

SIGNMENT OF MINERAL RIGHTS LEASE

FOR AND IN COIDERATION of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt & 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 neral Rights Lease entered into effective as of the 9th day of July, 1998, and between Patricia Suzanne Primeaux, as Lessor, and Oro Nevada Mining, Company Inc., as Lessee (the "Lease"), covering the real prerty located in Eureka and Lander Counties, Nevada that is more partiarily described on Exhibit "A" attached hereto, the extension of which Le is evidenced of record by that certain memorandum recorded book 342 at Page 358 of the records of Eureka County, Nevada and Book 492 at Page 468 of the records of Lander County, Nevada.

Assignor warrants : to the Lease by, through and under Assignor, but not otherwise. This assignment is made withouty other warranties, either express or implied.

Assignee hereby acknowledges and agrees that, effective upon the assignment by Assignor to Assignee of all of Assignor right, title, and interest under the Lease, and by virtue of this Assignment, (a) Assignee shall have assed all of the obligations, liabilities, and responsibilities of the Assignor under the Lease arising aftr the 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 WHEOF, 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

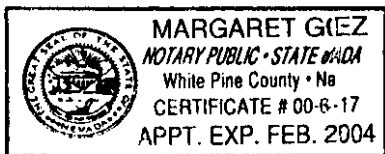
By: Brian G. Iverson
Name: Brian G. Iverson
Title: Manager of Land Affairs

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, person appeared Brian G. Iverson, known to me to be the Manager of Land Affairs of PLACEHOME 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 Giez
 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>

BOOK **344** PAGE **366**
 OFFICIAL RECORDS
 RECORDED AT THE REQUEST OF
Placer Dome US Inc
 01 OCT 25 PM 1:33
 EUREKA COUNTY NEVADA
 M.H. REBALEATI, RECORDER
 FILE NO. FEES **17**

177131

BOOK **344** PAGE **39**

220463

OFFICIAL RECORDS
 LANDER CO. NEV
 RECORD REQUESTED BY
Placer Dome US Inc
 01 OCT 17 PM 12:48
 IDONNA M. TREVINO
 RECORDER
 FEE 17.⁰⁰ DER *dw*