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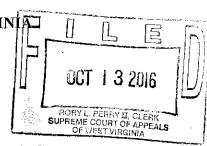
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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA

STATOIL USA ONSHORE PROPERTIES, INC.,

Petitioner.

V.



Wetzel County Circuit Court Civil Action No. 16-C-84 Honorable Jeffrey D. Cramer

THE HONORABLE MARK MATKOVICH,
West Virginia State Tax Commissioner,
THE HONORABLE SCOTT LEMLY,
Assessor of Wetzel County, and
THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF WETZEL COUNTY,

Respondents.

REPLY MEMORANDUM OF
WEST VIRGINIA STATE TAX COMMISSIONER
TO STATOIL USA ONSHORE PROPERTIES, INC.'S
MOTION TO REFER CASE TO BUSINESS COURT DIVISION

PATRICK MORRISEY ATTORNEY GENERAL

CASSANDRA L. MEANS (WVSB# 10522) ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East Building 1, Room W-435 Charleston, West Virginia 25305 304-558-2522

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA

STATOIL USA ONSHORE PROPERTIES, INC.,

Petitioner,

v.

Wetzel County Circuit Court Civil Action No. 16-C-84 Honorable Jeffrey D. Cramer

THE HONORABLE MARK MATKOVICH,
West Virginia State Tax Commissioner,
THE HONORABLE SCOTT LEMLY,
Assessor of Wetzel County, and
THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF WETZEL COUNTY,

Respondents.

REPLY MEMORANDUM OF WEST VIRGINIA STATE TAX COMMISSIONER TO STATOIL USA ONSHORE PROPERTIES, INC.'S MOTION TO REFER EXONERATION APPEAL TO BUSINESS COURT DIVISION

On October 5, 2016, undersigned counsel for the West Virginia Tax Department received from this Court a "Notice of Filing of Motion to Refer to the Business Court." The notice directed that "any party of affected judge" may file a reply memorandum pursuant to Trial Court Rule 29.06(a)(4). The notice further listed the State Tax Commissioner as a notice party.

By order dated September 20, 2016, the West Virginia State Tax Commissioner was dismissed from this matter as he was not an appropriate party. *See* Exhibit A. Given that the Tax Commissioner is no longer a party in the above-captioned matter, the Tax Commissioner does not have a position regarding a referral to Business Court.

Respectfully submitted,

MARK W. MATKOVICH, STATE TAX COMMISSIONER OF WEST VIRGINIA,

By counsel

PATRICK MORRISEY ATTORNEY GENERAL

Cassandra L. Means (WV State Bar #10522)

Assistant Attorney General

Office of the Attorney General

State Capitol Complex

Building 1, Room W-435

Charleston, WV 25305

(304) 558-2522

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA

STATOIL USA ONSHORE PROPERTIES, INC.,

Petitioner,

v.

Wetzel County Circuit Court Civil Action No. 16-C-84 Honorable Jeffrey D. Cramer

THE HONORABLE MARK MATKOVICH, West Virginia State Tax Commissioner, THE HONORABLE SCOTT LEMLY, Assessor of Wetzel County, and THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF WETZEL COUNTY,

Respondents.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Cassandra L. Means, Assistant Attorney General and counsel for Respondent Mark W. Matkovich, State Tax Commissioner, do hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing Reply Memorandum Of West Virginia State Tax Commissioner To Statoil USA Onshore Properties, Inc.'s Motion To Refer Case To Business Court Division was served upon the following by depositing a copy of the same in the United States mail, first-class postage prepaid, this 13th day of October, 2016, addressed as follows:

John Meadows, Esq. Craig Griffith, Esq. Steptoe & Johnson PLLC P.O. Box 1588 Charleston, WV 25326

Karen T. McElhinny, Esq. Roberta F. Green, Esq. Shuman McCuskey & Slicer, PLLC P.O. Box 3953 Charleston, WV 25339

Timothy E. Haught, Esq. Wetzel County Prosecuting Atty. P.O. Box 548 New Martinsville, WV 26155 The Honorable Jeffrey Cramer Marshall County Courthouse 600 Seventh Street Moundsville, WV 26041

The Honorable Sharon Dulaney Wetzel County Circuit Clerk P.O. Box 263 200 Main Street New Martinsville, WV 26155

Business Court Division Berkeley County Judicial Center 380 West South Street, Suite 2100 Martinsburg, WV 25401

CASSANDRA L. MEANS

STATOIL USA ONSHORE PROPERTIES, INC.,

٧.

Petitioner,

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF WETZEL COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA 26 AM 10: 41

Civil Action No. 16-C-84 Judge Jeffrey Cramer

THE HONORABLE MARK MATKOVICH, West Virginia State Tax Commissioner, THE HONORABLE SCOTT LEMLEY, Assessor of Wetzel County, and THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF WETZEL COUNTY,

Respondents.

AGREED ORDER DISMISSING WEST VIRGINIA STATE TAX COMISSIONER MARK MATKOVICH

The Petitioner and Respondents herein move this Honorable Court to DISMISS WITH PREJUDICE West Virginia State Tax Commissioner Mark Matkovich from this matter as he is not a proper party. Without objection, IT IS HEREBY SO ORDERED.

There being nothing further, the State Tax Commissioner is hereby DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE from this matter.

The Circuit Clerk is directed to send an attested copy of this order to counsel of record.

Entered this 20" day of JEPTEMBER , 2016.

ramer, Circuit Judge

SEP 28 2016

Attorney General Office Tax Division

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ANNEXED INSTRUMENT IS A

WETZEL

Prepared by:

Cassandra L. Means (WV State Bar #10522)

Assistant Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General
State Capitol Complex
Building 1, Room W-435

Charleston, WV 25305

(304) 558-2522

Counsel for Mark W. Matkovich, West Virginia Tax Commissioner

Approved by:

Cassandra Mean with permissier

Craig A. Griffith (WV State Bar #8549)

John J. Meadows (WV State Bar #9442)

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Timothy E. Haught, Esq.

Wetzel County Prosecuting Atty.

P.O. Box 548

New Martinsville, WV 26155