projects across the all regions of the country, while continuing his water rights and water resources engineering practice within Wyoming and Colorado for a variety of municipal, government agencies, energy, mining, and private clients.

JUNE 2000 – JULY 2006, PRESIDENT, FASSETT CONSULTING, LLC

Upon leaving the position of Wyoming State Engineer after thirteen years, Mr. Fassett opened his own engineering consulting firm specializing in water rights, water resources engineering, and water policy matters in the western states, based in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Mr. Fassett's activity includes his continued technical and policy assistance to Wyoming's Attorney General toward the completion of the settlement of the Nebraska vs. Wyoming, No. 108, Original U.S.S.C. interstate equitable apportionment litigation. He has been retained to provide expert analysis and testimony on a variety of water resources matters in Arizona in the Gila River General Adjudication proceeding and for the Federal government in the Colorado River matters involving the California 4.4 Plan and reasonable and beneficial use determinations. Mr. Fassett also represents a number of municipalities, energy interests and individuals with their water right and water supply issues.



In September, 2002 Mr. Fassett was appointed by the President to be the Federal Representative and Chairman of the Red River Compact Commission involving the water resources of Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana.

1987 – June 2000. Wyoming State Engineer, State of Wyoming

Mr. Fassett was initially appointed by Governor Mike Sullivan and re-appointed by Governor Jim Geringer to the constitutional position as chief water resource official for the State of Wyoming. The State Engineer is the director of all policy, technical, and administrative responsibilities of the cabinet-level agency responsible for the appropriation, beneficial use and general supervision and regulation of all waters in the state. Mr. Fassett duties included state and national legislative activities, budget control, human resources and litigation negotiation efforts. He had continual interaction with federal agencies, including: Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Geological Survey, Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Army Corps of Engineers, Western Area Power Administration and Soil Conservation Service. Mr. Fassett also had extensive interaction with environmental, water user and conservation interest groups as well as many state, tribal and local government agencies.

Mr. Fassett had extensive involvement with all policy development regarding water resource-related issues including matters addressing wetlands, water marketing and transfer of water, wild and scenic river designations, water development planning, multi-jurisdictional administration of water rights, instream flows and endangered species. Mr. Fassett was the key official in the implementation of Wyoming's instream flow protection law, enacted in 1986. He was Wyoming's representative on many interstate river basin and regional commissions, associations and organizations throughout the west that address water resource policy and law, water quality, and environmental issues in the Colorado, Missouri, Columbia, and Great Basin River basins.

Mr. Fassett has had extensive interaction with regional offices of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation located in Billings, MT, Boise, ID, Salt Lake City, UT and Boulder City, NV. This unique exposure is the result of joint or cross-jurisdictional water resource management issues involving the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's jurisdiction and operation of their facilities relating to or affecting Wyoming's water resources. These efforts involved reservoir system reoperation studies to protect multiple public interests on state, tribal and regional bases.

Due to Wyoming's unique geography and the breadth of responsibility of the State Engineer, Mr. Fassett has been involved with a vast array of state, tribal, regional and national water resource and environmental issues, including:

COLORADO RIVER BASIN

- Glen Canyon Dam Environmental Studies and Impact Statement, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- Colorado River Salinity Control Forum and Advisory Council Member
- Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Species Recovery Plan Implementation Committee Member

- Congressional Authorization Central Utah Project, Central Arizona Project, Grand Canyon Protection Act
- Seven-State/Tribal discussions regarding Colorado River issues Governor's Representative for Wyoming
- Upper Colorado River Commission Wyoming Commissioner

MISSOURI RIVER BASIN

- Army Corps of Engineers Master Manual Review
- Missouri River Basin Association (8 states and tribal Representative) President 1990 - 1991
- Yellowstone River Compact Commission Wyoming Commissioner
- Big Horn River General Adjudication, reserved water rights quantification, water right administration, expert testimony, and negotiation efforts
- Buffalo Bill Reservoir enlargement and instream flow agreement
- Madison Aquifer Assessment
- Belle Fourche River Compact Wyoming Commissioner

NORTH PLATTE RIVER

- Section 7 Reservoir operations review
- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Re-licensing at Lake McConaughy
- Nebraska v. Wyoming equitable apportionment litigation and lead representative for settlement negotiations. Settlement pending before U.S. Supreme Court
- Platte River Cooperative Agreement

COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN (SNAKE RIVER)

- Jackson Lake Palisades Reservoir water exchange and instream flow protection
- Army Corps of Engineers Section 1135 Wetlands rehabilitation project
- Columbia River system-wide reservoir operations
- Wild and Scenic River designation suitability evaluation
- Snake River Compact Wyoming Commissioner

GREAT BASIN (BEAR RIVER)

- Cokeville Meadows Wildlife Refuge water rights issues
- Bear River Commission Wyoming Commissioner

1984 - 1987. DEPUTY STATE ENGINEER, STATE OF WYOMING

Mr. Fassett was the senior manager involved with all work activities of the state water resources agency in assistance to the State Engineer. He was involved in all aspects and phases of technical, administrative and policy efforts associated with the operation of a 120-person agency of state government, including water rights administration, appropriation, regulation, dam safety programs, interstate stream commissioners and state/federal cooperative programs and tribal water resource issues.

1979 - 1984. Leonard Rice Consulting Water Engineers, Inc., Denver, CO

1983 - 1984. Vice-president and a principal of the firm. Mr. Fassett held management responsibilities for technical and administrative work for the twenty-person engineering firm, including project management, work scheduling, contract negotiations, expert testimony, report preparation and oral presentations to clients, at hearings and public meetings. Mr. Fassett was the principal in charge of technical water resources, water rights and hydrologic projects in Colorado, Wyoming and South Dakota during his tenure as vice-president.

1980 - 1983. Associate. Mr. Fassett had technical responsibility for the water resource/water rights section of the firm, including project management and water rights engineering tasks. He was engaged in surface and ground water investigations, water rights analyses, management, transfers and changes in Colorado Water Court, subdivision and municipal water supply planning studies, river basin and water rights modeling and planning, storage operations and hydrologic studies. He was the project manager of all administrative and technical engineering work relating to the Big Horn River General Adjudication in Wyoming including expert testimony, participation in litigation settlement negotiations, and congressional briefings.

1979 - 1980. Project Manager/Project Engineer. Mr. Fassett's entry to the firm was in a middle-level manager position as a water rights/resource engineer engaged in surface and ground water investigations, water rights management and evaluation, flood hazard delineation, water supply planning, detailed hydrology and hydraulic studies relating to dam designs for the mining industry and urban drainage analyses. He conducted water rights analyses including transfers, changes of use, initial appropriations, yield studies and management for private, municipal and governmental clients.

1975 - 1979. DENVER WATER DEPARTMENT, DENVER, CO

Mr. Fassett held various Water Resource Engineer positions involved with water resource and water rights engineering projects at the Denver Water Department completing assignments in the fields of raw water operations, water resource engineering and planning. He prepared several hydrologic and hydraulic analyses on watersheds upstream of dams and reservoirs. He also conducted and supervised the development of two comprehensive alternative study reports for major water development projects, including economic evaluations and pre-design investigations. He also had technical and administrative responsibility for the Denver Water Department's cooperative reservoir evaporation study.

PUBLICATIONS

Meeting the Challenge Together: The State's Pivotal Role in Next Century River Basin Governance — Rivers, Studies in the Science, Environmental Policy, and Law of Instream Flow, Vol. 6, Num. 4, 1998

<u>Instream Flow Protection in the West</u> — Edited by Larry MacDonnell, Teresa Rice, and Steven Shupe; 1989, Contributing Author

Wyoming's New Instream Flow Law, Western States Water Council — Water Management Symposium Proceedings, September 1986

<u>Colorado Water Rights Engineering - Case Studies</u>, American Water Works Association Journal, June 1981

PROFESSIONAL SPEAKING

Mr. Fassett is an accomplished speaker and is frequently invited to talk on a wide range of subjects to technical, policy and legal associations, regional water resource organizations and at numerous workshops and seminars. Sponsors of forums include:

- American Bar Association
- American Water Resources Association
- Association of State Dam Safety Officials
- Association of Western States Engineers
- Colorado Water Congress
- Four-States Irrigation Council
- National Water Resources Association
- Native American Rights Foundation
- Trout Unlimited

- University of Colorado Natural Resources Law Center
- University of Wyoming Law and Engineering Colleges
- Upper Missouri Water Users Association
- Western Governors Association
- Western States Water Council
- Wyoming Water Association
- Wyoming Wildlife Federation

Mr. Fassett also has spoken to numerous local and regional agricultural, conservation and civic organizations and has been a guest instructor at several colleges. Topics address a wide range of water resource issues, but typically focus on Mr. Fassett's areas of expertise: Wyoming and Western Water Law; Instream Flow Protection; Tribal and Federal Reserved Water Rights — Quantification, Negotiation, Litigation, and Administration; Safety of Dams; Hydrologic Evaluations; and Water Marketing and Transfers.

PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION AND AWARDS

Wyoming Eminent Engineer — Tau Beta Pi, University of Wyoming, 1999
Distinguished Service Award — Upper Missouri Water Users Association, 1993
Headgate Award — Four-State Irrigation Council, 1991
Engineering Honorary — Tau Beta Pi, Sigma Tau
Registered Professional Engineer (Civil) — in Wyoming (1980) and Colorado (1979)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND SOCIETIES

- American Consulting Engineers Council
- American Water Resources Association
 Wyoming Section
- Association of State Dam Safety Officials — National Board Member 1987-1989
- Association of Western State Engineers

- Colorado River Water Users
 Association Trustee, 1987-2000
- Interstate Council on Water Policy National Board Member 1990-1991
- National Society of Professional Engineers
- University of Wyoming Water Resources
 Center Advisor & Member
- Water for Wildlife Technical Advisor

- Western States Water Council, Member 1987-2000; Chairman 1996-1998
- Wyoming Association of Consulting Engineers and Surveyors
- Wyoming Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors — 1987-2000
- Wyoming Engineering Society
- Wyoming Water Association
 Trout Unlimited Western Water Project

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 $^{^{1}}$ (*) = Counsel of Record

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	1300 Broadway Denver, CO 80203 Nan Edwards – Paralegal II	nan.edwards@coag.gov

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United States	NOEL J. FRANCISCO * Solicitor General JEAN E. WILLIAMS Deputy Assistant Attorney General FREDERICK LIU Assistant to the Solicitor General U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 950 Pennsylvania Ave, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001	supremectbriefs@usdoj.gov (202) 514-2217
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AMICI

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Elephant Butte Irrigation District	SAMANTHA R. BARNCASTLE* BARNCASTLE LAW FIRM, LLC 1100 South Main, Suite 20 (88005) P.O. Box 1556 Las Cruces, NM 88004 Janet Correll - Paralegal	samantha@h2o-legal.com (575)636-2377 Fax: (575) 636-2688 janet@h2o-legal.com
Hudspeth County Conservation and Reclamation District No. 1	ANDREW S. "DREW" MILLER* KEMP SMITH LLP 919 Congress Ave., Suite 1305 Austin, TX 78701	dmiller@kempsmith.com (512) 320-5466
New Mexico Pecan Growers	TESSA T. DAVIDSON* DAVIDSON LAW FIRM, LLC 4206 Corrales Rd. P.O. Box 2240 Corrales, NM 87048 Jo Harden - Paralegal	ttd@tessadavidson.com (505) 792-3636 jo@tessadavidson.com

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