

177129

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 Exploration (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 1st day of July, 1998, and between Antoine Primeaux and Ellen Primeaux, as Lessors, and 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 is evidenced of record by that certain memorandum recorded in Book 342 at Page 362 of the records of Eureka County, Nevada and in Book 492 at Page 472 of the records of Lander County, Nevada.

Assignor warrants 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 effective date of this Assignment and (b) Assignee shall have become bound by and to the Lease if Assignee had been an original party to the Lease.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Assignor has executed this assignment effective as of the 2nd 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

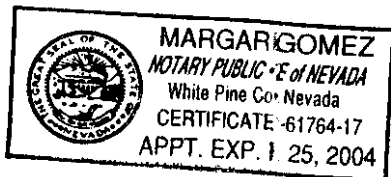
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STATE OF NEVADA)
) ss.
 COUNTY OF WHITE PINE)

On the 2nd of October, 2001, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally 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, who acknowledged that he executed the same on behalf of said corporation.

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL.

NOTARY PUBLIC



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

EXHIBIT "A"

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY
EUEKA AND LANDER COUNTIES, NEVADA

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

640.00

all

640.00

all

624.00

all

640.00

all

640.00

all

640.00

all

640.00

all

640.00

all

625.80

all

640.00

all

640.00

29N-51E

all

590.40

TOTAL:

27,981.88

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 OFFICIAL RECORDS
 RECORDED AT THE REQUEST OF
Blacker Dome US Inc
 01 OCT 25 PM 1:30

EUREKA COUNTY NEVADA
 M.N. REBALEATI, RECORDER
 FILE NO. FEES 1.00

177129BOOK **344** PAGE **361****220461**

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

IDONNA M. TREVIÑO
 RECORDER

FEE 17.00 DEP SW