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1	SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK	
2	COUNTY OF NEW YORK - CIVIL TERM - PART 60	
3	x	
4	In the Matter of the Application of Index No.:	
5	THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, in its 150738/2019 Capacity As Trustee For 278 Residential Mortgage-	)
	Backed Secruization Trusts,	
6	Petition,	
7	For the Judicial Instructions Under CPLR Article 77	
8	Concerning the Proper Pass-Through Rate	
9	Calculation For CWALT Interest Only Senior Certificates.	
10	x	
11	60 Centre Street New York, New York	
	January 31, 2019	
12	·	
13	B E F O R E: HONORABLE MARCY S. FRIEDMAN, Justice	
14	APPEARANCES:	
15	•	
16	MAYER BROWN LLP Attorneys For the Petitioner	
17	1221 Avenue of the Americas	
	New York, New York 10020 BY: MATTHEW D. INGBER, ESQ.	
18	-and- BY: ANJANIQUE WATT (not yet admitted)	
19		
20	QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART & SULLIVAN	
21	Attorneys For Silian Ventures LLC 51 Madison Avenue, 22nd Floor	
22	New York, New York 10010 BY: JONATHAN E. PICKHARDT, ESQ.	
23	-and- BY: BLAIR ADAMS, ESQ.	
	DI. BEITT. IIDITIO, HOQ.	
24	Maria E. Rivera	
25	Senior Court Reporte:	2

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1 THE COURT: Good morning. 2 May I have counsels' appearances, please. 3 MR. INGBER: Good morning, Your Honor. Matthew Ingber from Mayer Brown for the petitioner, 4 5 The Bank of New York Mellon. 6 THE COURT: And present with you? 7 MR. INGBER: Present with me is Anjanique Watt also 8 from Mayer Brown. 9 MR. PICKHARDT: Good morning, Your Honor. 10 Jonathan Pickhardt from Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & 11 Sullivan, here on behalf of Silian Ventures LLC, which will 12 be a respondent in this proceeding. 13 I'm here with my colleague, Blair Adams. 14 THE COURT: Thank you. 15 So I understand, Mr. Ingber, that you did give 16 Silian's counsel notice of this proceeding. And I would 17 like to discuss a few issues, procedural issues today. 18 But first, Mr. Pickhardt. 19 MR. PICKHARDT: Pickhardt, yes, Your Honor. 20 THE COURT: You have indicated that you were going 21 to appear in this proceeding. 22 MR. PICKHARDT: That's correct, Your Honor. 23 THE COURT: Have you already filed a notice of 24 appearance? 25 MR. PICKHARDT: We have not filed a notice of

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appearance, Your Honor, understanding that it would probably require Your Honor entering the order for us actually moving to intervene, so that's why we haven't filed the appearance as of yet, but we are prepared to do so whatever procedures Your Honor has.

THE COURT: Do you have any position on Silian's appearance?

MR. INGBER: We have no objection to Silian's appearance today.

THE COURT: So you will not need to move to intervene? I'm not making a finding that you would have had to, but it's a moot issue.

MR. PICKHARDT: Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Now, I would like to know, Mr. Ingber, what you contemplate will be the purpose of the hearing date.

THE COURT: That it is going to be set in the order to show cause. As you know, I have had a number of Article 77 proceedings brought on by order to show cause, and we have had different appearances for different purposes.

The purpose of the hearing date?

MR. INGBER: So what we contemplate for the hearing date is that it will be a date by which all interested parties will have had an opportunity to appear, will have submitted papers in support or in opposition to the position

No.

MR. INGBER:

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laid out by the trustee in the petition. And then we would, if Your Honor would like us, we would have an argument on both sides of the issue.

Now, we have been through some Article 77 proceedings in the past. We understand that the procedure can be fluid. There may be -- it may be the case that certificate holders intervene and ask for some other type of process. It is certainly within the realm of possibility. Although, we don't know that it would be necessary here that certificate holders could ask for some form of limited discovery. We can't anticipate that right now.

What we are expecting and what we're hoping is that this can be resolved expeditiously. And that at the hearing date Your Honor will get the benefit of the submissions by all the interested parties.

THE COURT: Counselor, do you want to weigh in on this?

MR. PICKHARDT: Yes, Your Honor, I would.

Your Honor, if I can provide a very brief context of this dispute which is part of what informs our position here. This is a distribution dispute. I know Your Honor is very is familiar with distribution disputes, probably more familiar than Your Honor would like to be.

This is an issue that my client raised with the trustee about a year ago. And we raised an issue because,

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1 effectively what the trustee was doing was calculating 2 3

payments to senior interest only certificates that had the effect of treating them like subordinate certificates. were doing it in a manner that was different than other trustees handle payments to interest only certificates with

6 respect to modifying the mortgage trust.

> We raised the issue with the trustee and asked them for their position and identified what we thought was an error. And we didn't actually hear anything back from the trustee, notwithstanding sort of repeated questions for about seven months until last fall. They came back to us, and they said we don't agree with you.

THE COURT: I do think this is too much detail at I'm sorry to stop you. But I think when you this point. see who is going to appear here, that would be the time to hear about the merits of the dispute.

MR. PICKHARDT: Understood, Your Honor.

THE COURT: I do understand from having looked at the petition that there is a dispute about the calculation interest, and that there is a pending action in Federal Court by certain certificate holders regarding calculation issues, that there may be a dispute about the jurisdiction of this Court.

MR. PICKHARDT: That is correct, Your Honor. only point was that this has been percolating for quite a

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We are anxious to get a prompt resolution to this. So we frankly agree with Mr. Ingber. That would be good if this Court could, as I know it has done in some other cases, schedule a prompt merits hearing within the next 90 days in order that we could be in front of Your Honor to be able to present merits arguments, largely probably on the papers, maybe there will be some support --

THE COURT: You are not going to seek to have this moved to Federal Court? You are not asking to argue that this is not the proper Court to exercise jurisdiction over the matter?

Your Honor, we still have to talk MR. PICKHARDT: to our client based upon Your Honor's ruling today as to the I know Mr. Ingber has indicated with respect to the federal action that he is intending to move against the action there, contending that there is not jurisdiction in the federal courts. So it may be, Your Honor, talking to my client that we will frankly agree, we will be happy to proceed in front of Your Honor, especially if we could proceed in an expeditious manner.

That is, frankly, what my client is most interested They have been very respectful of your experience with respect to these matters. They would like to be in front of a Court that can move expeditiously and that has expertise, and Your Honor has both of those, we believe. So I believe

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we will be very interested in proceeding here.

We really only have, you know, the expedition in really two other kinds of issues that we have with respect to the order to show cause that's being presented in front of Your Honor. I'm happy to address those other two issues now if you would like.

But on this specific issue, you asked with respect to the hearing. We are in agreement with Mr. Ingber, that it is something that can be scheduled expeditiously, we are all in favor.

THE COURT: Mr. Ingber, do you want to respond to anything that counsel just said?

MR. INGBER: No, other than to say that what is most important to us for purposes of today is that we get direction to implement the notice program that we laid out, so that other certificate holders can be here as well, if they choose to be here, to weigh in on all of the issues that counsel for Silian has started to discuss.

THE COURT: Fair enough.

And counsel should consult with their clients and confer with each other about this issue of whether the case will proceed here or whether there will be litigation over the proper form.

In the meantime, I'll sign this order to show cause, and I'm going to strike the provisions about

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exclusive jurisdiction. It doesn't mean that the Court won't take jurisdiction. I just think those findings are premature.

I would like to know whether it's feasible or whether you can suggest -- withdrawn.

I would like to see publication of notice here, and
I would like to know if you can propose a feasible
publication regimen.

MR. INGBER: So the notice program that we proposed here, as Your Honor may know, is consistent with notice programs that Your Honor has approved in the past, including in connection with the in re Wells Fargo Article 77 proceeding related to the JP Morgan settlement.

THE COURT: We might not have had publication in the distribution proceeding because we had such extensive notice, including publication in the initial proceeding to approve the settlement amount. But in most of these others I have been requiring some publication.

MR. INGBER: And I'll get to that in just a moment. I did want to add that there was a matter before Justice Ramos in the Article 77 proceeding initiated by The Bank of New York Mellon as Trustee, and he approved the notice program as well without publication. The notice that is required in the cleaning services agreement is simply notice by registered mail to the certificate holders identified by

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the certificate registry. And so what we proposed goes well beyond that.

With respect to publication, we are proposing that we give notice of this proceeding on the investor reporting website, which is what every certificate holder has access to, included in the website to see monthly remittance reports. That is where certificate holders live in the world of these RMBS transactions.

So that is in our view the most efficient and most direct way to give notice to certificate holders, coupled with the notice through The Depository Trust Company which we proposed, and the mail.

Publication is we -- our view is that it is not necessary to have publication notice to comport with due process. It's a very expensive proposition. It's not something that's been required in the past. But, of course, we are open to a proposal with respect to publication, but we would ask, just given the expense, given what the contract says, and given the precedent in this Court by multiple Judges that publication not be -- not be required in this case.

THE COURT: I have generally been requiring publications, so can you weigh in on what you think is feasible?

MR. INGBER: I want to discuss this specific issue

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with our client. We have --

THE COURT: I think in the last case, for example -- I don't mean to interrupt you -- I think in the last case we required publication on two separate weeks in The Wall Street Journal, and it wasn't terribly expensive.

Counsel represented that it cost around \$50,000. I'm not saying \$50,000 isn't a lot of money. I'm a public servant, after all. But it's not -- it doesn't seem to have been regarded in other cases by counsel has exhibited.

MR. INGBER: And we are certainly open to that, and we will comply with whatever Your Honor directs us to do. With respect to notice, our goal here is to provide notice. We are not seeking to keep the fact of this proceeding from We want to make sure that all certificate holders do have an opportunity to be heard, if they would like to be heard.

And so we can -- I think most importantly for us coming out of this, this hearing today is that we start implementing the notice program that we proposed. Honor would like us to add another element to that, we will do that.

I don't have handy the cost associated with The Wall Street Journal publication. There may be -- it may be that it's more feasible or more appropriate to do a publication through an online Wall Street Journal

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1 publication, rather than the physical newspaper.

But those are the types of things that we want to consult with our client about. We just don't want to push off implementing other aspects of the notice program to resolve that question.

THE COURT: Mr. Ingber, I think you should telephone us on a conference call on Monday afternoon. Will that be enough time for you?

MR. INGBER: It will certainly be enough time for us, and we could probably do this tomorrow as well. Like I said, I want to have a chance to speak to The Bank of New York Mellon about this.

In the meantime, is Your Honor contemplating that the Court would direct us to start implementing the aspects of the notice program that we proposed?

THE COURT: I think that looked okay. One moment, please.

Ms. Lane is pointing out that the notice has to include the instructions about how to appear and so on.

So let's just have a conference call on Monday. When I say a conference call, I mean with counsel who have appeared today. And we will get that uploaded on Monday.

If you want to call us maybe -- we will check, but we will set a time for Monday morning for the conference call, if that works for counsel.

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And what I

And what I think we should do is have the initial date set for a status conference, and we will set that on an expedited basis.

Now, you indicated, Counselor, that you have other procedural issues that you want to address?

MR. PICKHARDT: Yes, Your Honor. The relief that the trustee is seeking in the petition is that, at the time of judgment if they are found to have not been distributing interest correctly, that they only have prospective application, there may be some disagreement about that.

But we have a concern, because during the pendency of the proceeding, as has been happening for the months leading up to here, each month they are distributing amounts that are subject to this dispute. We think as it's been done in other Article 77 proceedings that it would be appropriate for the trustee to escrow the disputed amounts during the pendency of the proceeding, or essentially our rights are being prejudiced by the type of relief that's being sought. We have --

THE COURT: What is the extent of the amounts at issue?

MR. PICKHARDT: So Silian Ventures, we are investors in over half, about 150, 155 of the 270 trusts that are at issue. Across the trust we are investors in estimated about a million and a half dollars a month.

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1 Across -- not each trust. We are across the 150 a trust, 2 about a million and a half. And that's why I was raising 3 sort of a time delay from when we raised this last year. think there's been about 18 million dollars that's been already distributed and was subject to dispute since we

raised this with a trustee over a year ago.

I honestly have a client that is very frustrated and concerned with respect to the passage of time and the prejudice that it may cost him.

THE COURT: What other procedural issues do you wish to address? Then we will have Mr. Ingber respond.

MR. PICKHARDT: The other procedural question, the trustee, you know, states in its petition as this is not a big surprise, that the trustee has no economic stake or interest in these distribution issues.

And we know, we agree that there should be a robust notice program for other interested parties and the stake holders to appear if they want to appear. That has been done in other Article 77 proceedings, the J.P. Morgan proceeding. We think it should be the economically interested parties that are the ones who want to join on these issues, as opposed to the trustee taking, you know, taking a position.

And so we would also request -- we don't do think this needs to be embodied in the order to show cause, but

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with respect to prospective hearings and reaching the terms on the merits, we think it should be, you know, limited to the economic interested parties who are litigating the dispute.

THE COURT: Well, we've had quite a bit of litigation over what certificate holders qualify as interested parties. And if that becomes an issue down the road, we will certainly hear about it.

But on the escrow, Mr. Ingber.

MR. INGBER: So on the --

THE COURT: Excuse me one moment.

What is your position that the trustee should not be permitted to address the merits of the distribution?

MR. PICKHARDT: Your Honor, the trustee -- and we had initially asked the trustee to start an Article 77 proceeding. And they had told us as of December that they didn't think it was in the best interest of the trust to do so.

With respect to Article 77 proceedings as they have been handled elsewhere, you need to have a dispute between economically interested parties. It makes sense for the Court to get involved and resolve that dispute. If you don't have any economically interested parties who are actually interested in the disputes, then we are not sure it makes sense for the trustee to be interposing itself as a

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party that it concedes it has no economic stake.

THE COURT: You are not going to be agreeing with that, are you?

MR. INGBER: I am not going to be agreeing with that. I can layout the reasons for Your Honor, if you would like. But we are not going to be agreeing to that.

THE COURT: If you want to balance that out and put something on the record, you may. But this will be it, if this is really what the parties' respected positions are going to be, then it will have to be ruled on at an appropriate time on proper papers.

MR. INGBER: Very briefly. The discussion over whether the trustee would file an Article 77, the discussion that the trustee had with Mr. Pickhardt's client, revolved around the question whether the trustee would file a petition and remain neutral on an issue, as the trustee is not neutral.

We are the petitioner here. We believe that we have a right to be heard on those issues. This is a calculation of distribution methodology that has been employed by the trustee consistent with the contracts for the last decade. And this is the first time any certificate holder has raised any issue, as I understand it, has raised an issue with respect to this specific IO distribution.

And so we are the petitioner. We anticipate that

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this issue.

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we will -- we will continue to have a view on this issue. We will see whether other investors intervene and join either -- are aligned with either Silian Ventures position or are aligned with the trustees' position. And we will see as the case proceeds who actually says what in open court. But, of course, we think we have the right to be heard on

Well, again, I'm not ruling on this THE COURT: I just wanted you to have an opportunity to balance the record for today's proceedings.

And on the escrow?

MR. INGBER: So with respect to the escrow, I will put it to the side the fact that this is administratively infeasible, that is to separate out these disputed amounts over the course of the next distributions next month and in every successive month.

I'll also, I suppose, put to the side that this was the relief that Silian Ventures could have sought in Federal Court before Judge Gardephe, and they didn't do that. So I don't think that coming to Your Honor today and asking to modify the order to show cause to allow for escrow is appropriate. But most importantly, I don't think any escrowing would be appropriate or even any consideration of whether escrowing would be appropriate.

I don't think any of that should happen without

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1 notice to certificate holders, and giving those certificate 2 holders a chance to weigh in on this issue. This impacts 3 their rights. Silian just could say it impacts their

> But escrowing funds means that other certificate holders are not going to be getting what they believe they're entitled to.

So we think escrow is not appropriate. certainly don't think consideration of escrow is appropriate without giving notice to certificate holders. And we would ask that we start implementing these notice of programs. Allow certificate holders to intervene. Let's see if they do or they do not.

And if Silian Ventures wants to raise the question of escrow at some point down the road when everyone has had a chance to intervene, then they can raise it and we can address the issue on the merits then.

> THE COURT: Do you wish to reply?

MR. PICKHARDT: Yes, Your Honor. We disagree with respect to the feasibility issue. We will be happy to meet and confer with the trustee in respect of an appropriate and workable methodology for establishing the escrow.

We also think, as Mr. Ingber is essentially acknowledging, that by proceeding with distributing these amounts every month, they are certainly prejudicing one set

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of note holders against another set of note holders with respect to this dispute. They obviously consider this dispute serious enough that they have initiated an action. And the relief that they are seeking is a relief that they are requesting the only prospective. We don't think they should be able to have it both ways to be seeking prospective relief with respect to that they have subjected to the jurisdiction of this Court, and at the same time be prejudicing note holders during the pendency of the action.

To the extent Your Honor would like if we do have a proposed modification to the order to show cause that addresses this issue, I would be happy to hand it up if Your Honor would like to see the specific question.

THE COURT: That will not be necessary. When you file your notice of appearance, you can set forth your position about the escrow, and I will consider it when other certificate holders have had the opportunity to intervene, and that will be one issue at least that we may deal with at the status conference that I will set for the initial date.

I think that's everything from my point of view.

Does anyone have anything else?

MR. INGBER: I do have a question, Your Honor.
You've asked us to consider publication option, we will do
that expeditiously. We will have a conference call on
Monday.

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Does Your Honor want to hear from us before that Monday conference call on what we propose with respect to publication?

THE COURT: I don't think that's necessary.

MR. INGBER: Okay.

THE COURT: So we will give you a date for the conference call.

I am requesting that the trustee obtain a copy of the transcript of today's proceedings, eFile it, and file two hard copies with the Clerk of Part 60.

As is my usual practice, I reserve the right to correct errors in the transcript. Therefore, if it is needed for any further purpose, you should have a copy so ordered by me and not merely signed by the court reporter.

Thank you.

This lady is going to give you a date.

(Whereupon, a luncheon recess is held.)

(Whereupon, the following proceedings take place in Judge Marcy S. Friedman's chambers with the attorneys appearing via teleconference.)

THE COURT: Good afternoon. This is Judge Friedman. I am here with the same court reporter who was present this morning.

Without full appearances, please state the names of the counsel who are on the call.

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MR. INGBER: This is Matthew Ingber and Anjanique Watt from Mayer Brown.

MR. PICKHARDT: Good afternoon, Your Honor. This is Jon Pickhardt from Quinn Emanuel. I'm joined by my colleague, Evan Hess.

THE COURT: Thank you.

Please say your names before you speak because the voices are very difficult to distinguish over the phone.

Mr. Ingber, have you conferred with your client about publication?

MR. INGBER: I have, Your Honor.

THE COURT: And the outcome?

MR. INGBER: The outcome, yes. We will publish the notice as Your Honor suggested earlier today. We had been in touch with a vendor for pricing proposals for The Wall Street Journal or other publications. We have pricing for our placement in a hard copy newspaper, and we are waiting for pricing on placement on the online version of The Wall Street Journal. And we would propose both because of cost, but most importantly because we think it's more likely to get more eyeballs, we would propose publication on the online version of The Wall Street Journal.

THE COURT: Is that everything, Mr. Ingber?

MR. INGBER: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Are you asking me to wait to sign the

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order until you determine what the pricing is for the online
journal, or are you requesting that I authorize today
placement in the online journal?

MR. INGBER: We are comfortable with the Court
ordering placement in the online version of The Wall Street

THE COURT: Mr. Pickhardt, do you have a position on this?

MR. PICKHARDT: I do not, Your Honor.

THE COURT: I will authorize the placement in the online Journal. I think that's everything for this afternoon.

Anything else, Mr. Ingber?

MR. INGBER: Nothing here, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Mr. Pickhardt?

MR. PICKHARDT: Yes, Your Honor, just two quick questions.

One, Your Honor indicated this morning that you would accept some form of a submission from us concerning a potential escrow fund in advance of the initial conference. Is that something you would like for us to do by motion or would a letter submission be sufficient?

THE COURT: No. At this point we will just have the notices of appearance, and we'll take up the issue at the status conference. If I think I need anything before

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1 then I will let the parties know.

MR. INGBER: Okav.

Thank you, Your Honor. MR. PICKHARDT: Okay.

The second question is whether -- when the parties make appearances, there should be some identification by the parties as to what trust they have investments in, given that there are 278 different trusts at issue.

THE COURT: Let me just check and see what we've done on the -- what we've done in the past on that. do it during the call, but I'll bear that in mind.

There have been a lot of concerns expressed by parties in these cases about revealing of details regarding their positions and potential competitive disadvantages or other financial disadvantages and disclosing that information. So I'll keep in mind your request, and I'll see what we've done in the past.

> Thank you, Your Honor. MR. PICKHARDT:

And I know the Court had mentioned this morning as taken up in other cases issues around whether indirect holders have the ability to appear as well as, you know, the timing on holding. Is it correct that the Court would address those issues at a later time, as opposed to in this initial notice?

> THE COURT: Yes.

MR. PICKHARDT: Okay.

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to weigh in on that issue.

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MR. INGBER: Your Honor, if I can respond just very briefly?

THE COURT: This is Mr. Ingber speaking, correct?

MR. INGBER: Your Honor, just on this question of

what the notice -- I'm sorry -- what the order should

include or not include. The trustee's position is that we

think the order should, should be issued, you know, as it is

subject to Your Honor's -- Your Honor's edit. But with

respect to what Mr. Pickhardt said, we are uncomfortable as

trustee giving one group of certificate holders the ability

to weigh in on what the order should say, specifically when

other certificate holders have not had the same opportunity

I just wanted to put that on the record.

Obviously, it is up to the Court to decide what should be in the order and whether there should be identification of the trust in which the interested parties have an interest. But our view more generally is that this is the order that we had proposed, and that one group of certificate holders shouldn't have any advantage over any other group of certificate holders.

THE COURT: Well, I certainly agree with you. And I think pretty much all of these issues have been deferred for a later time after all of the interested persons have had an opportunity to appear.

COUNTY CLERK 02/01/2019

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If I put in a provision in prior orders to show cause requiring identification of trust before anyone had had the opportunity to be heard, then I will do the same again.

But if there is a potentially disputed issue about this, then it will not be addressed until all interested persons have had the opportunity to be heard.

> MR. INGBER: Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Thank you.

And let me request again that you obtain the transcript of today's proceedings, subject to my reservation of the right to correct errors, as is my usual practice. I'm going to leave the call, so if you need the reporter's information again you can get it.

Thank you.

Thank you, Your Honor. MR. INGBER:

MR. PICKHARDT: Thank you, Your Honor.

Certified to be a true and accurate transcript of the stenographic minutes taken within.

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Maria E. Rivera

Senior Court Reporter

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