	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Bryce Suzuki (#022721) James G. Florentine (#034058) SNELL & WILMER L.L.P. One East Washington Street Suite 2700 Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2556 Telephone: 602.382.6000 Facsimile: 602.382.6070 E-Mail: bsuzuki@swlaw.com iflorentine@swlaw.com Attorneys for Nomad Royalty Company Ltd.  IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA					
One East Washington Street, Suire 2700 Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2556 602.382.6000	8 9 10						
	11 12 13 14 15 16 17	In re:  ELEVATION GOLD MINING CORPORATION, et al.  Debtors in a Foreign Proceeding.	Proceedings Under Chapter 15  Case No. 2:24-bk-06359-EPB  (Jointly Administered)  Case Nos. 2-24-bk-06364-EPB 2-24-bk-06367-EPB 2-24-bk-06368-EPB 2-24-bk-06370-EPB 2-24-bk-06371-EPB				
	18 19		Adv. No				
	20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	NOMAD ROYALTY COMPANY LTD., a Canadian business corporation,  Plaintiff,  v.  ELEVATION GOLD MINING CORPORATION, a British Columbia company; ECLIPSE GOLD MINING CORPORATION, a British Columbia company; GOLDEN VERTEX CORP., an Arizona business corporation,  Defendants.					
	28	Defendants.					

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Nomad Royalty Company Ltd. ("Plaintiff" or "Nomad"), for its complaint against Elevation Gold Mining Corporation ("Elevation Gold"), Eclipse Gold Mining Corporation ("Eclipse Gold"), and Golden Vertex Corp. ("Golden Vertex Arizona", and together with Elevation Gold and Eclipse Gold, the "Defendants" or "Debtors") hereby alleges, avers, and states as follows:

#### PARTIES, JURISDICTION, AND VENUE

- 1. Plaintiff is a Canadian business corporation and the owner of the Royalty in the Arizona Mine (both of which are defined below).
  - 2. Defendant Elevation Gold is a British Columbia company.
  - 3. Defendant Eclipse Gold is a British Columbia company.
  - 4. Defendant Golden Vertex Arizona is an Arizona business corporation.
- 5. On August 2, 2024, Defendant Elevation Gold filed a Chapter 15 Petition for Recognition of a Foreign Proceeding (the "Elevation Gold Petition for Recognition") in this Court seeking recognition of the Bankruptcy Proceeding Court File No. S-245121 from the Supreme Court of British Columbia Vancouver Registry. See Case No. 2:24-bk-06359-EPB (the "Elevation Gold Chapter 15").
- 6. On August 2, 2024, Defendant Eclipse Gold filed a Chapter 15 Petition for Recognition of a Foreign Proceeding (the "Eclipse Gold Petition for Recognition") in this Court seeking recognition of the Bankruptcy Proceeding Court File No. S-245121 from the Supreme Court of British Columbia Vancouver Registry. See Case No. 2-24-bk-06368-EPB (the "Eclipse Gold Chapter 15").
- 7. On August 2, 2024, Defendant Golden Vertex Arizona filed a Chapter 15 Petition for Recognition of a Foreign Proceeding (the "Golden Vertex Arizona Petition for Recognition", and together with the Elevation Gold Petition for Recognition and Eclipse Gold Petition for Recognition, the "Petitions for Recognition") in this Court seeking recognition of the Bankruptcy Proceeding Court File No. S-245121 from the Supreme Court of British Columbia Vancouver Registry. See Case No. 2-24-bk-06364-EPB (the "Golden"

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<u>Vertex Arizona Chapter 15</u>", and together with the Elevation Gold Chapter 15 and Eclipse Gold Chapter 15, the "<u>Administrative Case</u>").

- 8. On August 5, 2024, this Court ordered the joint administration of, among other cases, the Elevation Gold Chapter 15, Eclipse Gold Chapter 15, and Golden Vertex Arizona Chapter 15.
- 9. Due to, among other things, Defendants' filing of the Petitions for Recognition, Defendants submitted themselves to the jurisdiction of this Court.
  - 10. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants.
- 11. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334, this Court has jurisdiction to hear this adversary proceeding.
- 12. This judicial district is the proper venue for this adversary proceeding under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409, as this adversary proceeding arises under, and is in connection with, the Administrative Case, which is currently pending before this Court in this judicial district.

#### **BACKGROUND AND GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 13. On or about March 4, 2004, Patriot Gold Corp. ("<u>Patriot Gold</u>"), acquired the Moss Mine from Minquest Inc. ("<u>Minquest</u>"), through a Binding Letter Agreement (the "<u>Letter Agreement</u>"). A true and correct copy of the Letter Agreement is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 1</u>.
- 14. The Moss Mine is a gold and silver leach extraction mine encompassing approximately 64 square miles in the Oatman District, Mohave County, Arizona (the "Arizona Mine").
  - 15. The Arizona Mine is owned by Debtor Golden Vertex Arizona.
- 16. Pursuant to the Letter Agreement, Patriot Gold granted and conveyed to Minquest certain production royalty interests (collectively, the "Royalty").
  - 17. The Royalty is described in the Letter Agreement as:

A 3% Net Smelter Return on any and all production derived from unpatented mining claims listed under "Property" and on public lands within 1 mile of Minquest, Inc.'s outside perimeter of the present claim boundary. A 1.0%

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NSR on patented claims with no other royalty within the Property. A 0.5% overriding Net Smelter Return on all production within the property derived from patented claims with other royalty interests.

The Letter Agreement defines the "Property" subject to the Royalty as: 18.

62 unpatented lode claims, specifically Moss 11-33, 33F, 34-39, 39F, 40-47, 47F and 48-70 held by Minquest ... located in Sections 19, 20, 29 and 30, T20N, R20W and Sections 24 and 25, T20N, R21W. Patented claims that the royalty applies to include, but are not limited to Key No.1 and 2, Moss Millsite, Divide, Keystone Wedge, and the 2 California Moss claims.

- 19. In 2012, Patriot Gold filed a lawsuit against Minquest to enforce the terms of the Letter Agreement in a case captioned *Patriot Gold Corp. v. MinQuest, Inc.*, Case No. CV12-0617, in the Second Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada, Washoe County, Nevada.
- 20. On or about April 11, 2013, Patriot Gold and Minquest resolved the Nevada litigation when they entered into that certain Settlement Agreement dated April 11, 2013 (the "Settlement Agreement"). A true and correct copy of the Settlement Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.
- 21. The Settlement Agreement applies to the "Moss Property," which the Settlement Agreement defines as "the 62 unpatented lode claims specifically identified in the [Letter Agreement] . . . plus additional unpatented lode claims specifically identified as 'Moss 1-10' and 'Moss 118-148'" for a total of 104 unpatented claims.
- 22. The additional unpatented mining claims were contemplated by the Letter Agreement's inclusion of "public lands within 1 mile of Minquest, Inc.'s outside perimeter of the present claim boundary" in the definition of the Royalty.
- 23. Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, Minquest transferred the Moss Property to Patriot Gold by quit claim deed (the "Deed").
- 24. On or about April 26, 2013, the Deed was recorded in the Office of the Mohave County Recorder. A true and correct copy of the Deed is attached hereto as Exhibit <u>3</u>.

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- 25. The Deed quitclaimed the Moss Property to Patriot Gold "with the exception" of" the Royalty. See Ex. 3.
- 26. Therefore, the royalty holder expressly retained its real-property royalty interest under the terms of the recorded Deed. See Ex. 3.
  - 27. Patriot Gold took title to the Moss Property subject to the Royalty.
- 28. The Royalty applies to the unpatented claims on the Moss Property enumerated in the Deed as well as the patented claims within the original boundary of the Moss Property, including the 7 patented claims described in the Letter Agreement.
- 29. The Settlement Agreement is binding on, and made for the benefit of, the assigns and successors of Patriot Gold and Minquest.
- 30. Subsequently, Minquest transferred its ownership of the Royalty to Great Basin Resources, Inc. ("GBRI"), by the Assignment and Assumption, Deed and Bill of Sale dated July 25, 2017, recorded in the Office of the Mohave County Recorder on August 7, 2017, Document No. 2017037296.
- 31. GBRI transferred its ownership of the Royalty to Great Basin Royalty LLC ("GBRL"), by the Assignment and Assumption, Deed and Bill of Sale dated February 21, 2018, Document No. 2018011038.
- 32. GBRL transferred the Royalty to Valkyrie Royalty Inc., a British Columbia corporation ("Valkyrie"), by the Assignment and Assumption dated July 31, 2019, recorded in the Office of the Mohave County Recorder on August 5, 2020. Document No. 2020043633.
  - 33. On January 1, 2022, Valkyrie merged with Nomad.
- 34. Nomad became the owner of the Royalty as a result of the merger by operation of law.
- 35. Beginning in or around May 2022, Debtor Golden Vertex Arizona ceased making the required Royalty payments to Nomad.
- 36. On or around November 22, 2023, Nomad made demand on Golden Vertex Arizona for its Royalty payments and an accounting.

- 37. In an email dated December 12, 2023, Golden Vertex Arizona acknowledged that as of October, 2023, it owed Nomad \$841,875 for the period of May 2022 through October 2023.
- 38. Golden Vertex Arizona's calculation, however, did not include any 3% Royalty component calculations.
- 39. Golden Vertex Arizona's calculations also incorrectly applied a 0.5% royalty to one of the patented claims subject to the Royalty.
- 40. This resulted in a mistaken calculation in Golden Vertex Arizona's favor by at least \$108,730.
- 41. Nomad is actually owed at least \$950,605 for the period of May 2022 through October 2023.
- 42. On March 18, 2024, Golden Vertex Arizona contended that it owed Nomad nothing and had actually overpaid Nomad.
- 43. Nomad estimates that the Royalty amount currently owing to Nomad is at least \$1.5 million.
  - 44. The amount owing to Nomad on account of the Royalty continues to accrue.
  - 45. The Royalty cash Golden Vertex Arizona collected is Nomad's property.

#### **COUNT I**

# (Declaratory Relief – Plaintiff's Royalty is a Real Property Interest That Cannot Be Extinguished)

- 46. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every assertion of its Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 47. The Deed quitclaimed the Moss Property to Patriot Gold "with the exception of" the Royalty. See Ex. 3.
- 48. Therefore, the holder of the Royalty expressly retained its real-property royalty interest pursuant to the Deed. *See* Ex. 3.
  - 49. Plaintiff thus owns the Royalty.

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- 50. The Royalty is a real property interest as evidenced by, among other things, the Deed.
  - 51. Defendant disputes that the Royalty is a real property interest.
- 52. A ripe, continuing, and justiciable controversy has arisen between Plaintiff and Defendants because Defendants dispute that Plaintiff's Royalty is a real property interest.
- 53. Pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7001, Plaintiff requests that this Court enter a judgment determining and declaring that (i) Plaintiff's Royalty is real property interest and (ii) that the Debtors cannot extinguish Plaintiff's Royalty.

#### **COUNT II**

#### (Breach of Contract)

- 54. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every assertion of its Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 55. A valid contract exists between the Plaintiff and Defendants as evidenced by, among other things, the Deed, Letter Agreement, and Settlement Agreement (together, the "Contracts").
- 56. Defendants breached the Contracts by failing to pay the Royalty contractually owed to Plaintiff for the period beginning in May 2022 to the present.
- 57. Defendants are obligated to calculate and pay the Royalty on each occasion on which Defendants produce and receive credit to Defendants' refinery or smelter account for the minerals, products of minerals and precious metals produced from the Moss Mine, or when Defendants receive payment from the refinery or smelter to which Defendants delivers minerals, mineral concentrates and doré metal.
- 58. As of October 2023, Golden Vertex Arizona acknowledged that Nomad was owed \$841,875 in Royalties for the period of May 2022 through October 2023.
- 59. Golden Vertex Arizona's calculation, however, did not include any 3% Royalty component calculations.

- 60. Golden Vertex Arizona's calculations also incorrectly applied a 0.5% royalty to one of the patented claims subject to the Royalty.
- 61. Nomad is actually owed at least \$950,605 for the period of May 2022 through October 2023.
- 62. Nomad estimates that the Royalty amount currently owing to Nomad is at least \$1.5 million.
- 63. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach of the Contracts, Plaintiff has suffered damages, and continues to suffer damages, in an amount to be determined at trial, but in no event less than \$1.5 million.

#### **COUNT III**

#### (Breach of the Implied Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing)

- 64. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every assertion of its Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 65. Under Arizona law, every contract, includes a duty of good faith and fair dealing.
- 66. Defendants owe Plaintiff a duty of good faith and fair dealing under the Contracts.
- 67. That duty dictates that Defendants refrain from acting in a manner that would impair the right of Plaintiff to receive the benefits that flow from, and that Plaintiff has a right to expect under, the Contracts.
- 68. Defendants have breached the covenant of good faith and fair dealing implied under Arizona law.
- 69. Defendants breached their duty of good faith and fair dealing when they intentionally, knowingly, and without reasonable basis refuse to pay the Royalty amount.
- 70. Plaintiff had, and continues to have, a reasonable expectation to receive the required Royalty payments that it is owed under the Royalty contract.
- 71. As of October 2023, Golden Vertex Arizona acknowledged that Nomad was owed \$841,875 in Royalties for the period of May 2022 through October 2023.

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- 72. Golden Vertex Arizona's calculation, however, did not include any 3% Royalty component calculations.
- 73. Golden Vertex Arizona's calculations also incorrectly applied a 0.5% royalty to one of the patented claims subject to the Royalty.
- 74. Nomad is actually owed at least \$950,605 for the period of May 2022 through October 2023.
- 75. Nomad estimates that the Royalty amount currently owing to Nomad is at least \$1.5 million.
- 76. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breaches, Plaintiff has suffered damages, and continues to suffer damages, in an amount to be determined at trial, but in no event less than \$1.5 million.

#### **COUNT IV**

#### (Conversion and Constructive Trust)

- 77. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every assertion of its Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 78. Plaintiff is the rightful owner of and is entitled to possession of the Royalty and all of the Royalty payments free and clear of any and all claims, encumbrances, and liens of Defendant.
- 79. Despite demand from Plaintiff, Defendants have failed to pay the Royalty amounts due and owing, and instead, based on Plaintiff's information and belief, have delivered Plaintiff's share of the refinery's metal outturn and corresponding revenues comprising the Royalty to third parties.
- 80. Upon information and belief, Defendants directed and instructed the refinery to which Defendants delivered mineral concentrates and doré metal produced from the Moss Mine to deliver and pay Plaintiff's portion of the refinery's metal outturn representing the Royalty to Defendants in derogation of Plaintiff's rights and in breach of Defendants' obligations.

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- 81. Defendants thus have intentionally exercised dominion and control over the Royalty amount owed to Plaintiff by refusing to make the required payments and by falsely asserting that they overpaid Plaintiff.
- 82. Nomad estimates that Defendants have wrongfully converted Plaintiff's share of the refinery's metal outturn and corresponding revenues which represent the Royalty and the Royalty payments in an amount not less than approximately \$1.5 million.
- 83. As a result of Defendants' wrongful exercise of dominion and control over the Royalty amount, Plaintiff has been injured in an amount to be proven at trial, but in no event less than \$1.5 million.
- 84. Defendants hold Plaintiff's share of the refinery's metal outturn and corresponding revenues comprising the Royalty for Plaintiff's benefit.
- 85. Plaintiff is thus entitled to imposition of a constructive trust for Plaintiff's benefit against Defendants on Plaintiff's share of the refinery's metal outturn and corresponding revenues comprising the Royalty amounts due and owed.

#### **COUNT V**

### (Accounting)

- 86. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every assertion of its Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 87. Based on Plaintiff's information and belief, Defendants have created and maintained accounting and financial records of their mining operations at the Moss Mine; among the records are data that form the basis for calculating the Royalty payable to Plaintiff based upon the location of mining activities, tons of ore extracted, the tons of ore processed, the weights of concentrates processed, the weights of the doré metal recovered, and the refined gold and silver outturned by Defendants' refinery from the concentrates and doré delivered to the refinery by Defendants from the Moss Mine.
  - 88. Defendants have deliberately withheld the Royalty due and owing to Plaintiff.
- 89. Plaintiffs are entitled to an order requiring that Defendants provide all pertinent records to an accountant to be retained by Plaintiff so that an independent

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accounting can be performed to ensure that the Royalty has been properly calculated and paid, that the amount of currently delinquent Royalty payments have been calculated and will be paid, and that future Royalty payments can and will be properly calculated, accrued, and paid to Plaintiff.

#### **COUNT VI**

#### (Declaratory Judgment A.R.S. 12-1832 and Slander of Title)

- 90. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every assertion of its Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 91. Defendants' assertion that the Royalty percentage rate payable to Plaintiff in respect of the production of minerals from the patented mining claim subject to the Royalty should be reduced from one percent (1.0%) to one-half percent (0.5%) is false, and is not authorized by the Royalty.
- 92. Defendants' assertion constitutes slander of Plaintiff's title to the one percent (1.0%) Royalty.
- 93. Defendants' assertion regarding the 0.5% Royalty has damaged Plaintiff because Defendants' assertion diminishes the value of the Royalty.
- 94. Plaintiff is entitled to recover compensatory damages from Defendants in an amount to be proven at trial of this action.
- 95. Defendants' false assertion regarding the 0.5% Royalty was made maliciously and recklessly with the intention to diminish the value of the royalty.
- 96. Plaintiff is entitled to recover exemplary and punitive damages from Defendant in an amount to be proven at trial of this action.

#### **COUNT VII**

### (Injunctive Relief)

- 97. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every assertion of its Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 98. Defendants have wrongfully and unreasonably denied Plaintiff's rightful ownership and possession of Plaintiff's share of the refinery's metal outturn and the

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corresponding revenues comprising the Royalty and the Royalty payments owed Plaintiff; the Royalty constitutes a unique real property interest; Defendants' conduct has caused Plaintiff injury and will cause irreparable harm if Defendants' conduct is not enjoined and Plaintiff's rights to its share of the Refinery outturn, corresponding revenues and the Royalty payments are not enforced and vested in Plaintiff.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment and other relief against Defendants as follows:

- a. Compensatory, consequential, and incidental damages in an amount to be proven at trial, but in no event less than \$1.5 million;
- b. On Count I, a judgment determining and declaring that (i) Plaintiff's Royalty is an interest in real property and (ii) that the Defendants cannot extinguish Plaintiff's Royalty;
- c. On Count II, judgment in the amount to be determined at trial, but in no event less than \$1.5 million;
- d. On Count III, judgment in the amount to be determined at trial, but in no event less than \$1.5 million;
- e. On Count IV, (i) judgment in the amount to be determined at trial, but in no event less than \$1.5 million and (ii) imposition of a constructive trust for Plaintiff's benefit against Defendants on Plaintiff's share of the refinery's metal outturn and corresponding revenues comprising the Royalty amounts due and owed:
- f. On Count V, an order requiring that Defendants provide all pertinent records to an accountant to be retained by Plaintiff so that an independent accounting can be performed to ensure that the Royalty has been properly calculated and paid, that the amount of currently delinquent Royalty payments have been calculated and will be paid, and that future Royalty payments can and will be properly calculated, accrued, and paid to Plaintiff.

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g.	On Count VI, a judgment determining and declaring that Defendants' grant
	of the subsequent royalty on the patented claim subject to Plaintiff's Royalty
	does not reduce the Royalty percentage rate and that Defendants' assertion
	that it does reduce the Royalty percentage rate constituted slander of
	Plaintiff's title to the full one percent (1.0%) Royalty, and an order awarding
	of damages and punitive damages to Plaintiff;

- h. On Count VII, an order enjoining Defendants from denying and/or interfering with Plaintiff's rightful ownership and possession of Plaintiff's share of the refinery's metal outturn and the corresponding revenues comprising the Royalty;
- i. For an award of attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to the Contracts, A.R.S. §§ 12-341 and 12-341.01, and/or any other applicable law or contract;
- For pre-judgment interest on the foregoing;
- k. For post-judgment interest at the maximum rate allowed at law until paid in full;
- 1. Such other and further relief as this Court deems just and appropriate under the circumstances.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 18th day of November, 2024.

SNELL & WILMER L.L.P.

By: s/James G. Florentine

Bryce Suzuki James G. Florentine One East Washington Street **Suite 2700** Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2556 Attorneys for Nomad Royalty Company Ltd.

### **EXHIBIT 1**

March 4, 2004

Re: Binding Letter Agreement, Moss Mine Property, Mohave County, Arizona.

The following general terms and conditions for the agreement between MinQuest, Inc. and Patriot Gold Corp. embody the essence of verbal agreements between MinQuest, Inc. and Patriot Gold Corp. on the Moss Mine property, Mojave County, Arizona, (the "Property).

Form of Agreement

Mining Lease/purchase

Term

20 years with automatic extensions so long as Patriot Gold holds all or portions of the "Property".

**Production Royalties** 

A 3% Net Smelter Return on any and all production derived from unpatented mining claims listed under "Property" and on public lands within 1 mile of MinQuest, Inc's outside perimeter of the present claim boundary. A 1.0% NSR on patented claims with no other royalty within the Property. A 0.5% overriding Net Smelter Return on all production within the Property derived from patented claims with other royalty interests.

One time payment

**Upon Execution** Reimbursement Filing Fees US\$150.00/claim

US\$50,000.00

**Property** 

Patriot Gold will purchase 62 unpatented lode claims, specifically Moss 11-33, 33F, 34-39, 39F, 40-47, 47F and 48-70 held by MinQuest. These claims are located in Sections 19, 20, 29 and 30, T20N, R20W and Sections 24 and 25, T20N, R21W. Patented claims that the royalty applies to include, but are not limited to Key No. 1 and 2, Moss Millsite, Divide, Keystone Wedge, and the 2 California Moss claims.

Performance Requirements

Patriot shall engage MinQuest Inc. to perform any and all exploration work on the "Property". Federal and state mining claim maintenance fees will be paid for any year in which this agreement is maintained in good standing after July 1. Any and all property positions within the "Property" shall be offered to MinQuest Inc. before relinquishment to patent owners or relinquished back to the government.

Letter Agreement, Moss Mine Property

Page 2 of 2 March 5,2004

Patriot Gold shall perform reclamation work on the Reclamation

Property as required by Federal, State, and Local laws for disturbances resulting from it's activities on

the Property.

Freely by either party so long as Assignee accepts **Assignment** 

terms and conditions of the Lease in writing.

One mile from the outside perimeter of the Interest Area

MinQuest, Inc. claim boundaries.

If the above terms and conditions are consistent with your understanding, please acknowledge by signing in the space provided below and return one copy. This will serve as a binding agreement between MinQuest, Inc. and Patriot Gold until such time as a formal and comprehensive agreement, incorporating these general terms, can be prepared.

5 day of March , 2004. Agreed and accepted to this

(Patriot Gold Corp.)

### **EXHIBIT 2**

### Settlement Agreement

As of the Effective Date, the Parties agree:

- 1. <u>Definitions.</u> As used in this Settlement Agreement (the "Agreement"), the following terms have the following meanings:
  - 1.1 Parties. "Parties" includes the following individuals and/or entities:
    - 1.1.1 Patriot Gold. "Patriot Gold" means Patriot Gold Corp., a Nevada corporation.
    - 1.1.2 <u>MinQuest.</u> "**MinQuest**" means MinQuest, Inc., a Nevada corporation.
  - 1.2 <u>Litigation</u>. "Litigation" means *Patriot Gold Corp. v. MinQuest, Inc.*, Case No CV12-0617 pending in the **District Court**.
  - 1.3 <u>District Court.</u> "District Court" means the Second Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada, in and for the County of Washoe.
  - 1.4 <u>BLM.</u> "BLM" means the United States Bureau of Land Management.
  - Bruner/Vernal Property Option Agreement. "Bruner/Vernal Property Option Agreement" means the option agreement dated July 25, 2003, attached hereto as Exhibit 1.
  - 1.6 Bruner/Vernal Property. "Bruner/Vernal Property" means certain unpatented mining claims specifically identified in the Bruner/Vernal Property Option Agreement, plus all After Acquired Properties as further defined in the Bruner/Vernal Property Option Agreement.
  - 1.7 Moss Purchase Agreement. "Moss Purchase Agreement" means the binding letter agreement dated March 4, 2004, attached hereto as Exhibit 2.
  - 1.8 Moss Property. "Moss Property" means the 62 unpatented lode claims, specifically identified in the Moss Purchase Agreement as "Moss 11-33, 33F, 34-39, 39F, 40-47, 47F<sup>1</sup>, and 48-70, plus additional unpatented lode claims specifically identified as "Moss 1-10" and "Moss 118-148." Exhibit 3 attached hereto is a list of all claims constituting the Moss Property.
  - 1.9 Recording Fees. "Recording Fees" means any fees charged by the applicable county recorder's office and/or the BLM which have been incurred by MinQuest.
  - 1.10 Effective Date. "Effective Date" means April 11, 2013.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The **BLM** may have changed the designation on claim #47F to claim #47B.

#### 2. Recitals.

\* ...

- On July 25, 2003, the Parties entered into the Bruner/Vernal Property 2.1 Option Agreement.
- Patriot Gold has satisfied all conditions precedent to MinQuest's 2.2 obligation to convey its interest in the Bruner/Vernal Property to Patriot Gold.
- On March 5, 2004, the Parties entered into the Moss Purchase 2.3 Agreement.
- Patriot Gold has fully performed its obligations under the Moss 2.4 Purchase Agreement.
- The Parties have disagreed on the exact terms of any conveyance of the 2.5 Bruner/Vernal Property and the Moss Property.
- On June 20, 2012, Patriot Gold initiated the Litigation, seeking specific 2.6 performance of the Bruner/Vernal Property Option Agreement and the Moss Purchase Agreement.
- The Parties have agreed to settle the Litigation, pursuant to the terms of 2.7 this Agreement.
- Settlement. In consideration of the mutual promises, terms and conditions of this 3. Agreement, the Parties agree as follows:
  - Within fifteen (15) days of the Effective Date, MinQuest shall prepare 3.1 quitclaim deeds transferring both the Bruner/Vernal Property and the Moss Property to Patriot Gold.
  - Within fifteen (15) days of the Effective Date, MinQuest shall file and/or 3.2 record the quitclaim deeds with the BLM and the appropriate County Recorders. Upon recordation, MinQuest shall provide to Patriot Gold conformed copies of the recorded quitclaim deeds.
  - Within fifteen (15) days of receiving from MinQuest the conformed 3.3 copies of the quitclaim deeds, Patriot Gold shall reimburse MinQuest for all recording fees incurred by MinQuest to record the quitclaim deeds.
  - By August 15 of each year, Patriot Gold shall notify MinQuest by letter 3.4 whether Patriot Gold has paid the BLM fees for each claim covered by this Agreement. If Patriot Gold has not paid the BLM fees, Patriot Gold, or its assignees, shall represent whether Patriot Gold intends to pay the **BLM** fees, or abandon the claims.

The letter required by this section shall be delivered to: The Law Offices of Michael Morrison 1495 Ridgeview Drive, Suite 220 Reno, Nevada 89519

#### 4. Releases.

- This Agreement is intended to facilitate the conveyance of the Bruner/Vernal Property and the Moss Property, and to specifically ratify the ongoing obligations of the Parties as provided in the Bruner/Vernal Property Option Agreement and the Moss Purchase Agreement. Therefore, the Parties are not released from the obligations contained in the Bruner/Vernal Property Option Agreement and the Moss Purchase Agreement to the extent they remain in effect. However, other than specifically set forth herein no additional rights or obligations are created in either Party. It is agreed that any claims for damages incurred up to and including the Effective Date are hereby released.
- 4.2 <u>Parties bound.</u> The heirs, executors, personal administrators, successors, parents, subsidiaries, shareholders, directors, officers, employees, agents, attorneys, insurers, members, and partners of the **Parties** are bound by this Agreement.
- 4.3 <u>Parties benefitted.</u> The heirs, executors, personal administrators, successors, parents, subsidiaries, shareholders, directors, officers, employees, agents, attorneys, insurers, members, and partners of the **Parties** are benefitted by these releases.
- 4.4 Scope of release; interpretation. This release does not include any claim for relief arising out of an alleged breach of this Agreement, or any alleged breach of the Bruner/Vernal Property Option Agreement and the Moss Purchase Agreement occurring after the Effective Date.
- 5. <u>Dismissal.</u> Upon the full execution of this Agreement, the **Parties** shall, through counsel, sign and deliver a stipulation for the dismissal, with prejudice, of **Patriot**Gold's claims against **MinQuest** in the **Litigation**, with each of the **Parties** to bear his or its own attorney fees and costs.
- 6. <u>Denial of liability.</u> The **Parties** deny any liability to one another or to any third parties with respect to the claims asserted, or which could have been asserted, in the **Litigation**. The **Parties** have elected to enter into this Agreement to compromise and conclude disputed claims without the expense of further litigation. Nothing in this Agreement shall constitute an admission of any liability, responsibility, or wrongdoing by any of the **Parties**.
- 7. <u>Informed consent.</u> The **Parties** represent and warrant that they are represented by legal counsel, that they have all had ample opportunity to review this Agreement with lawyers before signing, and that they voluntarily enter into this Agreement with the understanding that they are giving up important legal rights and claims. The **Parties** do not rely on any representations, except for the representations and promises contained in this Agreement, from the other to execute this Agreement,

- but instead rely only upon their own investigations and consultations with legal counsel.
- 8. No construction against drafting party. The **Parties**, and each of them, represent and warrant that they are represented by legal counsel, that they have had ample opportunity to review this Agreement with lawyers before signing, and that the language of this Agreement results from the review and changes requested by counsel for all **Parties**. Therefore, the rule that ambiguities should be construed against the drafting party shall not apply to this Agreement.
- 9. <u>Choice of law.</u> Nevada law controls the formation, interpretation, and enforcement of this Agreement.
- 10. Severability. If any court determines that a word, clause, or sentence in this Agreement is invalid or illegal, the balance of the contract shall be construed and enforced as if the offensive provision was not a part of the contract.
- 11. Attorney Fees. If either party sues to enforce this Agreement, or to enforce the Bruner/Vernal Property Option Agreement or the Moss Purchase Agreement, the prevailing party shall be entitled to receive from the non-prevailing party, its reasonable attorney fees incurred. Any attorney fee award shall be based on a reasonable hourly rate multiplied by the number of hours reasonably expended by the attorney(s).
- 12. Execution; authority. This Agreement may be signed in one or more counterparts. An authentic facsimile, photocopy, or digital image of a signature shall have the same force and effect as an original signature. Each individual who signs this Agreement represents and warrants that he or she is the person named below the signature, and that he or she has authority to sign this Agreement on behalf of the person, estate, or business entity appearing over the signature.

In Witness Whereof, the **Parties** have executed this Settlement Agreement as of the **Effective Date**.

Patriot Gold Corp.

By <u>Xar/ Do</u>

Its Vice President, Director

MinQuest, Inc.

By: <u>Herb Diserr</u>
Its: <u>Vice President</u>

Michael Morrison, Esq.

Attorney for MinQuest, Inc.

Theodore E. Chrissinger, Esq.

Attorney for Patriot Gold Corp.

### **EXHIBIT 3**

MOSS-Duit Claim 5/11/13: scarrieto Bob Coxe 0 PATRIET. 2013021

MinQuest Inc. 4235 Christy Way Reno, NV 89519

OFFICIAL RECORDS OF MOHAVE COUNTY CAROL MEIER COUNTY RECORDER

04/26/2013 02:54 PM Fee: \$10.00

PAGE: 1 of 4

#### **QUITCLAIM DEED** EXEMPT A-6

This quitclaim deed ("Deed"), executed this 24H day of April 2013, by MinQuest, Inc. ("MinQuest") whose address is 4235 Christy Way, Reno, Nevada 89519.

For the benefit of

Patriot Gold Corp. ("Patriot"), whose address is 3651 Lindell Road, Suite D #165, Las Vegas, Nevada 89103.

A. MinQuest quitclaims to Patriot, and its assigns and successors forever, all of MinQuest's right, title, and interest in the Moss Property described in Exhibit A. attached to and by this reference incorporated in this Deed with the exception of a rovalty interest as described in a March 4, 2004 Property Option Agreement between MinQuest and Patriot in exchange for consideration as listed in the Property Option Agreement paid to MinQuest by Patriot.

MinQuest, Inc.

STATE OF NEVADA )

) SS.

**COUNTY OF WASHOE** 

Signed and sworn to before me this 24 day of April, 2013, by Richard R. Kern, as agent for MinQuest, Inc.

My Commission Expires:

**ISEAL1** 

Notary Public in and for Washoe County, Nevada

ANGELICA LELAND **NOTARY PUBLIC** STATE OF NEVADA Commission Expires: 09-29-14 Certificate No: 10-3505-2

EXHIBIT A
Unpatented mining claims listed in Department of the Interior
Arizona-BLM records as follows:

CLAIM N	<u>AME</u>	CLAIMANT'S NAME	NMC NUMBER
Moss	11	MinQuest Inc.	361998
Moss	12	MinQuest Inc	361999
Moss	13	MinQuest Inc	362000
Moss	14	MinQuest Inc	362001
Moss	15	MinQuest Inc	362002
Moss	16	MinQuest Inc	362003
Moss	17	MinQuest Inc	362004
Moss	18	MinQuest Inc	362005
Moss	19	MinQuest Inc	362006
Moss	20	MinQuest Inc	362007
Moss	21	MinQuest Inc	362008
Moss	22	MinQuest Inc	362009
Moss	23	MinQuest Inc	362010
Moss	24	MinQuest Inc	362011
Moss	25	MinQuest Inc	362012
Moss	26	MinQuest Inc	362013
Moss	27	MinQuest Inc	362014
Moss	28	MinQuest Inc	362015
Moss	29	MinQuest Inc	362016
Moss	30	MinQuest Inc	362017
Moss	31	MinQuest Inc	362018
Moss	32	MinQuest Inc	362019
Moss	33	MinQuest Inc.	362020
Moss	33 F	MinQuest Inc.	362021
Moss	34	MinQuest Inc.	362022
Moss	35	MinQuest Inc.	362023
Moss	36	MinQuest Inc.	362024
Moss	37	MinQuest Inc.	362025
Moss	38	MinQuest Inc.	362026
Moss	39	MinQuest Inc.	362027
Moss	39 F	MinQuest Inc.	362028
Moss	40	MinQuest Inc.	362029
Moss	41	MinQuest Inc.	362030
Moss	42	MinQuest Inc.	362031
Moss	43	MinQuest Inc.	362032
Moss	44	MinQuest Inc.	362033
Moss	45	MinQuest Inc.	362034
Moss	46	MinQuest Inc.	362035
Moss	47	MinQuest Inc.	362036
Moss	47 B	MinQuest Inc.	362037
Moss	48	MinQuest Inc.	362038
Moss	49	MinQuest Inc.	362039

CLAIM N	AME	CLAIMANT'S NAME	NMC NUMBER
Moss	50	MinQuest Inc.	362040
Moss	51	MinQuest Inc	362041
Moss	52	MinQuest Inc	362042
Moss	53	MinQuest Inc	362043
Moss	54	MinQuest Inc	362044
Moss	55	MinQuest Inc	362045
Moss	56	MinQuest Inc	362046
Moss	57	MinQuest Inc	362047
Moss	58	MinQuest Inc	362048
Moss	59	MinQuest Inc	362049
Moss	60	MinQuest Inc	362050
Moss	61	MinQuest Inc	362051
Moss	62	MinQuest Inc	362052
Moss	63	MinQuest Inc	362053
Moss	64	MinQuest Inc	362054
Moss	65	MinQuest Inc	362055
Moss	66	MinQuest Inc	362056
Moss	67	MinQuest Inc	362057
Moss	68	MinQuest Inc	362058
Moss	69	MinQuest Inc	362059
Moss	70	MinQuest Inc.	362060
Moss	1	MinQuest Inc.	398978
Moss	2	MinQuest Inc.	398979
Moss	3	MinQuest Inc.	398980
Moss	4	MinQuest Inc.	398981
Moss	5	MinQuest Inc.	398982
Moss	6	MinQuest Inc.	398983
Moss	7	MinQuest Inc.	398984
Moss	8	MinQuest Inc.	398985
Moss	9	MinQuest Inc.	398986
Moss	10	MinQuest Inc.	398987
Moss	118	MinQuest Inc.	398988
Moss	119	MinQuest Inc.	398989
Moss	120	MinQuest Inc.	398990
Moss	121	MinQuest Inc.	398991
Moss	122	MinQuest Inc.	398992
Moss	123	MinQuest Inc.	398993
Moss	124	MinQuest Inc.	398994
Moss	125	MinQuest Inc.	398995
Moss	126	MinQuest Inc.	398996
Moss	127	MinQuest Inc.	398997
Moss	128	MinQuest Inc.	398998
Moss	129	. MinQuest Inc.	398999
Moss	130	MinQuest Inc.	399000
Moss	131	MinQuest Inc.	399001

CLAIM NAME		CLAIMANT'S NAME	NMC NUMBER
Moss	132	MinQuest Inc.	399002
Moss	133	MinQuest Inc.	399003
Moss	134	MinQuest Inc.	399004
Moss	135	MinQuest Inc.	399005
Moss	136	MinQuest Inc.	399006
Moss	137	MinQuest Inc.	399007
Moss	138	MinQuest Inc.	399008
Moss	139	MinQuest Inc.	399009
Moss	140	MinQuest Inc.	399010
Moss	141	MinQuest Inc.	399011
Moss	142	MinQuest Inc.	399012
Moss	143	MinQuest Inc.	399013
Moss	144	MinQuest Inc.	399014
Moss	145	MinQuest Inc.	399015
Moss	146	MinQuest Inc.	399016
Moss	147	MinQuest Inc.	399017
Moss	148	MinQuest Inc.	399018
		Total Moss Claims	104

## Official Receipt Mohave County Recorder's Office

Carol Meier, Recorder 700 W Beale Street P.O. Box 70 Kingman, AZ 86402 (928) 753-0701

Receipt: 584542

Product	Name	Extended
QCD	Quitclaim Deed	\$10.00
Document # 2013021914, # F	Pages 4, # Pages of Affidavit 2, Paid By: MINQUEST	
Total		\$10.00
Tender (Check)		\$10.00
Check# 3322		