ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA

ANTERO RESOURCES CORPORATION, Petitioner

vs.

Harrison Civil Action No. 22-P-85-3 Supreme Court Docket No. 22-BCD-07

MATTHEW R. IRBY, West Virginia State Tax Commissioner; JOSEPH R. ROMANO, Assessor of Harrison County; and COUNTY COMMISSION OF HARRISON COUNTY, Respondents

ORDER GRANTING REFERRAL

On May 27, 2022, the petitioner, Antero Resources Corporation, by counsel, John J. Meadows, Steptoe & Johnson, PLLC, filed a motion to refer this case to the Business Court Division in accordance with Rule 29 of the West Virginia Trial Court Rules ("TCR"). On June 6, 2022, the Honorable James A. Matish, Judge of the Circuit Court of Harrison County, filed a response to the motion. The County Commission of Harrison County, by R. Terrance Rodgers and Jonathan Nicol, Kay Casto & Chaney, PLLC, filed a response to the motion on June 9, 2022.

Upon careful review and consideration of the motion, the Chief Justice has determined that the principal claims in the action involve matters of significance to the transactions, operations, or governance between business entities as required by TCR 29.04(a)(1), and that specialized treatment is likely to improve the expectation of a fair and reasonable resolution of the controversy as required by TCR 29.04(a)(2).

It is ORDERED that the motion to refer this action to the Business Court Division is GRANTED.

The Clerk of Court shall provide a copy of this order to the Honorable Michael D. Lorensen, Chair of the Business Court Division, for assignment of a presiding judge and such other actions as are necessary to effectuate the provisions of TCR 29; to the Central Office of the Business Court Division, the Honorable James A. Matish, Judge of the Circuit Court of Harrison County, and to the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Harrison County.

ENTERED: JUNE 13, 2022

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Chief Justice