UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

11
19-34752 (DRJ)
Administered)
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NOTICE OF (I) HEARING ON FINAL APPROVAL OF DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND CONFIRMATION OF CHAPTER 11 PLAN, AND (II) OBJECTION DEADLINES, AND SUMMARY OF DEBTORS' CHAPTER 11 PLAN

- 1. On August 26, 2019 (the "<u>Petition Date</u>"), Epic Companies, LLC and certain of its subsidiaries, the debtors and debtors in possession in the above-captioned cases (collectively, the "<u>Debtors</u>"), each commenced a case under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "<u>Bankruptcy Code</u>") in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas (the "<u>Bankruptcy Court</u>").
- 2. On February 13, 2020, the Debtors and the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "Plan Proponents") filed a plan of liquidation (the "Plan")² and a proposed disclosure statement (the "Disclosure Statement") pursuant to sections 1125 and 1126(b) of the Bankruptcy Code. Copies of the Plan and the Disclosure Statement may be obtained free of charge by visiting the website maintained by the Debtors' voting agent, Epiq Corporate Restructuring, LLC (the "Voting Agent"), at the following: https://dm.epiq11.com/ECL. Copies of the Plan and Disclosure Statement may also be obtained by calling the Voting Agent at 1-855-958-0575 (domestic and Canada) or 1-503-597-5530 (international), or by email to tabulation@epiqglobal.com with a reference to "Epic Companies" in the subject line.

Information Regarding Plan

3. On February 19, 2020, the Court approved the following Confirmation Schedule:

Event	Deadline
Voting Record Date	February 14, 2020
Commencement of Plan Solicitation and Mailing of Combined Notice	February 24, 2020

¹ The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are as follows: Epic Companies, LLC (1473), Epic Diving & Marine Services, LLC (2501), Epic Applied Technologies, LLC (5844), Epic Specialty Services, LLC (8547), Epic Alabama Steel, LLC (6835), Epic San Francisco Shipyard, LLC (5763) and Zuma Rock Energy Services, LLC (1022). The address of the Debtors' headquarters is: 23603 W. Fernhurst Drive, Katy, Texas 77494.

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² Capitalized terms not otherwise used herein have the meaning ascribed to them in the Plan.

Event	Deadline
Plan Supplement Filing Deadline	March 17, 2020
Plan Voting Deadline and Deadline to Object to Disclosure Statement and Confirmation	March 24, 2020 at 5 p.m. (Prevailing Central Time)
Deadline to File Voting Affidavit	March 26, 2020
Deadline to file Consolidated Brief and Reply in Support of Confirmation	March 30, 2020
Combined Hearing on Final Approval of Disclosure Statement and Confirmation of Plan	April 1, 2020 at 2 p.m. (Prevailing Central Time)

4. Any objections to the Disclosure Statement and/or the Plan must be: (i) in writing, (ii) filed with the Clerk of the Court together with proof of service thereof, (iii) set forth the name of the objecting party, and the nature and amount of any claim or interest asserted by the objecting party against the Estates or property of the Debtors, and state the legal and factual basis for such objection, and (iv) conform to the applicable Bankruptcy Rules and the Bankruptcy Local Rules.

Summary of Plan³

5. Solicitation of votes on the Plan commenced prior to the Petition Date. The following chart summarizes the treatment provided by the Plan to each class of Claims and Interests and is subject in all respects to the Challenge:

Class	Claim or Equity Interest	Treatment	Impaired or Unimpaired	Entitled to Vote	Approx. % Recovery
1	Other Secured	Except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed	Unimpaired	No (Deemed	100%
	Claims	Other Secured Claim and the Plan Proponents or the		to Accept)	
		Liquidating Trustee agree to a less favorable			
		treatment, in full and final satisfaction, compromise,			
		settlement, and release of and in exchange for each			
		Allowed Other Secured Claim, each such Holder			
		shall receive either (i) Cash from the Claims Reserve			
		in an amount equal to the proceeds of the collateral			
		securing such Holder's Allowed Other Secured			
		Claim after satisfaction in full of all superior liens up			
		to the amount of the Allowed Other Secured Claim;			
		or (ii) solely to the extent the amount of an Allowed			

The statements contained herein are summaries of the provisions contained in the Disclosure Statement and the Plan and do not purport to be precise or complete statements of all the terms and provisions of the Plan or documents referred to therein. For a more detailed description of the Plan, please refer to the Disclosure Statement. Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Plan.

Class	Claim or Equity Interest	Treatment	Impaired or Unimpaired	Entitled to Vote	Approx. % Recovery
		Other Secured Claim is greater than the value of the collateral securing such Allowed Other Secured Claim and there are no Liens on such collateral senior to the Lien held by or for the benefit of the Holder of such Allowed Other Secured Claim, the collateral securing such Allowed Other Secured Claim in full and final satisfaction of such Claim. Any purported Secured Claim on the Prepetition Credit Agreement Collateral that is not senior to the Prepetition Credit Agreement Claims under applicable state or federal law shall be a General Unsecured Claim.			
2	Other Priority Claims	Except to the extent that a Holder of an Allowed Other Priority Claim and the Plan Proponents or the Liquidating Trustee agree to a less favorable treatment, in full and final satisfaction, compromise, settlement, and release of and in exchange for each Allowed Other Priority Claim, each such Holder shall receive Cash first from the Claims Reserve equal to the unpaid portion of the Allowed Other Priority Claim.	Unimpaired	No (Deemed to Accept)	100%
3	Prepetition Senior Credit Agreement Claims	The Prepetition Senior Credit Agreement Claims are subject to the Challenge. The Holders of the Prepetition Senior Credit Agreement Claims (i) received, in exchange for their credit bid of \$50 million of their Prepetition Senior Credit Agreement Claims, the Prepetition Senior Credit Agreement Collateral included in the Sale pursuant to the Purchase Agreement, and (ii) following the resolution of the Challenge by a Final Order and subject to section 502(d) of the Bankruptcy Code, shall receive, to the extent Allowed and not recharacterized or subordinated pursuant to the Challenge: (x) any proceeds from any Prepetition Senior Credit Agreement Collateral not included in the Sale; and (y) with respect to any Allowed Prepetition Senior Credit Agreement Deficiency Claim, the same treatment as Class 5 (General Unsecured Claims)	Impaired	Yes	91-94%
4	Prepetition Junior Credit Agreement Claims	The Prepetition Junior Credit Agreement Claims are subject to the Challenge. Following the resolution of the Challenge by a Final Order and subject to section 502(d) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Holders of the Prepetition Junior Credit Agreement Claims not otherwise assumed pursuant to the Sale shall receive, to the extent Allowed and not recharacterized or subordinated pursuant to the Challenge: (i) any proceeds from any Prepetition Junior Credit Agreement Collateral not included in the Sale after the Prepetition Senior Credit Agreement Claims are paid in full; and (ii) with respect to any Allowed Prepetition Junior Credit Agreement Deficiency	Impaired	Yes	61-66%

Class	Claim or Equity Interest	Treatment	Impaired or Unimpaired	Entitled to Vote	Approx. % Recovery
		Claims, the same treatment as Class 5 (General Unsecured Claims).			
5	General Unsecured Claims	Each Holder of an Allowed Class 5 General Unsecured Claim shall receive its Pro Rata share of the Liquidating Trust Cash available on any Distribution Date from the Liquidating Trust Assets in accordance with the terms of the plan and the Liquidating Trust Agreement.	Impaired	Yes	1.0-11.3%
6	Subordinated Claims	Each Holder of an Allowed Class 6 Subordinated Claim, to the extent Allowed and only following the payment in full of all Allowed Claims in Class 5, shall receive its share of any remaining Liquidating Trust Cash, Pro Rata with all other Allowed Class 6 Subordinated Claims, available on any Distribution Date from the Liquidating Trust Assets in accordance with the terms of the plan and the Liquidating Trust Agreement.	Impaired	No	0%
7	Intercompany Claims	Class 7 Intercompany Claims shall be cancelled and discharged, with the Holders of such Class 7 Intercompany Claims receiving no Distribution on account of such Intercompany Claims.	Impaired	No (Deemed to Reject)	0%
8	Intercompany Interests	Class 8 Intercompany Interests shall be cancelled and discharged, with the Holders of such Class 8 Intercompany Interests receiving no Distribution on account of such Intercompany Interests.	Impaired	No (Deemed to Reject)	0%
9	Epic Interests	Class 9 is Impaired. Holders of Class 9 Epic Interests are deemed to have rejected the Plan pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code and, therefore, Holders of Epic Interests are not entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.	Impaired	No (Deemed to Reject)	0%

Non-Voting Status of Holders of Certain Claims and Interests

6. The Plan provides that each holder of a Claim in Class 1 (Other Secured Claims) and Class 2 (Other Priority Claims) are unimpaired. Pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code, the holders of Claims in each of the foregoing Classes are conclusively presumed to have accepted the Plan and, thus, are not entitled to vote. The Plan also provides that each holder of a Claim or Interest in Class 7 (Intercompany Claims), Class 8 (Intercompany Interests), and Class 9 (Epic Interests) are impaired and deemed to reject the Plan pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Notice Regarding Certain Release, Exculpation, and Injunction Provisions in Plan

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THE PLAN CONTAINS CERTAIN RELEASE, EXCULPATION, AND INJUNCTION PROVISIONS, INCLUDING:

Article X.C Releases by the Debtors

Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law and approved by the Bankruptcy Court, pursuant to section 1123(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, for good and valuable consideration, effective on and after the Effective Date, the Released Parties shall be deemed to have conclusively, absolutely, unconditionally, irrevocably, and forever been released and discharged by the Debtors and the Estates from any and all past or present Claims, Interests, indebtedness and obligations, rights, suits, losses, damages, injuries, costs, expenses, Causes of Action, remedies, and liabilities whatsoever, including any derivative Claims, asserted on behalf of the Debtors, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, asserted or unasserted, suspected or unsuspected, accrued or unaccrued, fixed, contingent, pending or threatened, existing or hereinafter arising, in law, equity, or otherwise, whether for tort, fraud, contract violations of federal or state laws or otherwise, those Causes of Action based on veil piercing or alterego theories of liability, contribution, indemnification, joint liability or otherwise that the Debtors, the Estates, or their Affiliates would have been legally entitled to assert in their own right (whether individually or collectively) or on behalf of the Holder of any Claim or Interest or other Entity, based on or relating to any act, omission, transaction, event, or other occurrence taking place on or prior to the Effective Date (collectively, "Debtor Released Claims") based on or relating to, or in any manner arising from, in whole or in part, the Debtors, the Debtors' restructuring efforts, the Chapter 11 Cases, the subject matter of, or the transactions or events giving rise to, any Claim or Interest that is treated in the Plan, the business or contractual arrangements between any Debtor and any Released Party, the restructuring of Claims and Interests prior to or during the Chapter 11 Cases, the negotiation, formulation, or preparation of the Plan, the Disclosure Statement, the Plan Supplement, the Liquidating Trust Agreement or any related agreements, instruments, or other documents, the pursuit of Confirmation, any action or actions taken in furtherance of or consistent with the administration or implementation of the Plan or the Distributions and related documents or other property under the Plan, upon any other act or omission, transaction, agreement, event, or other occurrence taking place on or before the Effective Date arising from or relating to any of the foregoing; provided, however, that the foregoing "Debtor Releases" shall not operate to waive, release or adversely impact (i) any Causes of Action of any Debtor or Estate arising from any act or omission of a Released Party that are found, pursuant to a Final Order, to be the result of such Released Party's actual fraud, gross negligence, or willful misconduct, (ii) any post-Effective Date obligations of any party under the Plan or any document, instrument, or agreement executed in connection with the Plan, or (iii) any Causes of Action against any Insiders, Prepetition Agents, or any **Prepetition Secured Parties.**

Article X.D Releases by Holders of Claims

Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law and approved by the Bankruptcy Court, pursuant to section 1123(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, for good and valuable consideration, effective on and after the Effective Date, each Releasing Party shall be deemed to have conclusively, absolutely, unconditionally, irrevocably, and forever released and discharged the Debtors and the other Released Parties from any and all past or present Claims, Interests, indebtedness and obligations, rights, suits, losses, damages, injuries, costs, expenses, Causes of Action, remedies, and liabilities whatsoever, including any derivative Claims, asserted on behalf of a Debtor, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, asserted or unasserted, suspected or unsuspected, accrued or unaccrued, fixed, contingent, pending or threatened, existing or hereafter arising, in law, equity, or otherwise, whether for tort, fraud, contract violations of federal or state laws or otherwise, those Causes of Action based on veil piercing or alter-ego theories of liability, contribution, indemnification, joint liability or otherwise that such Releasing Party would have been legally entitled to assert (whether individually or collectively), based on or relating to any act, omission, transaction, event, or other occurrence taking place on or prior to the Effective Date (collectively "Third Party Released Claims") based on or relating to, or in any manner arising from, in whole or in part, the Debtors, the Debtors' restructuring efforts, the Chapter 11 Cases, the subject matter of, or the transactions or events giving rise to, any Claim or Interest that is treated in the Plan, the business or contractual arrangements between any Debtor or any other Released Party, on one hand, and any Releasing Party, on the other hand, the restructuring of Claims and Interests prior to or during the Chapter 11 Cases, the negotiation, formulation, or preparation of the Plan, the Disclosure Statement, the Plan Supplement, the Liquidating Trust Agreement or any related agreements, instruments, or other documents, the pursuit of Confirmation, any action or actions taken in furtherance of or consistent with the administration or implementation of the Plan or the Distributions and related documents or other property under the Plan, upon any other act or omission, transaction, agreement, event, or other occurrence taking place on or before the Effective Date arising from or relating to any of the foregoing; provided, however, that the foregoing "Third Party Releases" shall not operate to waive or release (i) any Causes of Action of any Debtor or Estate arising from any act or omission of a Released Party that are found, pursuant to a Final Order, to be the result of such Released Party's actual fraud, gross negligence, or willful misconduct, (ii) any post-Effective Date obligations of any party under the Plan or any document, instrument, or agreement executed in connection with the Plan, or (iii) any Causes of Action against any Insiders, Prepetition Agents, or any Prepetition Secured Parties; provided, further, that nothing contained in these provisions or in this Release shall affect the rights of Holders that elect the Release Opt-Out on their respective ballots.

Article X.E Exculpation

Notwithstanding anything contained in this Plan to the contrary, an Exculpated Party, and any property of an Exculpated Party, shall not have or incur any liability to any Entity for (a) any prepetition act taken or omitted to be taken in connection with, related to or arising from the Debtors' out-of-court restructuring efforts, including authorizing, preparing for or Filing the Chapter 11 Cases and the Sale, or (b) any postpetition act arising

prior to or on the Effective Date taken or omitted to be taken in connection with, related to or arising from the formulation, negotiation, preparation, dissemination, implementation, or administration of this Plan, the Plan Supplement, the Disclosure Statement, or any contract, instrument, or other agreement or document created or entered into in connection with this Plan, the Disclosure Statement, or the Chapter 11 Cases, or any other postpetition act taken or omitted to be taken in connection with or in contemplation of the restructuring of the Debtors, the Chapter 11 Cases, or the confirmation or consummation of this Plan, including but not limited to (i) the Sale; (ii) formulating, preparing, disseminating, implementing, confirming, consummating or administrating this Plan (including soliciting acceptances or rejections thereof if necessary), the Disclosure Statement, or any contract, instrument, release or other agreement or document entered into or any action taken or not taken in connection with this Plan; or (iii) any Distribution made pursuant to this Plan, except for acts determined by a Final Order to constitute actual fraud, willful misconduct or gross negligence, and in all respects such parties shall be entitled to rely upon the advice of counsel with respect to their duties and responsibilities under or in connection with this Plan. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for the avoidance of doubt, this section of the Plan shall not (i) exculpate or release any Exculpated Party from anything other than as expressly identified in the preceding sentence, (ii) prevent or limit the ability of the Debtors, Estates or the Liquidating Trustee to object to a Claim of an Exculpated Party on any basis other than matters exculpated or released in this section, or (iii) prevent or limit the ability of the Debtors, Estates or the Liquidating Trustee to object to, or defend against, on any basis, any Administrative Claim of an Exculpated Party. The foregoing exculpation shall not operate to waive or release any Causes of Action against any Insiders, Prepetition Agents, or any **Prepetition Secured Parties.**

Article X.F Injunction

Except as otherwise expressly provided in the Plan or in the Confirmation Order, or for obligations arising pursuant to the Plan, from and after the Effective Date, all Entities who hold or may hold Claims or Interests and all Entities acting on behalf of such Holders and the Releasing Parties are permanently enjoined from taking any of the following actions against the Debtors, the Released Parties, the Exculpated Parties, the Liquidating Trust and/or the Liquidating Trustee: (1) commencing or continuing in any manner any action or other proceeding of any kind on account of or in connection with or with respect to any Claims or Interests; (2) enforcing, attaching, collecting, or recovering by any manner or means any judgment, award, decree, or order against such Entities on account of or in connection with or with respect to any Claims or Interests; (3) creating, perfecting, or enforcing any encumbrance of any kind against such Entities or the property or Estates of such Entities on account of or in connection with or with respect to any Claims or Interests; (4) asserting any right of setoff, subrogation, or recoupment of any kind against any obligation due from such Entities or against the property or Estates of such Entities on account of or in connection with or with respect to any Claims or Interests unless such Holder has Filed a motion requesting the right to perform such setoff on or before the Confirmation Date; (5) commencing or continuing in any manner any action or other proceeding of any kind on account of or in connection with or with respect to any Claims, Interests and Causes of Action released, exculpated, waived, settled or barred pursuant to the Final DIP Order, or this Plan, which for the avoidance of doubt include the Third Party Releases, Debtor

Releases and Exculpated Claims set forth herein; *provided, however*, that nothing contained in these provisions or in this Injunction shall affect the rights of Holders that elect the Release Opt-Out on their respective ballots, against any parties other than the reorganized Debtors, the Exculpated Parties, the Liquidating Trust and/or the Liquidating Trustee.

Relevant Definitions Related to Release and Exculpation Provisions:

"Exculpated Party" means each of (a) the Debtors, (b) the Chief Restructuring Officer, (c) G2 Capital Advisors, LLC (d) the Committee and the Committee's members, (e) Kelton C. Tonn, and (f) with respect to each of the foregoing Entities in clauses (a) through (d), such Entity's current subsidiaries, and its and their officers, directors, employees, agents, financial and other advisors, attorneys, accountants, investment bankers, consultants, representatives and other Professionals in any such persons' capacity as such. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the definition of "Exculpated Party" shall not include any Insiders, either of the Prepetition Agents, nor any Prepetition Secured Parties.

"Insiders" means an entity as defined in section 101(31) of the Bankruptcy Code, and includes, without limitation, Thomas Clarke, Ana Clarke, David Wiley, Orinoco Natural Resources, LLC, Oakridge Energy Partners LLC, or Clarke Investments, LLC, or any such Entity's current or former Affiliates (other than the Debtors). Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the definition of "Insiders" shall not include Kelton C. Tonn.

"Prepetition Agents" means the Prepetition Senior Agent and the Prepetition Junior Agent.

"Prepetition Junior Agent" means Acqua Liana as administrative agent under the Prepetition Junior Credit Agreement.

"Prepetition Senior Agent" means White Oak as administrative agent under the Prepetition Senior Credit Agreement.

"Released Party" means, collectively, and in each case in its capacity as such, (a) the Debtors, (b) the Chief Restructuring Officer, (c) G2 Capital Advisors, LLC, (d) Kelton C. Tonn, and (e) with respect to each of the foregoing Entities in clauses (a) through (c), each such Entity's current subsidiaries and its officers, directors, employees, agents, financial and other advisors, attorneys, accountants, investment bankers, consultants, representatives and other Professionals as of the Petition Date, including in any such persons' capacity as director and/or officer (or any similar position) of any of the Debtors or any of the Debtors' subsidiaries, and successors in interest of any such party. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the definition of "Released Party" shall not include any Insiders, either of the Prepetition Agents, nor any Prepetition Secured Parties.

"Releasing Parties" means, collectively, and in each case in its capacity as such: (a) the Debtors, (b) each Holder of a Claim that is deemed to accept the Plan, (c) each other Holder of a Claim that is entitled to vote on the Plan and does not elect the Release Opt-Out on its Ballot, and (d) with respect to each of the foregoing Entities in clauses (a) through (c), such Entity's current subsidiaries, and its and their managed accounts or funds, such Entity and its current officers, directors, employees, agents, financial and other advisors, attorneys, accountants, investment bankers, consultants, representatives and other Professionals, in their capacities as such, including

but not limited to in any such persons' capacity as director and/or officer (or any similar position) of any of the Debtors or any of the Debtors' subsidiaries, and predecessors and successors in interest of any such party. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the definition of "Releasing Parties" shall not include any Insiders, either of the Prepetition Agents, nor any Prepetition Secured Parties.

YOU ARE ADVISED AND ENCOURAGED TO CAREFULLY REVIEW AND CONSIDER THE PLAN, INCLUDING THE RELEASE, EXCULPATION AND INJUNCTION PROVISIONS, AS YOUR RIGHTS MIGHT BE AFFECTED.

UNLESS AN OBJECTION IS TIMELY FILED AND SERVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS NOTICE, IT MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED BY THE BANKRUPTCY COURT.

Dated: Houston, Texas

February 20, 2020 BY ORDER OF THE COURT

PORTER HEDGES LLP

By: <u>/s/ John F. Higgins</u>

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