

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF RITCHIE COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA**

**ANTERO RESOURCES CORPORATION,  
PETITIONER,**

**v.**

**CIVIL ACTION NO. 17-AA-1  
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.**

**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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SCR', is written over a horizontal line.

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 30th day of January, 2017:

Craig A. Griffith, Esq.  
John J. Meadows, Esq.  
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Counsel for Petitioner

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Counsel for Respondents  
Matkovich and Mossor

  
SAMUEL C. ROGERS, II  
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY