IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA BLUEFIELD DIVISION

JAMES E. GRAHAM II; DENNIS ADKINS; ROGER WRISTON; and DAVID B. POLK; on behalf of themselves and others similarly situated; and UNITED MINE WORKERS OF AMERICA INTERNATIONAL UNION,

Plaintiffs,

v.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 1:19-cv-00597

JUSTICE ENERGY CO. INC.; KEYSTONE SERVICE INDUSTRIES, INC.; BLUESTONE COAL CORPORATION; DOUBLE-BONUS COAL CO.; and SOUTHERN COAL CORPORATION,

Defendants.

DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS

Come now the Defendants, Justice Energy Co., Inc., Keystone Service Industries, Inc., Bluestone Coal Corporation, Double-Bonus Coal Co., and Southern Coal Corporation (collectively "Defendants"), pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and move this Court to dismiss the Complaint filed by Plaintiffs James E. Graham II, Dennis Adkins, Roger Wriston, David B. Polk, and the United Mine Workers of America International Union (collectively "Plaintiffs") for the reasons described in the accompanying Memorandum in Support which is incorporated herein by reference; namely:

1. With regard to their claims pursuant to Section 301 of the Labor and Management Relations Act of 1947 (29 U.S.C. §185), Plaintiffs have failed to exhaust *or allege that they have exhausted* the mandatory arbitral remedies provided by the arbitration procedure contained in

Article XXIII of the Parties' collective bargaining agreement, the National Bituminous Coal Wage Agreement of 2016 (the "NBCWA"), to which the Parties must submit all disputes arising between them.

- 2. With regard to their claims pursuant to the Employee Retirement Security Act ("ERISA"), 29 U.S.C. § 1001 et. seq., Plaintiffs have failed to exhaust *or allege that they have exhausted* the mandatory claims remedies and procedures provided by the Plan Documents for the applicable Health Plans.
 - 3. Defendants submit the following Exhibits in support of this Motion: ¹
 - a. Exhibit A Portions of the 2016 National Bituminous Coal Wage Agreement of 2016.
 - b. Exhibit B *The Southern Coal Corporation Health and Wellness Plan*-Summary Plan Description, 2014-July 2019 applicable to all Defendants.
 - c. Exhibit C *The Southern Coal Company Health and Wellness Plan*-Plan Document and Summary Plan Description, July 2019-present applicable to all Defendants; and,
 - d. Exhibit D Public UMWA-BCOA website listing all Defendants as being in Good Standing with Resolution of Disputes Trust:

 https://www.umwafunds.org/Rods/Documents/RodTrustList.pdf

For the reasons listed above and set forth in the attached Memorandum of Law In Support of Defendants' Motion to Dismiss, Plaintiffs have failed to state a plausible claim for relief, even when construing the applicable facts in their favor. The Defendants, therefore, move this Court to dismiss the Plaintiffs' Complaint with prejudice – pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6) – for failure to state a

¹ In Consolidation Coal Co. v. United Mine Workers of Am., 191 F. Supp. 3d 572, 576 (N.D.W. Va. 2016), the Court noted that it may consider documents "integral to and explicitly relied on in the complaint" such as the NBCWA and, in this case, the ERISA Health Plans without converting the Rule 12(b)(6) Motion to a Motion for Summary Judgment. *Id.*, citing, Am. Chiropractic Ass'n v. Trigon Healthcare, Inc., 367 F.3d 212, 234–35 (4th Cir.2004).

claim upon which relief can be granted and to grant Defendants any further relief that the Court deems appropriate.

JUSTICE ENERGY CO. INC.; KEYSTONE SERVICE INDUSTRIES, INC.; BLUESTONE COAL CORPORATION; DOUBLE-BONUS COAL CO.; and SOUTHERN COAL CORPORATION,

By Counsel:

/s/ James P. McHugh

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Defendants.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, James P. McHugh, hereby certify that on the 5th day of November, 2019, the foregoing "*Defendants' Motion to Dismiss*" was electronically filed with the Clerk of the Court through the CM/ECF System which will send electronic notification of such filing to counsel listed below:

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/s/ James P. McHugh

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