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12	UNITED STATES	BANKRUPTCY COURT
13		TRICT OF CALIFORNIA
14		
15	,	CISCO DIVISION
16	In re	Case No. 09-31347 Chapter 11
17	PLANT INSULATION COMPANY, a California corporation,	DECLARATION OF ALAN R. BRAYTON
		IN SUPPORT OFPLAN PROPONENTS'
18	Debtor.	MOTION FOR ORDER (A) APPROVING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH
19	Tax ID: 94-0292481	UNITED STATES FIDELITY AND GUARANTY COMPANY, (B)
20		DESIGNATING UNITED STATES FIDELITY AND GUARANTY COMPANY
21		AS A SETTLING ASBESTOS INSURER
22		UNDER THE PLAN, (C) APPROVING THE SALE OF INSURANCE POLICIES
23		FREE AND CLEAR OF LIENS, CLAIMS, AND INTERESTS, AND (D) APPROVING
24		RECONSIDERATION PROCEDURES
25		Date: August 29, 2014 Time: 9:00 a.m.
26		Judge: Hon. Thomas E. Carlson Place: Courtroom 23
		235 Pine Street San Francisco, CA
27		San Francisco, CA
28		

Case: 309 132730.1 Doc# 2836 Filed: 08/28/14 Entered: 08/28/14 17:38 1245 TOP LOGICL AN ATION 5

- 1. I am an attorney and have actively practiced in the area of asbestos litigation since 1983, representing victims of asbestos related disease. My law firm, Brayton Purcell, and I are counsel for one of the members of the Official Committee of Creditors Holding Unsecured Claims in the above case. I am Co-Chair of the Committee.
- 2. This Declaration is filed in support of the *Plan Proponents' Motion For Order*(A) Approving Settlement Agreement With United States Fidelity And Guaranty Company, (B)

 Designating United States Fidelity And Guaranty Company As A Settling Asbestos Insurer Under

 The Plan, (C) Approving The Sale Of Insurance Policies Free And Clear Of Liens, Claims, And

 Interests, And (D) Approving Reconsideration Procedures (the "Motion"), filed by the Plan

 Proponents¹ on August 27, 2014. Capitalized terms not defined herein shall have the meanings

 ascribed to them in the Motion. Except for those matters stated upon information and belief, I

 have personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein and if called as a witness would testify
 thereto. As for those matters stated upon information and belief, I believe those matters to be true
 and correct.
- 3. The vast majority of the work of Brayton Purcell is representing injured plaintiffs in personal injury litigation. Over 90 percent of our work involves representation of victims of asbestos-related disease and their families. The statement under Bankruptcy Rule 2019 that we filed in this case sets forth all of the pending cases or current claims against Plant Insulation Company that our firm then believed that we had in our office at the time of the filing of the bankruptcy case by Plant. My law firm has more asbestos related claims against the Debtor than any other firm. On behalf of our clients, my firm voted a total of 4,008 of 6,437 class 4 claims voting for the Plan. This represented \$480,573,680 of the \$1.4 billion in claims based on the average matrix values that voted for the Plan.

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¹ "Plan Proponents" means, collectively, Bayside Insulation & Construction, Inc., Reorganized Debtor (the "Debtor"), the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "Committee"), and the Court-appointed representative of holders of future asbestos claims (the "Futures Representative").

- 4. I was a founding partner in what is now the Brayton Purcell firm in 1984. My principal office is in Novato, California. We now have 50 lawyers and approximately 250 staff, and maintain additional offices in Salt Lake City, Utah, Portland, Oregon and Los Angeles, California. My asbestos practice has always been concentrated in Northern California, primarily in the Bay Area.
- 5. Over the years, my firm has represented over 10,000 victims of asbestos-related disease, and we have filed over 10,000 lawsuits seeking damages based on exposure to asbestos and resulting asbestos-related disease, against more than a thousand named defendants. My firm has tried to verdict the claims of hundreds of asbestos victims, and has settled many thousands more.
- 6. I have represented clients who have served on the asbestos claimant's committees in the following chapter 11 bankruptcy cases which involve debtors with asbestos related claims asserted against them: Thorpe Insulation; J.T. Thorpe Inc; Western Asbestos; EJ Bartells; Porter Hayden; Owens Corning; Quigley, Lake/Asarco; THAN, Leslie Controls and Kaiser Aluminum. I am also familiar with many other asbestos chapter 11 cases as I represent claimants in over 90% of asbestos bankruptcies, and I am active in national organizations involving asbestos. I have been appointed by the courts and currently serve as chair or co-chair of the Trust Advisory Committees on the Western Trust, The J.T. Thorpe Inc. Trust, the Thorpe Insulation Trust, the Plant Insulation Trust, the E.J. Bartels Trust, the Kaiser Aluminum Trust, and the ASARCO Trust. I represented a client who served on the Chrysler creditor's committee, served as co-chair of that committee, and was appointed as the Litigation Manager for Chrysler's Managing Trustee.
- 7. I am the senior person at my firm in charge of overseeing the negotiation of settlements of individual asbestos cases with named defendants and their insurers. In addition, I have a substantial amount of experience negotiating settlements with insurers in the context of 524(g) bankruptcy cases both prior to and during this case given my extensive involvement in such cases described in paragraph 6 above. Oftentimes, the insurers request that I become involved in these negotiations because they want to ensure that the claimants support the

settlement. Among other cases, I have participated in settlement negotiations in the three previous 524(g) cases in California: (1) the Western Asbestos case that yielded recoveries to the trust of over \$2 billion, (2) the J.T. Thorpe case that yielded recoveries to the trust of over \$200 million, and (3) the Thorpe Insulation case that resulted in recoveries to the trust of over \$600 million. I have also participated in the negotiation of the previous settlements in this case with Sompo, UNIC, Arrowood, Mt. McKinley, the Allianz Companies, the ACE Companies, U.S. Fire, Safety National, Insurance Company of the West, and the Resolute-Related Parties. Accordingly, I am knowledgeable about the range of recoveries to be obtained from insurers in settlement negotiations and whether the settlement proposals made by those insurers would be beneficial to asbestos claimants.

- 8. Based upon my own personal knowledge, including my review of various sworn testimony including depositions, affidavits, and declarations as well as pleadings filed in underlying asbestos lawsuits, this bankruptcy case, and the Declaratory Relief Action, I have the understandings set forth herein. I understand that United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company ("USF&G") issued multiple primary liability insurance policies to the Debtor for various policy periods (collectively, the "Policies"). However, in the Declaratory Relief Action in state court, USF&G has consistently denied all the substantive allegations and claims asserted against it and has contended that it has no further responsibility under the Policies.
- 9. The terms of the Settlement were arrived at as a result of arm's-length bargaining and good faith negotiation among the parties thereto. I have been active in the negotiations with USF&G. I have personally participated in a number of discussions with USF&G's principals and their counsel, including the in-person meeting on August 27, 2014 in New York City that ultimately produced the Settlement. Based on our joint privilege, the Trust's representatives, the Futures Representative's counsel and I familiarized ourselves with the strengths and weaknesses of the Debtor's position in the Declaratory Relief Action, and utilized our extensive experience from other asbestos bankruptcies to analyze settlement proposals and develop settlement strategies. Our counsel was in contact with counsel for the Reorganized Debtor to inform them of the status of the negotiations. By the time the Trust, FCR and the

Committee had reached a settlement that they could support, the Reorganized Debtor was informed and also supported that settlement. We were able to reach the essential terms of a settlement on August 27, 2014. I was personally involved in these negotiations and support the total amount of the settlement that was reached. I believe, in light of the applicable facts and law, and based on my extensive involvement and experience in other asbestos bankruptcy cases, that the total amount of the settlement with USF&G is fair to the injured victims that the Committee represents. The Committee voted to support the settlement.

asbestos victims by funding the Trust for their benefit, thereby allowing them to obtain compensation for their asbestos bodily injury and wrongful death claims without incurring the expense and delay of going to the tort system. Absent approval of the Settlement and the accompanying sale and buyback of the Insurance Rights, the Debtor potentially will be faced with years of additional expensive and inherently uncertain litigation with USF&G. The sale will provide significant consideration to the section 524(g) trust to be created pursuant to the Plan. In addition, since USF&G is the last remaining non-settled insurer that appealed this Court's New Confirmation Order to the District Court, settlement with USF&G should pave the way for the New Confirmation Order to become final in short order, meeting a necessary condition precedent for over \$180 million in settlement payments pursuant to previously approved settlements with other insurers.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Executed on this **25**th day of August, 2014.

Alan R. Brayton

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