#### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI EASTERN DIVISION

In re PATRIOT COAL CORPORATION, et	Chapter 11
al.,	Case No. 12-51502-659
Debtors	(Jointly Administered)
	Hearing Date: December 17, 2013, Hearing Time: 9:00 a.m. (prevailing Central Time)
	Hearing Location: Courtroom 7 North
	Re: ECF Nos. 5089 and 5090

### PAYNE-GALLATIN COMPANY, SOUTHERN LAND COMPANY LP AND DICKINSON PROPERTIES LP LIMITED OBJECTION TO DEBTORS' MOTON FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER AUTHORIZING ASSIGNMENT OF CERTAIN ASSUMED UNEXPIRED LEASES [ECF NO. 5089]

Payne-Gallatin Company, a West Virginia corporation ("Payne-Gallatin"), Southern Land Company LP, a West Virginia limited partnership ("Southern"), and Dickinson Properties LP, a West Virginia limited partnership ("Dickinson" and with Southern collectively "Southern-Dickinson", and Southern-Dickinson with Payne-Gallatin, collectively the "Southern-Dickinson Group") by counsel, pursuant to Bankruptcy Code (11 U.S.C. et seq.) §§ 105, 365, 1125, and 1129, respectfully file this limited objection (the "Objection") to <u>Debtors' Motion For Entry Of</u> <u>An Order Authorizing Assignment Of Certain Assumed Unexpired Leases</u> [ECF No. 5089] (the "Motion") as it relates to those certain leases from Southern-Dickinson (the "Southern-Dickinson Assigned Leases") and from Payne-Gallatin (the "Payne-Gallatin Assigned Leases") to various Debtors identified in Exhibit A to the Motion (the "Assigned Leases").

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In support of this Objection, the Southern-Dickinson Group states as follows:

1. The Southern-Dickinson Assigned Leases have been assumed by the Debtors pursuant to the Order of the Court [ECF No. 2822] entered on February 13, 2013.

2. The Payne-Gallatin Assigned Lease has been assumed by the Debtors pursuant to the Order of the Court [ECF No. 4994] entered on November 14, 2013 and the Order of the Court [ECF No. 5095] entered December 5, 2013.

3. On December 4, 2013, Debtors' filed the Motion, which states that "the counterparties to the Assigned Leases will be provided adequate assurance of future performance by the Assignee Debtors because Debtor Patriot Coal or the Assignor Debtor will guarantee the Assignee Debtors' obligations under the Assigned Leases" (Motion, par. 19, p. 7).

4. However, the form of the proposed guarantee instrument was not included with the Motion, and was not been provided to the Southern-Dickinson Group or its counsel until approximately 10:16 A.M today.

5. <u>In re Alipat, Inc.</u> 36 B.R. 274 (Bankr. E.D. Mo. 1984), while stating that "the overwhelming majority of the opinions which have considered the question of adequate assurance has granted the debtor's (or the trustee's) request to approve an assignment," also recognizes that the rights of the lessor must be considered ("Indeed, in discussing the unenforceability of ipso facto clauses, Congress has directed that the Courts are to be sensitive to the rights of the non-debtor party.") <u>H.R. Report No. 95-595, 95th Cong., 1st Sess. (1977); S. Rep. No. 95-989, 95th Cong., 2d Sess. (1978), U.S. Code Cong. & Admin. News 1978, p. 5787") 36 B.R. at 277-278.</u>

6. The Southern-Dickinson Group, by its counsel, wishes to submit revisions to the proposed Guarantee instrument to Debtors' counsel and hopes to negotiate a mutually agreeable

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instrument of guarantee with Debtors' counsel.

7. Accordingly, the Southern-Dickinson Group files this Limited Objection to the Motion.

8. The Southern-Dickinson Group respectfully reserves the right to supplement this Limited Objection.

WHEREFORE, Payne-Gallatin Company, a West Virginia corporation, Southern Land Company LP, a West Virginia limited partnership, and Dickinson Properties LP, a West Virginia limited partnership, respectfully request that the Court enter an order (a) denying the Motion as it relates to the Southern-Dickinson Group Leases or (b) conditioning approval of the Motion as it relates to the Southern-Dickinson Leases on a guarantee instrument mutual agreeable to the Debtors and the Southern-Dickinson Group and (c) granting such further relief as the Court may deem, equitable and just.

Dated: December 13, 2013 Charleston, West Virginia Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Thomas Persinger Thomas Persinger WVSB No. 2874 Admission pro hac vice THOMAS PERSINGER PLLC P. O. Box 2828 Charleston, WV 25330-2828 Telephone number: (304) 343-0850 Telecopier number: (304) 343-1677 E: <u>mtplaw@frontier.com</u> Counsel for Payne-Gallatin Company, Southern Land Company LP, and Dickinson Properties LP

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Dated: December 13, 2013 St. Louis, Missouri /s/ Howard S. Smotkin Howard S. Smotkin - EDMO #36227MO E. Rebecca Case - EDMO #38010MO Stone, Leyton & Gershman A Professional Corporation 7733 Forsyth Blvd., Suite 500 St. Louis, Missouri 63105 Telephone number: (314) 721-7011 Facsimile number: (314) 721-7011 Facsimile number: (314) 721-8660 E: hsmotkin@stoneleyton.com rcase@stoneleyton.com Local Co-Counsel for Payne-Gallatin Company, Southern Land Company LP, and Dickinson Properties LP

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was sent via first class, United States mail, postage prepaid and/or electronic notice on December 13, 2013 to:

- 1. The parties on the Core Parties List No. 8 dated November 19, 2013 (D.E. #5015).
- 2. The parties on the Master Notice List No. 8 dated November 19, 2013 (D.E. #5015).
- 3. All creditors and parties in interest that are receiving electronic notice in this case.

/s/ Howard S. Smotkin Howard S. Smotkin