

## ASSIGNMENT OF MINERAL RIGHTS LEASE

FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, **Placer Dome U.S. Inc.**, a California corporation, whose address is P.O. Box 2706, Elko, Nevada 89803 ("Assignor"), hereby assigns and conveys to the **Cortez Joint Venture**, a Nevada joint venture comprised of Placer Cortez Inc. and Kennecott Explorations (Australia) Ltd., whose address is HC66, Box 1250, Crescent Valley, Nevada 89821-1250 ("Assignee"), of Assignor's right, title and interest in and under the following:

Amended Mineral Rights Lease entered into effective as of the 7<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1998, and between Linda Lou Stout, as Lessor, and Oro Nevada Mining, Company Inc., as Lessee (the "Lease"), covering the real property located in Eureka and Lander Counties, Nevada that is more particularly described on Exhibit "A" attached hereto, the extension of which Lease evidenced of record by that certain memorandum recorded in Book 342 at Page 354 of the records of Eureka County, Nevada and Book 492 at Page 464 of the records of Lander County, Nevada.

Assignor warrants title to the Lease by, through and under Assignor, but not otherwise. This assignment is made without other warranties, either express or implied.

Assignee hereby acknowledges and agrees that, effective upon the assignment by Assignor to Assignee of all of Assignor's right, title, and interest under the Lease, and by virtue of this Assignment, (a) Assignee shall have assumed all of the obligations, liabilities, and responsibilities of the Assignor under the Lease arising after the effective date of this Assignment and (b) Assignee shall have become bound by and to the Lease as Assignee had been an original party to the Lease.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Assignor has executed this assignment effective as of the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2001.

ASSIGNOR:  
PLACER DOME U.S. INC.

By: *Brian G. Iverson*  
Name: Brian G. Iverson  
Title: Manager of Land Affairs

ASSIGNEE:  
CORTEZ JOINT VENTURE, a Nevada joint venture  
By: Placer Dome U.S. Inc., Manager

By: *Brian G. Iverson*  
Name: Brian G. Iverson  
Title: Manager of Land Affairs

STATE OF NEVADA )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF WHITE PINE )

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> y of October, 2001, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said State, person<sup>y</sup> appeared Brian G. Iverson, known to me to be the Manager of Land Affairs of PLACEDOME U.S. Inc., the Manager of the CORTEZ JOINT VENTURE, a Nevada joint venture, whcknowledged that he executed the same on behalf of said corporation.

WITNESSY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL.

NOTARY PUBLIC



*Margaret Goetz*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public in and for the  
County of White Pine, State of Nevada  
My Commission Expires: 02/25/04

EXHIBIT "A"

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY  
EUKA AND LANDER COUNTIES, NEVADA

<u>Township/Range</u>	<u>Stion</u>	<u>Subdivision</u>	<u>Approx. Acres</u>
28N-49E	1	all	640.80
	2	all	640.68
	3	all	640.00
	4	all	640.00
	5	all	640.00
	6	all	640.00
	2	N1/2	320.00
	2	all	640.00
28N-50E	1	Lots 1, 2	14.52
	3	Lots 1, 2	17.00
	5	Lots 1, 2	15.99
	7	all	625.57
	9	all	640.00
	11	all	640.00
	13	all	640.00
	15	all	640.00
	17	all	628.28
	19	all	640.00
28N-51E	1	all	601.08
	3	all	623.40
	5	all	640.00
29N-49E	1	all	640.00
	3	all	640.00
	5	all	640.00
	7	all	640.00
	9	all	640.00
	11	all	640.00
29N-50E	1	all	817.16
	3	all	816.20
	5	all	621.00
	7	all	640.00
	9	all	640.00

29N-50E, continued

E1/2, N1/2NW1/4, N1/2S1/2NW1/4,  
S1/2SW1/4, S1/2N1/2SW1/4

560.00

all  
all  
all  
all  
all  
all  
all  
all  
all  
all  
all  
all

640.00  
640.00  
624.00  
640.00  
640.00  
640.00  
640.00  
640.00  
625.80  
640.00  
640.00

29N-51E

all

590.40

TOTAL:

27,981.88

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BOOK 344 PAGE 354  
OFFICIAL RECORDS  
RECORDED AT THE REQUEST OF  
*Placer Dome US Inc*  
01 OCT 25 PM 1:28

LORENA COUNTY NEVADA  
M.N. REBALEATI, RECORDER  
FILE NO. FEES 17.00

177128

BOOK 344 P. 357

177128

220460

OFFICIAL RECORDS  
LANDER CO. NEV  
RECORD REQUESTED BY  
*Placer Dome US Inc*  
01 OCT 17 PM 12:47

IDONNA M. TREVINO  
RECORDER

FEE 17.00 DEPOS SW