

**177130****ASSIGNMENT OF MINERAL RIGHTS LEASE**

FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt as 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 7<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1998, and between Sally Knudson, 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 350 of the records of Eureka County, Nevada and Book 492 at Page 460 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 as 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

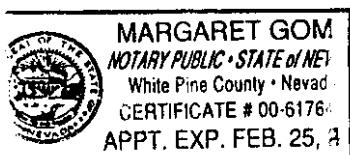
BOOK 344 PAGE 362

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

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October, 2001, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said State, person appeared Brian G. Iverson, known to me to be the Manager of Land Affairs of PLACEROME 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>Section</u>	<u>Subdivision</u>	<u>Approx. Acres</u>
28N-49E		all	640.80
		all	640.68
		all	640.00
		all	640.00
		all	640.00
		all	640.00
		N1/2	320.00
		all	640.00
28N-50E		Lots 1, 2	14.52
		Lots 1, 2	17.00
		Lots 1, 2	15.99
		all	625.57
		all	640.00
		all	640.00
		all	640.00
		all	640.00
		all	640.00
		all	628.28
		all	640.00
		all	640.00
28N-51E		all	601.08
		all	623.40
		all	640.00
29N-49E		all	640.00
		all	640.00
		all	640.00
		all	640.00
		all	640.00
		all	640.00
29N-50E		all	817.16
		all	816.20
		all	621.00
		all	640.00
		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	<u>590.40</u>
TOTAL:		<u>27,981.88</u>

2855081\_1.DOC

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OFFICIAL RECORDS  
RECORDED AT THE REQUEST OF  
*Placer Dome US Inc*  
01 OCT 25 PM 1:32

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

220462

177130

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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 DEP *SW*