## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF MAINE

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MONTREAL MAINE & ATLANTIC RAILWAY, LTD.,

Bk. No. 13-10670 Chapter 11

Debtor.

### DECLARATION OF GOLDEN EYE RESOURCES LLC IN SUPPORT OF CONFIRMATION OF TRUSTEE'S REVISED FIRST AMENDED PLAN OF LIQUIDATION DATED JULY 15, 2015

I, W.R. McKee, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, state as follows:

#### **Introduction**

- 1. This Declaration is submitted in support of confirmation of the *Trustee's Revised*First Amended Plan of Liquidation Dated July 15, 2015 [Docket No. 1495] (the "Plan"). 1
- 2. I am the Manager of Released Party Golden Eye Resources LLC, headquartered at 5460 South Quebec Street, Suite 335, Greenwood Village, Colorado. I am authorized to make this declaration on Golden Eye Resources LLC's behalf.
- 3. All facts set forth herein are based on my personal knowledge, on information supplied to me by others within the Golden Eye Resources LLC organization, upon my review of relevant documents, or on my opinion based upon my experience and knowledge of Golden Eye Resources LLC's operations. If I were called to testify, I could and would testify competently to the facts set forth herein.

#### **Relevant Background**

4. On July 6, 2013, an unmanned eastbound train operated by Montréal Maine & Atlantic Railway Ltd., the above-captioned debtor ("MMA" or the "Debtor") and/or MMA

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Plan and/or the Revised First Amended Disclosure Statement for the Trustee's Plan of Liquidations Dated July 15, 2015 [D.E. 1497] (the "<u>Disclosure Statement</u>").

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Canada comprised of five locomotives and 72 railcars carrying crude oil derailed in Lac-Mégantic, Quebec, Canada (the "<u>Derailment</u>"). Golden Eye Resources LLC may have produced some of the crude oil that was contained within some of the railcars.

5. Golden Eye Resources LLC is included in the definition of "Released Parties" under the Plan and accordingly, will be the beneficiary of the Releases and Injunctions contained in the Plan if confirmed.

#### The Plan Releases and Injunctions

# A. MMA and Golden Eye Resources LLC Share an Identity of Interest with Respect to the Claims Covered by the Releases and Injunctions

- 6. Golden Eye Resources LLC is presently a defendant in various lawsuits originally filed in state court in Cook County, Illinois and later transferred to the District of Maine,] as well as a class action pending in the Quebec Superior Court for the Judicial District of Mégantic (the "Québec Class Action"), each in connection with the Derailment. Golden Eye Resources LLC is also potentially subject to cross-claims to be asserted by co-defendants for contribution and indemnity in all/many of the cases.
- 7. Golden Eye Resources LLC has claims against MMA for, *inter alia*, contribution and indemnity. Absent confirmation of the Plan and the effectiveness of the Releases and Injunctions contained therein in favor of Golden Eye Resources LLC and its affiliates, Golden Eye Resources LLC intends to pursue such claims against the MMA estate.
- 8. In addition, Golden Eye Resources LLC has significant claims against various other Contributing Parties for, *inter alia*, contribution and indemnity for any liability arising from the Derailment. In turn, such Contributing Parties have or may have claims against the MMA estate for, *inter alia*, contribution and indemnity for any liability arising from the Derailment. Thus, any claim asserted by Golden Eye Resources LLC against another

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Contributing Party would serve to increase the size of such Contributing Parties' claims against the MMA estate.

# B. Golden Eye Resources LLC Has Contributed Substantial Assets to the MMA and MMA Canada Estates

- 9. In an effort to resolve Golden Eye Resources LLC's contingent claims against the MMA estate and the alleged claims of Derailment victims against Golden Eye Resources LLC, Golden Eye Resources LLC, through its insurer(s), engaged in substantial settlement negotiations with Robert J. Keach, trustee for the Debtor's Chapter 11 Case (the "Trustee"). After several months of good faith, arm's-length negotiation, Golden Eye Resources LLC, by and through its insurer(s), agreed to contribute to the settlement fund formulated by the Trustee for satisfaction of Claims against the Debtor, subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan Support and Settlement Agreement (the "Settlement Agreement"), which terms and conditions include the requirement that the Releases and Injunctions become effective.
- 10. Golden Eye Resources LLC, by and through its insurer, ultimately agreed to settle with the Trustee in part to avoid the expense and delay of protracted litigation relating to Golden Eye Resources LLC's alleged liability for the Derailment. That being said, Golden Eye Resources LLC has strong legal and factual defenses to all claims relating to the Derailment.
- 11. Golden Eye Resources LLC believes that it is thus by no means certain that MMA's Derailment creditors would be able to realize through litigation the significant value that will be contributed by and on behalf of Golden Eye Resources LLC to the MMA estate pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, and certainly would not be able to realize any recovery whatsoever from Golden Eye Resources LLC without incurring the delay, expense and risks of litigation (including the risk that one significant judgment in favor of a tort claimant would significantly deplete the amounts available to pay any others). Under these circumstances and

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by any measure, the total settlement contribution to the MMA estate by and on behalf of Golden Eye Resources LLC is "substantial."

### C. The Releases and Injunction are Essential to the Success of the Plan

- 12. The Releases and Injunctions apply to Golden Eye Resources LLC. The Settlement Agreement requires Golden Eye Resources LLC to receive global releases and injunctions protecting them from any and all claims by anyone that was related in any way to MMA or the Derailment. The global releases and injunctions required under the Golden Eye Resources LLC Settlement Agreement are to be achieved through confirmation of a plan in MMA's bankruptcy case.
- 13. Golden Eye Resources LLC and its insurers were only willing to negotiate and enter into a settlement on the condition that any settlement was a final settlement of all MMA-and Derailment-related liability—not only that of Golden Eye Resources LLC and its insurers, but also any potential liability of related parties, including Golden Eye Resources LLC's direct and indirect affiliates and their present and former officers, directors, agents, insurers and employees. It was with this understanding that Golden Eye Resources LLC and the insurers agreed to make their significant contribution to the MMA estate.
- 14. Golden Eye Resources LLC and its insurers would not have settled with the Trustee if Golden Eye Resources LLC was not protected from (a) further third party claims brought by the Derailment victims and (b) any and all contribution, indemnity and other claims relating in any way to the Derailment. A settlement that did not include Golden Eye Resources LLC, its insurers, as well as its corporate affiliates, officers, directors, agents and employees would leave Golden Eye Resources LLC related entities and individuals at risk for future suits, because there is a subset of possible claims as to which the statute of limitations has not run. This would make Golden Eye Resources LLC vulnerable to future claims for indemnity. There

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is no way that Golden Eye Resources LLC would settle under such circumstances. Thus, the third party releases and injunction were critical to achieving the proposed settlement, which will not be effective if the Plan is not confirmed with the Releases and Injunctions.

- 15. In light of Golden Eye Resources LLC's strong defenses to liability, it is by no means certain that MMA's Derailment creditors would be able to recover any amounts whatsoever from Golden Eye Resources LLC if the Plan were not confirmed and the Releases and Injunctions contained therein were not made effective. And under that scenario, each judgment awarded to an MMA Derailment creditor would reduce the amount available to pay to other tort creditors, as each claim paid under Golden Eye Resources LLC's insurance policies would reduce the amount available to satisfy other claims.
- 16. For these reasons, I believe that the Releases and Injunctions in favor of Golden Eye Resources LLC, its insurers, and agents and affiliates of each are not only appropriate but are in the best interests of MMA's creditors and are essential to consummation of the proposed Plan.
- 17. Finally, I, on behalf of Golden Eye Resources LLC, fully support confirmation of the Plan.

[signature page follows]

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Dated: September 18, 2015

W. R. McKee

Manager

GOLDEN EYE RESOURCES LLC