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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF RITCHIE COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

ANTERO RESOURCES CORPORATION,
PETITIONER,

v.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 17-AA-2
JUDGE TIMOTHY L. SWEENEY

THE HONORABLE MARK MATKOVICH,
West Virginia State Tax Commissioner,

THE HONORABLE ARLENE MOSSOR,
Assessor of Ritchie County, and

THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF RITCHIE COUNTY,
RESPONDENTS.

2017 APR -4 P 4:32
ROSE ELLEN COX
CLERK CIRCUIT COURT
RITCHIE COUNTY, WV

FILED**ANSWER OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF RITCHIE COUNTY**

Comes now the County Commission of Ritchie County, by and through Samuel C. Rogers, II, Prosecuting Attorney for Ritchie County, West Virginia, who has for its answer to the Complaint herein the following:

1. Pursuant to West Virginia Rule of Civil Procedure 9(d), the County Commission of Ritchie County, which sat as the Board of Assessment Appeals in the underlying matter, hereby avers that all its official acts, including but not limited to the denial of the appeal of certain tax assessments by the Petitioner herein, were taken in compliance with law.
2. To the extent that the Complaint of the Petitioner filed herein avers that said denial of its appeal of certain tax assessments as therein alleged was erroneous, the County Commission of Ritchie County denies the same.
3. Because the County Commission of Ritchie County avers that these proceedings are strictly controlled by applicable statutes and decisional precedent regarding presumptions and burdens of proof in appeals of tax assessments, the County Commission further avers that it is not obliged to affirm or deny any other factual allegations appearing in the Complaint of the Petitioner, but that it is sufficient to aver that all of the official acts

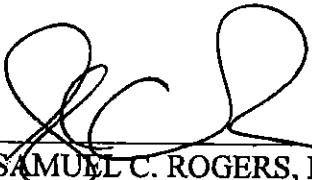
taken by the County Commission of Ritchie County herein were in compliance with applicable law.

WHEREFORE, the County Commission of Ritchie County respectfully prays that this Court affirm its decision or otherwise dismiss the Complaint herein.

Respectfully submitted,

COUNTY COMMISSION OF RITCHIE COUNTY

By Counsel,



SAMUEL C. ROGERS, II
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
115 E. Main Street
Harrisville, WV 26362
WV State Bar No. 12112

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Samuel C. Rogers, II, Prosecuting Attorney for Ritchie County, do hereby certify that I have made service of the foregoing **ANSWER OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF RITCHIE COUNTY** upon the parties hereto, by mailing a true and exact copy thereof to their counsel of record, as follows, this 4th day of April, 2017:

Craig A. Griffith, Esq.
John J. Meadows, Esq.
Steptoe & Johnson, PLLC
P.O. Box 1588
Charleston, WV 25326
Counsel for Petitioner

L. Wayne Williams, Esq.
Assistant Attorney General
1900 Kanawha Blvd., East
Building 1, Room W-435
Charleston, WV 25305
Counsel for Respondents
Matkovich and Mossor



SAMUEL C. ROGERS, II
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY