1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 9 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 10 11 R. ALEXANDER ACOSTA, CASE NO. 19-CV-778-MWF (MAAx) Secretary of Labor, United States Honorable Michael W. Fitzgerald 12 **Department of Labor** 13 Plaintiff, ORDER GRANTING 14 INDEPENDENT FIDUCIARY'S V. MOTION TO APPROVE ITS 15 REVISED (PROPOSED) RIVERSTONE CAPITAL, LLC, a ORDERLY PLAN OF California limited liability 16 LIQUIDATION AND FOR ORDER corporation; NEXGEN PROVIDING ALL WRITS ACT 17 **INSURANCE SERVICES PROTECTION** INCORPORATED, a California 18 corporation; NGI BROKERAGE SERVICES, INC., a California 19 corporation; JAMES C. KELLY, an 20 individual; TRAVIS O. BUGLI, an individual; ROBERT CLARKE, an 21 individual; ERIK MANQUEROS, an individual. 22 Defendants. 23 24 Before the Court is the Independent Fiduciary's Motion to Approve Its 25 Proposed Orderly Plan of Liquidation and for Order Providing All Writs Act 26 Protection filed March 29, 2019 ("Independent Fiduciary's Motion"). By order of 27 Court entered on May 1, 2019 (Docket No. 89), the Court deferred ruling upon the 28

- 1 Independent Fiduciary's Motion until submission of a Revised (Proposed) Orderly
- 2 | Plan of Liquidation, due May 6, 2019. The Independent Fiduciary, through separate
- 3 Notice of Filing, submitted its Revised (Proposed) Order of Plan of Liquidation on
- 4 May 6, 2019.

1. <u>Independent Fiduciary's Revised Orderly Plan of Liquidation</u>

The Court has reviewed the Independent Fiduciary's Revised (Proposed) Orderly Plan of Liquidation Plan and approves it as the Revised Liquidation Plan in this matter. The Independent Fiduciary is instructed, upon entry of this Order, to prepare and file a Notice of Filing with its Revised Liquidation Plan attached.

2. "All Writs Act" Order in Relation to the Revised Liquidation Plan

The Consent Judgment entered in this action provides that the Independent Fiduciary will have sole and exclusive control over the Riverstone MEWA and Participating Plans' assets and will have sole and exclusive responsibility and authority to adjudicate and determine claims made by persons or entities as against the assets of the Riverstone MEWA and the Participating Plans (the "Plan"). (Docket No. 41). The Independent Fiduciary will address review and adjudication of all such claims through the liquidation procedure set forth in the Revised Liquidation Plan approved herein. That liquidation procedure will provide a centralized and fair system by which to receive, adjudicate and determine all the claims against the Plans' assets. However, if persons or entities choose to ignore the procedures of the Revised Liquidation Plan and rather choose to pursue claims against the assets of the Plan in a different forum, the centralized liquidation process approved by this Order is/will be frustrated.

Under the All Writs Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1651, a federal court may issue orders as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate its orders and/or prevent frustration of its orders. *United States v. New York Tel. Co.*, 434 U.S. 159, 174 (1977) (concluding that "[t]he power conferred by the [All Writs] Act extends, under appropriate circumstances, to persons who, though not parties to the original action

or engaged in wrongdoing, are in a position to frustrate the implementation of a court order or the proper administration of justice"). For the reasons set forth in this Independent Fiduciary's Motion and based on the record set forth in this matter, the Court finds it appropriate to issue an order pursuant to the All Writs Act that would stay, enjoin or prohibit any person or entity from pursuing a claim against the assets of the Plan outside of the procedures and process set forth in the Revised Liquidation Plan. Such is necessary (1) in aid of the Court's jurisdiction to effectuate orders entered in this action, (2) to ensure that a centralized liquidation process (as ordered herein) is not frustrated and (3) to prevent races by persons or entities to other forums in relation to claims lodged against the assets of the Plans. *See Cutler v. The 65 Security Plan*, 831 F. Supp. 1008 (E.D.N.Y. 1993) (recognizing "the court's power to stay all actions against the Fund" under the All Writs Act and analyzing "what procedure the court could adopt to assist the parties in achieving a quick and fair settlement of the case with the lowest possible transaction costs").

Moreover, as set forth in the Revised Liquidation Plan, the date of May 28, 2019, has been established as the deadline for providers to submit invoices to the third-party administrators (Hawaii Mainland Administrators and S&S Health). The Independent Fiduciary has been instructed to provide notice of the Revised Liquidation Plan, which contains the May 28, 2019 "provider invoice deadline," to the providers, as well as the participating employees and Sponsoring Employers. (Docket No. 89). Notice of the Revised Liquidation Plan will be given by both mail and email. The Court understands that there is not a comprehensive and readily available database for emails regarding participating employees and providers, but where the emails are readily available to the Independent Fiduciary, the Independent Fiduciary should provide email notice of the Revised Liquidation Plan to participating employees and providers.

It is imperative that the Independent Fiduciary, as well as the participating employees and Sponsoring Employers, know with certainty the amounts of provider

invoices that have not been paid in the Riverstone MEWA matter – that is the baseline from which other matters set forth in the Revised Liquidation Plan starts. Accordingly, and upon the above-stated All Writs Act rationale, the Court finds that to ensure that a centralized and orderly liquidation process is not frustrated by the untimely submission of provider medical invoices, the providers will have until May 28, 2019, to submit provider medical invoices in relation to services provided to participating employees/dependents covered under the Riverstone MEWA. Further, the Court enjoins any provider, which/who receives notice of this Order but then fails to submit timely medical invoices by May 28, 2019, from pursuing the participating employees/dependents, the Sponsoring Employers and/or the Riverstone MEWA Liquidation Estate assets as to collection of any amounts due on the untimely invoices.

Accordingly, the Court grants the Independent Fiduciary's Motion and **ORDERS** as follows:

- 1. Independent Fiduciary's Revised (Proposed) Orderly Plan of Liquidation, filed May 6, 2019, is approved. Upon entry of this Order, the Independent Fiduciary will file an appropriate Notice of Filing attaching the approved Liquidation Plan;
- 2. Pursuant to the All Writs Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1651, all persons or entities having claims against the Riverstone MEWA Liquidation Estate or the assets of the Plan are stayed, enjoined and otherwise prohibited from pursuit of those claims outside of the procedures set forth in the Revised Liquidation Plan, and said limitations are to apply through the pendency of the liquidation process or until further order of this Court;
- 3. Pursuant to the All Writs Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1651, any provider with notice hereof is prohibited and enjoined from pursuing, collecting from or demanding from any participating employee/dependent, any Sponsoring Employer and/or the Independent Fiduciary, the Riverstone MEWA

1 Liquidation Estate and the Plan's assets any portion or all amounts due on any 2 provider medical invoice <u>not</u> submitted to the Plan's relevant third-party 3 administrator (i.e. Hawaii Mainland Administrators or S&S Health) on or 4 before after May 28, 2019. 5 The Independent Fiduciary, upon entry of this Order, will post a copy of the 4. 6 Order website dedicated this on the to matter 7 (www.receivermgmt.com/riverstone-nexgenhealthplan). In an abundance of 8 caution, but only as to this Order and the Revised Liquidation Plan, the 9 Independent Fiduciary, upon entry of this Order, will email and mail a copy of this Order and the Revised Liquidation Plan approved herein to the 10 Sponsoring Employers, participating employees, and providers. 11 12 13 IT IS SO ORDERED. 14 15 Dated: May 9, 2019 16 United States District Judge 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

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