IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

Supreme Court Case No. 78256 District Court Case No. CV 39348 Electronically Filed Jan 06 2020 04:13 p.m. Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court

Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC, *Petitioner*

v.

The Fifth Judicial District Court, State of Nevada, Nye County, and the Honorable Steven P. Elliott, Senior Judge, *Respondent*

and

Brahma Group, Inc., *Real Party in Interest*.

PETITIONER'S REPLY APPENDIX VOLUME II

D. LEE ROBERTS, JR., ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 8877
COLBY L. BALKENBUSH, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 13066
RYAN T. GORMLEY, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 13494
WEINBERG, WHEELER, HUDGINS,
GUNN & DIAL, LLC
6385 South Rainbow Blvd., Suite 400
Las Vegas, Nevada 89118
(702) 938-3838
lroberts@wwhgd.com
cbalkenbush@wwhgd.com
rgormley@wwhgd.com

Attorneys for Petitioner Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC

CHRONOLOGICAL INDEX

Date Filed	Description	Bates Number	Volume(s)
12/21/2018	Brahma Mechanic's Lien Foreclosure Complaint Against Surety Bond and Summons	PRA 1-12	I
12/21/2018	Brahma Group, Inc.'s Motion to Consolidate Case CV39799 with Case CV39348	PRA 13-22	I
01/07/2019	TSE's Opposition to Brahma's Motion to Consolidate Case No. CV39799 with Case No. CV39348	PRA 23-31	I
01/14/2019	Brahma Group, Inc.'s Reply to Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC's Opposition to Motion to Consolidate Case No. CV39799 with Case No. CV39348 (without exhibits)	PRA 32-42	I
02/21/2019	Defendants Cobra Thermosolar Plants, Inc.'s and American Home Assurance Company's Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff Brahma Group, Inc.'s First Amended Complaint in Case No. CV39799	PRA 43-81	II
03/13/2019	Notice of entry of Order Granting Brahma's Motion to Consolidate Case No. CV39799 with Case No. CV39348	PRA 82-89	II
03/25/2019	Brahma Group, Inc.'s Opposition to Cobra Thermosolar Plants, Inc.'s Motion to Dismiss and Countermotion for leave to File a single Consolidated Amended Complaint (without exhibits)	PRA 90-104	II
04/10/2019	TSE's Opposition to Brahma's Countermotion for Leave to File a	PRA 105-116	II

CHRONOLOGICAL INDEX

	Single Consolidated Complaint		
04/15/2019	Brahma Group, Inc.'s Reply to Tonopah Solar Energy's Opposition to Brahma's Countermotion for Leave to File a Single Consolidated Amended Complaint	PRA 117-123	III
04/22/2019	Brahma Group, Inc.'s (1) Second Amended Complaint; and (2) First Amended Third Party Complaint	PRA 124-136	III
04/22/2019	Order Granting Brahma's Countermotion for Leave to File a Single Consolidated Amended Complaint	PRA 137-154	III
06/25/2019	Transcript from Hearing on 06/25/2019	PRA 155-198	III
09/25/2019	Order	PRA 199-207	III
10/15/2019	Cobra Thermosolar Plants, Inc.'s and American Home Assurance Company's Motion to Stay	PRA 208-222	IV
10/18/2019	Motion to Intervene as Defendants	PRA 223-246	IV
11/01/2019	Brahma Group, Inc.'s Opposition to Cobra Thermosolar Plants, Inc. and American Home Assurance Company's Motion to Stay (without exhibits)	PRA 247-260	IV
11/01/2019	Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC's Joinder, or Alternatively, Response to Cobra's and AHAC's Motion to Intervene and Defendants	PRA 261-265	IV
11/08/2019	Cobra Thermosolar Plants, Inc.'s and American Home Assurance Company's Reply in Further Support	PRA 266-279	IV

CHRONOLOGICAL INDEX

	of Motion to Stay (without exhibits)		
11/15/2019	Brahma Group, Inc.'s Response to Motion to Intervene (without exhibits)	PRA 280-296	IV
11/18/2019	TSE's Joinder to Cobra's and AHAC's Motion to Stay	PRA 297-302	V
12/09/2019	Reply in further Support of Motion to Intervene as Defendants	PRA 303-311	V
12/11/2019	Cobra Thermosolar Plants, Inc.'s and American Home Assurance Company's First Set of Requests for Production to Plaintiff and Counter- Defendants Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC	PRA 312-323	V

APHABETICAL INDEX

Date Filed	Description	Bates Number	Volume(s)
03/25/2019	Brahma Group, Inc.'s Opposition to Cobra Thermosolar Plants, Inc.'s Motion to Dismiss and Countermotion for leave to File a single Consolidated Amended Complaint (without exhibits)	PRA 90-104	II
11/01/2019	Brahma Group, Inc.'s Opposition to Cobra Thermosolar Plants, Inc. and American Home Assurance Company's Motion to Stay (without exhibits)	PRA 247-260	IV
01/14/2019	Brahma Group, Inc.'s Reply to Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC's Opposition to Motion to Consolidate Case No. CV39799 with Case No. CV39348 (without exhibits)	PRA 32-42	I
11/15/2019	Brahma Group, Inc.'s Response to Motion to Intervene (without exhibits)	PRA 280-296	IV
04/22/2019	Brahma Group, Inc.'s (1) Second Amended Complaint; and (2) First Amended Third Party Complaint	PRA 124-136	III
12/21/2018	Brahma Group, Inc.'s Motion to Consolidate Case CV39799 with Case CV39348	PRA 13-22	I
04/15/2019	Brahma Group, Inc.'s Reply to Tonopah Solar Energy's Opposition to Brahma's Countermotion for Leave to File a Single Consolidated Amended Complaint	PRA 117-123	III
12/21/2018	Brahma Mechanic's Lien Foreclosure Complaint Against Surety Bond and Summons	PRA 1-12	I

APHABETICAL INDEX

12/11/2019	Cobra Thermosolar Plants, Inc.'s and American Home Assurance Company's First Set of Requests for Production to Plaintiff and Counter- Defendants Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC	PRA 312-323	V
10/15/2019	Cobra Thermosolar Plants, Inc.'s and American Home Assurance Company's Motion to Stay	PRA 208-222	IV
11/08/2019	Cobra Thermosolar Plants, Inc.'s and American Home Assurance Company's Reply in Further Support of Motion to Stay (without exhibits)	PRA 266-279	IV
02/21/2019	Defendants Cobra Thermosolar Plants, Inc.'s and American Home Assurance Company's Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff Brahma Group, Inc.'s First Amended Complaint in Case No. CV39799	PRA 43-81	II
10/18/2019	Motion to Intervene as Defendants	PRA 223-246	IV
03/13/2019	Notice of entry of Order Granting Brahma's Motion to Consolidate Case No. CV39799 with Case No. CV39348	PRA 82-89	II
09/25/2019	Order	PRA 199-207	III
04/22/2019	Order Granting Brahma's Countermotion for Leave to File a Single Consolidated Amended Complaint	PRA 137-154	III
12/09/2019	Reply in further Support of Motion to Intervene as Defendants	PRA 303-311	V
11/01/2019	Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC's Joinder,	PRA 261-265	IV

APHABETICAL INDEX

	or Alternatively, Response to Cobra's and AHAC's Motion to Intervene and Defendants		
06/25/2019	Transcript from Hearing on 06/25/2019	PRA 155-198	III
11/18/2019	TSE's Joinder to Cobra's and AHAC's Motion to Stay	PRA 297-302	V
04/10/2019	TSE's Opposition to Brahma's Countermotion for Leave to File a Single Consolidated Complaint	PRA 105-116	II
01/07/2019	TSE's Opposition to Brahma's Motion to Consolidate Case No. CV39799 with Case No. CV39348	PRA 23-31	I

GEOFFREY CRISP, ESQ.	
Nevada Bar No. 2104	
JEREMY R. KILBER, ESQ.	
Nevada Bar No. 10643	
WEIL & DRAGE, APC	
2500 Anthem Village Drive	
Henderson, NV 89052	
(702) 314-1905 • Fax (702) 314-1909	
gcrisp@weildrage.com	
jkilber@weildrage.com	
Attorneys for Defendants,	
COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC. at	nd
AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE COMPA	NY
IN THE FIFTH HIDICIAL DISTRIC	CIT COVER OF THE CO
IN AND FOR TH	CT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA HE COUNTY OF NYE
TONOBALL SOLOB ENTRON AT C	A Land Company
TONOPAH SOLOR ENERGY, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company,) Case No.: CV39348
Delaware limited hability company,) Consolidated With
Plaintiff,) Case No.: CV39799
vs.) Dept. No.: 2
vo.) DEFENDANTS CORP.
BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada) DEFENDANTS COBRA THERMOSOLAR
corporation,) PLANTS, INC.'S AND AMERICAN HOME
orporation,	ASSURANCE COMPANY'S MOTION TO
Defendant,) DISMISS PLAINTIFF BRAHMA GROUP,
Doromatan.) INC.'S FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT IN) CASE NO. CV39799
BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada)
corporation,) [ORAL ARGUMENT REQUESTED]
)
Counter-claimant,)
vs.	Ď
)
TONOPAH SOLOR ENERGY, LLC, a	Ď
Delaware limited liability company; BOE)
BONDING COMPANIES I through X;)
DOES I through X; ROE CORPORATIONS	
through X; and TOE TENANTS I through)
X, inclusive,)
) Date of Hearing:
Counter-defendants.)
	Time of Hearing:
BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada)
corporation,)
)
Third-Party Plaintiff,	
(01528847;2) Page 1 c	of 10

vs.)
COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, IN) VC.,)
a Nevada corporation; AMERICAN HOL ASSURANCE COMPANY, a surety; BO	ME) DE)
BONDING COMPANIES I through X; DOES I through X; ROE CORPORATIO I through X, inclusive,	ONS)
)
Third-Party Defendants.)
H&E EQUIPMENT SERVICES, INC, a Delaware corporation,	
Plaintiff-In-Intervention,)
vs.	j
BRAHMA GROUP, INC, a Nevada)
corporation, TONOPAH SOLAR ENERG LLC, a Delaware limited liability compar	ny,)
COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, IN Nevada corporation; AMERICAN HOMI	IC, a)
ASSURANCE COMPANY, a surety; BC	
BONDING COMPANIES I through X; DOES I through X; ROE CORPORATIO) NS)
I through X, and TOE TENANTS I throu X, inclusive,	gh)
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Defendants-In-Intervention.)
BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada	
corporation,	Ś
Plaintiff,)
VS.)
COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, IN	C.,)
a Nevada corporation; AMERICAN HOMASSURANCE COMPANY, a surety; BO	1E) E)
BONDING COMPANIES I through X;)
DOES I through X; ROE CORPORATION I through X, inclusive,)
Defendants.)
Delendants.)
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1	DEFENDANTS COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC.'S AND AMERICAN HOME
2	ASSURANCE COMPANY'S MOTION TO DISMISS PLAINTIFF BRAHMA GROUP,
3	INC.'S FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT IN CASE NO. CV39799
4	COME NOW Defendants COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC. (hereinafter,
5	"Cobra") and AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE COMPANY (hereinafter, "AHAC")
6	(collectively, "Defendants"), by and through their attorneys of record, the law firm of WEIL &
7	DRAGE, APC, and hereby file their Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff BRAHMA GROUP, INC.'s
8	(hereinafter, "BGI") First Amended Complaint filed in Case No. CV39799.
9	This Motion is based on the Memorandum of Points and Authorities submitted herein, all
10	pleadings, papers, and files herein, the evidence adduced at hearing, and any oral argument this
11	Honorable Court will entertain.
12	DATED this 21st day of February, 2019.
13	WEIL & DRAGE, APC
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	GEOFFREY CRISP, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 2104 JEREMY R. KILBER, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 10643 2500 Anthem Village Drive Henderson, NV 89052 Attorneys for Defendants, COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC. and AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE COMPANY

WEIL & DRAGE
ITOANETS AT LAW
A PROFESSIONAL COMPONETION
FOR ATTEMP VIllage Drive
Henderson, NV 89552
Phone: (702) 314-1909
WARK WEILDRING V. VIII

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1		NOTICE OF MOTION		
2	PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the foregoing DEFENDANTS COBRA			
3	THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC	'S AND AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE		
4	COMPANY'S MOTION TO DISMISS PLAINTIFF BRAHMA GROUP, INC.'S FIRST			
5	AMENDED COMPLAINT IN CASE NO. CV39799 will be heard before the above-entitled			
6	Court located at 1520 E. Basin Avenue, Pahrump, Nevada 89060, in Department 2, on the			
7	day of, 2019, at _	a.m./p.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel may be		
8	heard.			
9	Oral argument is requested.			
10	DATED this 21st day of Febru	nary, 2019.		
11		WEIL & DRAGE, APC		
12		D 2710		
13		GEOFFREY CRISP, ESQ.		
14	Nevada Bar No. 2104			
15		JEREMY R. KILBER, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 10643		
16		2500 Anthem Village Drive Henderson, NV 89052		
17		Attorneys for Defendants, COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC. and		
18		AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE COMPANY		
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WEIL 5 DRAGE TOR HOYS AT LAW A PROPESSIONAL CORPORATION 500 Anthem Village Drive Henderson, NV 89052 Phinne: (702) 314-1905 Fax: 17021 314-1905	{01528847;2}	Page 4 of 10		

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

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PROCEDURAL HISTORY / RELEVANT FACTS

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WEIL & DRAGE TINEMETS AT LAW A SEPTEMBRICHAL COMMONDATION 500 Anthem Village Drive Henocroom, NV 89052 Phomet (702) 314-1905 Fax: (702) 314-1905 www.weildfrage.com BGI is asserting duplicative and improper claims against Cobra and AHAC. As the Court is aware, on or about September 25, 2018, BGI filed a Third-Party Complaint in Case No. CV39348 asserting a single cause of action against Cobra and AHAC for "Claim Against Surety, Surety Bond and Principal thereon." Nevertheless, on January 11, 2019, BGI filed a new separate action, Case No. CV39799 against Cobra and AHAC asserting, *inter alia*, its "Claim Against Surety, Surety Bond and Principal thereon." The Claim Against Surety, Surety Bond and Principal thereon in Case Nos. CV39348 and CV39799 are identical.

On or about January 24, 2019, the Court consolidated cases CV39348 and CV39799.

However, the Court did not expressly hold the cases are to be merged into a single action.

Consequently, BGI is presently maintaining the exact same "Claim Against Surety, Surety Bond and Principal thereon" in two separate actions, against the same parties in each action. While the two actions do differ with respect to other claims asserted, there is an improper, redundant claim in the two actions.

П.

SUMMARY OF LEGAL ARGUMENT

Defendants seek dismissal of BGI's duplicative claim in Case No. CV39799, as well as dismissal of BGI's improper claim for unjust enrichment in Case No. CV39799. Nevada case law precedence establishes duplicative claims are inappropriate. Further, inasmuch as BGI alleges a contract exists between BGI and Cobra (specifically, a Settlement Agreement), an independent claim for unjust enrichment against Cobra is not appropriate. Consequently, Defendants respectfully request the Court dismiss BGI's duplicative "Claim Against Surety, Surety Bond and

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Page 5 of 10

BGI's First Amended Counter-Complaint; and Third-Party Complaint in Case No. CV39348 is attached hereto as *Exhibit 1*.

BGI's First Amended Complaint in Case No. CV39799 is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.

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Principal thereon" and dismiss BGI's Fourth Cause of Action for Unjust Enrichment against Cobra in Case No. CV39799.

III.

LEGAL STANDARD

NRCP 12(b) authorizes the dismissal of a lawsuit when it fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted. When, after construing the pleading liberally and drawing every fair intendment in favor of the plaintiff, no claim has been stated, dismissal is proper.³ Rule 12(b)(5) of the NRCP authorizes dismissal of a Complaint when the Complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted. A Motion to Dismiss is properly granted where the allegations in the challenged pleading, taken at "face value" and construed favorably in the Plaintiff's behalf, fail to state a cognizable claim for relief.⁴

NRCP 12(f) also authorizes the Court to strike redundant claims, stating "Upon motion made by a party before responding to a pleading or, if no responsive pleading is permitted by these rules, upon motion made by a party within 20 days after the service of the pleading upon the party or upon the court's own initiative at any time, the court may order stricken from any pleading any insufficient defense or any redundant, immaterial, impertinent, or scandalous matter."

IV.

LEGAL ARGUMENT

A. THE COURT SHOULD STRIKE BGI'S REDUNDANT CLAIM AGAINST SURETY, SURETY BOND AND PRINCIPAL THEREON IN CASE NO. CV39799

In Smith v. Hutchins the Nevada Supreme Court found "a single cause of action may not be split and separate actions maintained. The wrongful act of the defendant creates the plaintiff's cause of action. Policy demands that all forms of injury or damage sustained by the plaintiff as a

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Brown v. Kellar, 97 Nev. 582, 583, 636 P.2d 874, 874 (Nev. 1981).

See, Morris v. Bank of America Nevada, 110 Nev. 1274, 886 P.2d 454, 456 (1994).

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Page 6 of 10

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WEIL & DRAGE
THE BY EAT LAW
A PROFESSIONAL COMPONATION
500 Anther Village Driv
Hondorson, NV 98952
Phone: (702) 114-1905
Pax: (707) 314-1909
mms. weildrage.com

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WEIL & DRAGE
TO B MEY I A 2 L A W
A BOATSSTOWN COMPONITION
SOR ARCHOT VILLAGE DITU
Henderson, NV 8805-2
Phone: [702] 314-1305
Fax: [702] 314-1305
www.www[56tage.com

consequence of the defendant's wrongful act be recovered in one action rather than in multiple actions." Indeed, the Smith Court stated "[t]he great weight of authority supports the single cause of action rule when the plaintiff in each case is the same person."

In Matter of Estate of Sarge, the Nevada Supreme Court found "[c]onsolidated cases retain their separate identities so that an order resolving all of the claims in one of the consolidated cases is immediately appealable as a final judgment under NRAP 3A(b)(1)." Additionally, the Sarge Court noted, "the federal courts consistently held that consolidation for the purpose of joint trial does not merge the cases into a single cause of action."

Here, BGI secks to assert the exact same claim in *two* separate actions. BGI's "Claim Against Surety, Surety Bond and Principal thereon" asserted in each case are identical. While the cases have been consolidated, pursuant to Nevada case law precedence each action maintains its separate identity. In fact, BGI's counsel is requiring Defendants to separately respond to *both* the First Amended Complaint in Case No. CV39799, as well as the Amended (but not yet filed) Third-Party Complaint in Case No. CV39348. BGI cannot maintain the exact same cause of action against the exact same defendants in two separate actions. See *Smith*, *supra*. Therefore, Defendants respectfully request the Court uphold *Smith* and dismiss the duplicative "Claim Against Surety, Surety Bond and Principal thereon" in Case No. CV39799.

B. BGI'S CLAIM OF UNJUST ENRICHMENT IS IMPROPER AND SHOULD BE DISMISSED

In Leasepartners Corp. v. Brooks, the Nevada Supreme Court held "[a]n action based on a theory of unjust enrichment is not available when there is an express, written contract, because no agreement can be implied when there is an express agreement. 'The doctrine of unjust enrichment

{01528847;2}

Page 7 of 10

Smith v. Hutchins, 93 Nev. 431, 432, 566 P.2d 1136, 1137 (1977). Citing Reno Club v. Harrah et al., 70 Nev. 125, 260 P.2d 304 (1953).

⁶ Id.

Matter of Estate of Sarge, 134 Nev. Adv. Op. 105, 432 P.3d 718, 722 (2018).

Id. Citing, Mikulich v. Carner, 68 Nev. 161, 169-70, 228 P.2d 257,261 (1951).

See email correspondence between BGI's counsel and Defendants' counsel dated February 13, 2019, attached hereto as Exhibit 3.

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WEIL & DRAGE

WEIL & DRAGE
TIGENTYS AT LAW
A PRIMESSIONAL COMPONENTIAN
500 Anthem Village Briv
Henderson, NV 89052
Phone: (702) 310-1905
PAN: (702) 310-1905
PAN: (Weildrage com

or recovery in quasi contract applies to situations where there is no legal contract but where the person sought to be charged is in possession of money or property which in good conscience and justice he should not retain but should deliver to another [or should pay for]."

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In May v. Anderson, the Nevada Supreme Court found that "[b]ecause a settlement agreement is a contract, its construction and enforcement are governed by principles of contract law."

Here, BGI's cause of action for Unjust Enrichment in Case No. CV39799 is not proper.

The First Amended Complaint expressly states, BGI contracted with Cobra, that a dispute arose as a result of the contract, the dispute was resolved through settlement, a separate Settlement Agreement was executed, BGI allegedly performed under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, Cobra allegedly did not perform under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, and a new dispute now arises under the terms of the Settlement Agreement. Despite the existence of the Settlement Agreement, BGI now seeks to recover damages against Cobra under a theory of unjust enrichment.

Pursuant to May, the Settlement Agreement must be treated as a contract. As BGI is asserting contract, Leasepartners renders BGI's unjust enrichment claim improper. Therefore, Cobra respectfully requests the Court dismiss BGI's Fourth Cause of Action for Unjust Enrichment against Cobra.

V.

CONCLUSION

BGI seeks to improperly assert redundant claims against Defendants in two cases. While the cases are consolidated, each case maintains its own identity. As Nevada case law precedence does not allow BGI to maintain duplicative claims, Defendants Cobra and AHAC respectfully

(01528847;2)

Page 8 of 10

Leasepartners Corp. v. Robert L. Brooks Tr. Dated November 12, 1975, 113 Nev. 747, 755-56, 942 P.2d 182, 187 (1997). Internal citations omitted. Citing, 66 Am.Jur.2d Restitution § 11 (1973); see Lipshie v. Tracy Investment Co., 93 Nev. 370, 379, 566 P.2d 819, 824 (1977) ("To permit recovery by quasi-contract where a written agreement exists would constitute a subversion of contractual principles.").

May v. Anderson, 121 Nev. 668, 672, 119 P.3d 1254, 1257 (2005). Citing, Reichelt v. Urban Inv. & Dev. Co., 611 F.Supp. 952, 954 (N.D.III.1985).

See Exhibit 2, page 6, line 21 through page 7, line 17.

request the Court dismiss BGI's "Claim Against Surety, Surety Bond and Principal thereon" in Case No. CV39799. Additionally, BGI seeks to assert a claim for unjust enrichment against Cobra, despite alleging the existence of a contract between BGI and Cobra. As Nevada case law does not allow recovery under an unjust enrichment claim when a contract exists, Cobra respectfully requests the Court dismiss BGI's Fourth Cause of Action for Unjust Enrichment against Cobra.

The undersigned does hereby affirm, pursuant to NRS 239B.030, that this document does not contain personal information as defined in NRS 603A.040 about any person.

DATED this 21st day of February, 2019.

WEIL & DRAGE, APC

GEOFFREY CRISP, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 2104

JEREMY R. KILBER, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 10643

2500 Anthem Village Drive Henderson, NV 89052

Attorneys for Defendants,

COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC. and AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE COMPANY

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WEIL & DRACE TO 8 M KYS AT LA M HOME MATTER AT LA M O Anthen Village Delve Henderson, NV 89052 Hone: (702) 314-1905 Fox: (702) 314-1909

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Page 9 of 10

1 CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE 2 Pursuant to Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure 5(b), I hereby certify that on the 21st day of 3 February, 2019, service of the foregoing DEFENDANTS COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC.'S AND AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE COMPANY'S MOTION TO 4 5 DISMISS PLAINTIFF BRAHMA GROUP, INC.'S FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT IN CASE NO. CV39799 was made this date by mailing a true and correct copy of the same, via first-6 7 class mail, at Henderson, Nevada, addressed to the following: 8 D. Lee Roberts, Jr., Esq. Richard L. Peel, Esq. 9 Colby Balkenbush, Esq. Eric B. Zimbelman, Esq. WEINBERG, WHEELER, HUDGINS, GUNN Cary B. Domina, Esq. 10 & DIAL, LLC Ronald J. Cox, Esq. 11 6385 South Rainbow Boulevard, Suite 400 PEEL BRIMLEY, LLP Las Vegas, NV 89118 3333 E. Serene Avenue, Suite 200 12 Attorneys for TONOPAH SOLAR ENERGY, Henderson, NV 89074-6571 LLC Attorneys for BRAHMA GROUP, INC. 13 Richard E. Haskin, Esq. 14 Daniel M. Hansen, Esq. 15 GIBBS, GIDEN, LOCHER, TURNER, SENET & WITTBRODT, LLP 16 1140 N. Town Center Drive, Suite 300 Las Vegas, NV 89144-0596 17 Attorneys for Plaintiff-In-Intervention. 18 H&E EQUIPMENT SERVICES, INC. 19 20 Joanna Medina, an Employee of WEIL & DRAGE, APC 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

WEIL 5 DRAGE T TO R N E Y S A T E A R A PROFESSIONAL CERPORATION 500 Anthen Village Drive Henderson, NV 8952 Phone: (702) 314-1905 Fax: (702) 314-1905 Sectivations of the Com-

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Page 10 of 10

Exhibit 1

Exhibit 1

FILED FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT 1 RICHARD L. PEEL, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 4359 SEP 252010 2 ERIC B. ZIMBELMAN, ESO. Terri Pembertarre com Nevada Bar No. 9407 3 RONALD J. COX, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 12723 4 PEEL BRIMLEY LLP 5 3333 E. Serene Avenue, Suite 200 Henderson, Nevada 89074-6571 6 Telephone: (702) 990-7272 Facsimile: (702) 990-7273 7 peel@peelbrimley.com zimbelman@peelbrimlev.com 8 rcox@peelbrimlev.com 9 Attorneys for Brahma Group, Inc. 10 11 FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT PEEL BRIMLEY LLP 3333 E. SERENE AVENUE, STE. 200 HENDERSON, NEVADA 89074 (702) 990-7272 + FAX (702) 990-7273 12 NYE COUNTY, NEVADA 13 CASE NO. : CV 39348 TONOPAH SOLAR ENERGY, LLC, a Delaware 14 DEPT. NO.: 2 limited liability company, 15 Plaintiff, BRAHMA GROUP, INC.'S: 16 FIRST AMENDED COUNTER-VS. 17 COMPLAINT; AND (II) THIRD-PARTY COMPLAINT. BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada corporation, 18 19 Defendant. [Arbitration Exemption: Action Concerning Title to Real Estate] 20 BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada corporation, 21 Counterclaimant/Lien Claimant, 22. 23 VS. 24 TONOPAH SOLAR ENERGY LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; BOE BONDING 25 COMPANIES I through X; DOES I through X; ROE CORPORATIONS I through X; and TOE 26 TENANTS I through X, inclusive, 27 Counterdefendant, 28

BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada corporation,

Nevada corporation; AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE COMPANY, a surety; BOE

BONDING COMPANIES I through X; DOES I through X; ROE CORPORATIONS I through X,

Third-Party Plaintiff,

Third-Party Defendants.

vs.

inclusive,

COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC., a
Nevada corporation: AMERICAN HOME

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FIRST AMENDED COUNTER-COMPLAINT

Counterclaimant/Lien Claimant/Third-Party Claimant, BRAHMA GROUP, INC. ("Brahma"), by and through its attorneys of record, the law firm of PEEL BRIMLEY LLP, hereby amends in this action (the "Action"), that certain Mechanic's Lien Foreclosure Complaint ("Original Counter-Complaint") by way of this First Amended Counter-Complaint ("Amended Counter-Complaint"), which is brought against the above-named Counterdefendants. Brahma complains, avers and alleges as follows:

THE PARTIES

- 1. Brahma is and was at all times relevant to this Action:
- A Nevada corporation, duly authorized and qualified to do business in the
 State of Nevada; and
- A duly licensed contractor holding a Nevada State Contractor's License,
 which license is in good standing.

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	2.	Brahma	is	informed	and	believes	and	therefore	alleges	that	the	U.S
DEP	ARTM	ENT OF TH	IE I	NTERIOR,	BUR	EAU OF	LANI	MANAG	EMENT	("BLI	vľ"),	is and
was a	at all tin	nes relevan	t to	this Action,	an o	wner or rep	outed o	owner of th	ne fee sin	nple tit	le to	all or
porti	ons of r	eal property	loc	ated in Ny	Cou	nty, Nevac	la, and	more part	ticularly	describ	ed a	s Nye
Coun	ty Parce	el Numbers	012	-141-01 an	d 012	-151-01 (ti	he "Bl	LM Parcels	500).1			

- 3. Brahma is informed and believes and therefore alleges that LIBERTY MOLY, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("Liberty"), is and was at all times relevant to this Action, an owner or reputed owner of the fee simple title to all or portions of real property located in Nye County, Nevada, and more particularly described as Nye County Parcel Number 012-431-06 (the "Liberty Parcel").2
- 4. Counterdefendant TONOPAH SOLAR ENERGY, LLC ("TSE") is and was at all times relevant to this Action:
- A Delaware limited liability company authorized to do business in Nye County, Nevada;
- An owner or reputed owner of the fee simple title to all or portions of real property located in Nye County, Nevada, and more particularly described as Nye County Parcel Numbers 012-031-04, 012-131-03, 012-131-04, 012-140-01, 012-150-01 and 612-141-01 (collectively, the "TSE Parcels");
- The lessee, tenant or the person, individual and/or entity who claims a license or leasehold estate with respect to the BLM Parcels and the Liberty Parcels; and
- The owner of those certain improvements and/or leasehold estate (the d. "Project"):
 - i. Commonly known as the Crescent Dunes Solar Energy Project; and
 - Constructed on the BLM Parcels, the TSE Parcels, and the Liberty ii.

Parcels.3

¹ The BLM is not a party to this Action and Brahma is not making a claim against the BLM or the fee simple title of the BLM Parcels by way of this Action.

² Liberty is not a party to this Action and Brahma is not making a claim against Liberty or the fee simple title of the Liberty Parcel by way of this Action.

The term "Project" as used herein, does not include, and expressly excludes, the fee simple title of the BLM Parcels and the Liberty Parcels.

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- 5. The TSE Parcels, along with the Project, are collectively referred to herein as the "Work of Improvement," and include all leasehold estates, easements, rights-of-way, common areas and appurtenances related thereto, and the surrounding space as may be required for the convenient use and occupation of the Work of Improvement.
- 6. Brahma does not know the true names of the individuals, corporations, partnerships and entities identified and named as Counterdefendants by the fictitious names of (collectively, the "Doe Defendants"), (i) DOES I through X, (ii) ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, (iii) BOE BONDING COMPANIES I through X, and (iv) TOE TENANTS I through X. Brahma alleges that such Doe Defendants claim a) an interest in or to the TSE Parcels and/or the Work of Improvement, or b) damages arising from the construction of the Work of Improvement, as more fully discussed under the claims for relief set forth below. Brahma will request leave of this Honorable Court to amend this Complaint to show the true names and capacities of each such fictitious Defendant when Brahma discovers such information.
- TSE and the Doe Defendants are collectively referred to in this Amended Counter-Complaint as the "Counterdefendants."

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION (Breach of Contract)

- Brahma repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in the preceding 8. paragraphs of this Amended Counter-Complaint, incorporates them by reference, and further alleges as follows:
- On or about February 1, 2017, BGI entered a Services Agreement (the "Agreement") with TSE, wherein BGI agreed to provide a portion of the work, materials and/or equipment (the "Work") for or relating to Work of Improvement.
- BGI furnished the Work for the benefit of and/or at the specific instance and request of TSE and the Work of Improvement and has otherwise performed its duties and obligations as required by the Agreement.

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	11.	As required	by the A	greement, l	3GI has, an	nd in the form	and manner r	equired by
the	Agreemen	nt, provided	monthly	invoices o	r payment	applications	(collectively,	"Payment
App	lications"	to TSE for	the Worl	c in an amo	ount totaling	g more than	Twenty-Six M	illion U.S.
Dol	lars (\$26,0	00,000.00).						

- Pursuant to the Agreement and Nevada law, TSE agreed to and is obligated to pay 12. BGI for its Work within no more than 45 days after TSE's receipt of BGI's Payment Applications.
 - TSE breached the Agreement by, among other things: 13.
 - Failing and/or refusing to pay monies owed to BGI for the Work; and
- Otherwise failing and/or refusing to comply with the Agreement and b. Nevada law.
- BGI is owed Twelve Million Eight Hundred Fifty-Nine Thousand Five Hundred 14. Seventy-Seven and 74/100 Dollars (\$12,859,577,74-"Outstanding Balance") from TSE for the Work.
- BGI has been required to engage the services of an attorney to collect the 15. Outstanding Balance, and BGI is entitled to recover its reasonable costs, attorney's fees and interest therefor.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION (Breach of Implied Covenant of Good Faith & Fair Dealing)

- Brahma repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in the preceding 16. paragraphs of the Amended Counter-Complaint, incorporates them by reference, and further alleges as follows:
- There is a covenant of good faith and fair dealing implied in every agreement, 17. including the Agreement between BGI and TSE.
- TSE breached its duty to act in good faith by performing the Agreement in a manner 18. that was unfaithful to the purpose of the Agreement, thereby denying BGI's justified expectations. 111

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19.	Specifically.	Dut Without	ilimitation.	TSE breached	its duty to	act in good	taith by

- Asserting pre-textual, extra-contractual and inaccurate reasons for withholding payment long after the time required by the Agreement and Nevada law had elapsed.
- TSE has improperly withheld moneys totaling more than One Million U.S. Dollars for "retention" in purported reliance upon NRS 624.609(2)(a)(1). While that statutory provision permits withholding (on a payment-by-payment basis) a retention amount not to exceed five percent (5%), such retention must be authorized pursuant to the Agreement, which it is not.
- Furthermore, and even if the Agreement allowed TSE to withhold retention from monthly payments (which it does not), TSE's withholding of retention amounts retroactively aggregated from Payment Applications issued (and, in some cases, payments previously made) long ago constitutes extreme bad faith.
- 20. Due to the actions of TSE, BGI suffered damages in the amount of or exceeding the Outstanding Balance for which BGI is entitled to judgment in an amount to be determined at trial.
- 21. BGI has been required to engage the services of an attorney to collect the Outstanding Balance, and BGI is entitled to recover its reasonable costs, attorney's fees and interest therefor.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION (Foreclosure of Notice of Lien)

- 22. Brahma repeats and realleges each allegation contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Amended Counter-Complaint, incorporates them by reference, and further alleges as follows:
- 23. Brahma provided the Work for the Work of Improvement and is owed the Outstanding Balance for the Work.
- 24. As provided in NRS 108.245, Brahma gave or served a copy of its Notice of Right to Lien on:
 - The BLM; and a.
 - TSE, even though it had no statutory duty to do so. Ь.

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- The Work was provided for the whole of the Work of Improvement, at the special 25. instance and/or request of TSE.
- On or about April 09, 2018, Brahma timely recorded a Notice of Lienin the Official 26. Records of Nye County, Nevada, as Document No. 890822 ("Original Lien"), in the amount of \$6,982,186.24.
- On or about April 16, 2018 and as allowed by NRS 108.229(1), Brahma recorded 27. a Notice of First Amended and Restated Lien in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada, as Document 891073 and as re-recorded by Brahma in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada on April 18, 2018, as Document No. 891507, in the amount of \$7,178,376.94 (the "First Amended Lien").
- On or about April 24, 2018 and allowed by NRS 108.229(1), Brahma recorded a 28. Notice of Second Amended and Restated Lien in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada, as Document 891766, in the amount of \$7,178,376.94 (the "Second Amended Lien").
- On or about July 19, 2018 and as allowed by NRS 108.229(1), Brahma recorded a 29. Third Amended and/or Restated Notice of Lien in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada, as Document 896269, in the amount of \$11,902,474.75 (the "Third Amended Lien").
- On or about September 14, 2018, Brahma recorded a Fourth Amended and/or Restated Notice of Lien in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada, as Document 899351 in the amount of \$12,859,577.74 (the "Fourth Amended Lien").
- The (i) Original Lien, (ii) First Amended Lien, (iii) Second Amended Lien, (iv) 31. Third Amended Lien, and (iv) Fourth Amended Lien, collectively, the "Lien," were:
 - In writing; a.
 - Recorded against the Work of Improvement; and
- Were given or served on the authorized agents of the BLM and TSE, or the BLM and/or TSE knew of the existence of the Lien.
- The Lien is in the amount of the Outstanding Balance, which is the amount due and 32. owing Brahma as of the date of this Amended Counter-Complaint.

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33. In addition to an award of the Outstanding Balance, Brahma is entitled to an award of its attorney's fees, costs, and interest, as provided in Chapter 108 of the Nevada Revised Statutes.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION (Violation of NRS 624)

- 34. Brahma repeats and realleges each allegation contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Amended Counter-Complaint, incorporates them by reference, and further alleges as follows:
- 35. NRS 624.609 and NRS 624.610 (the "Statute") requires owners (such as TSE as defined by the Statute) to, among other things, (i) timely pay their prime contractors (such as BGI as defined by the Statute), and (ii) respond to payment applications and change order requests, as provided in the Statute.
- 36. TSE violated the Statute by failing or refusing to comply with the requirements set forth therein.
- 37. By reason of the foregoing, BGI is entitled to a judgment against TSE in the amount of the Outstanding Balance as well as other remedies as defined by the applicable statutes.
- BGI has been required to engage the services of an attorney to collect the 38. Outstanding Balance due and owing for the Work, and BGI is entitled to recover its reasonable costs, attorney's fees and interest therefore.

WHEREFORE, Brahma prays that this Honorable Court:

- I. Enters judgment against the Counterdefendants, and each of them, jointly and severally and to the extent of their interest in the Work of Improvement, in the amount of the Outstanding Balance;
- Enters a judgment against the Counterdefendants, and each of them, jointly and 2. severally and to the extent of their interest in the Work of Improvement, for Brahma's reasonable costs and attorney's fees incurred in the collection of the Outstanding Balance, as well as an award of interest thereon;

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	3.	Enters judgment declaring that Brahma has a valid and enforceable notice of lie
agair	ist the V	Work of Improvement, in the amount of the Outstanding Balance together with costs
attori	neys' fe	es and interest in accordance with NRS Chapter 108;

- 4. Adjudge a lien upon the Work of Improvement for the Outstanding Balance, plus reasonable attorneys' fees, costs and interest thereon, and that this Honorable Courtenter an Order that the Work of Improvement, and improvements, such as may be necessary, be sold pursuant to the laws of the State of Nevada, and that the proceeds of said sale be applied to the payment of sums due Brahma herein;
- For such other and further relief as this Honorable Court deems just and proper in the premises.

AFFIRMATION PURSUANT TO NRS 239B.030

The undersigned does hereby affirm that the proceeding document does not contain the social security number of any persons.

Dated this ZLi day of September 2018.

PEEL BRIMLEY LLP

RICHARD L. PEEL, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 4359 ERIC ZIMBELMAN, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 9407 RONALD J. COX, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 12723

3333 E. Serene Avenue, Suite 200 Henderson, Nevada 89074-6571 Attorneys for Brahma Group, Inc.

PEEL BRIMLEY LLP 3333 E. Serene A Venue, ste. 200 Henderson, Nevada 89074 (702) 990-7272 + Fax (702) 990-7273

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BRAHMA GROUP, INC.'S THIRD-PARTY COMPLAINT

Third-Party Plaintiff, BRAHMA GROUP, INC. ("Brahma"), by and through its attorneys of record, the law firm of PEEL BRIMLEY LLP, brings this Third-Party Complaint ("Third-Party Complaint") in the action (the "Action") against the above-named Third-Party Defendants. Brahma complains, avers and alleges as follows:

THE PARTIES

- 1. Brahma is and was at all times relevant to this Third-Party Action:
- A Nevada corporation, duly authorized and qualified to do business in the
 State of Nevada; and
- A duly licensed contractor holding a Nevada State Contractor's License,
 which license is in good standing.
- 2. Brahma is informed and believes and therefore alleges that the U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT ("BLM"), is and was at all times relevant to this Third-Party Action, an owner or reputed owner of the fee simple title to all or portions of real property located in Nye County, Nevada, and more particularly described as Nye County Parcel Numbers 012-141-01 and 012-151-01 (the "BLM Parcels").4
- 3. Brahma is informed and believes and therefore alleges that LIBERTY MOLY, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("Liberty"), is and was at all times relevant to this Third-Party Action, an owner or reputed owner of the fee simple title to all or portions of real property located in Nye County, Nevada, and more particularly described as Nye County Parcel Number 012-431-06 (the "Liberty Parcel").
- 4. TONOPAH SOLAR ENERGY, LLC ("TSE")⁶ is and was at all times relevant to this Third-Party Action:
- a. A Delaware limited liability company authorized to do business in Nye
 County, Nevada;

Page 10 of 14

⁴ The BLM is not a party to this Action and Brahma is not making a claim against the BLM or the feesimple title of the BLM Parcels by way of this Action.

⁵ Liberty is not a party to this Action and Brahma is not making a claim against Liberty or the fee simple title of the Liberty Parcel by way of this Action.

⁶ While TSE is a party to Brahma's Counterclaim, TSE is not a party to the Third-Party Action.

	b. A	n owner or re	puted owner	of the fee simp	ole title to all	or po	rtions of rea
property	located in Nye	County, Nev	ada, and more	particularly of	lescribed as 1	Vye C	ounty Parce
Numbers	012-031-04,	012-131-03,	012-131-04,	012-140-01,	012-150-01	and	612-141-01
Collective	elv. the "TSE	Parcels"):					

- The lessee, tenant or the person, individual and/or entity who claims a C. license or leasehold estate with respect to the BLM Parcels and the Liberty Parcels; and
- The owner of those certain improvements and/or leasehold estate (the "Project"):
 - Commonly known as the Crescent Dunes Solar Energy Project; and i.
 - Constructed on the BLM Parcels, the TSE Parcels, and the Liberty ii.

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- The TSE Parcels, along with the Project, are collectively referred to herein as the 5. "Work of Improvement," and include all leasehold estates, easements, rights-of-way, common areas and appurtenances related thereto, and the surrounding space as may be required for the convenient use and occupation of the Work of Improvement.
- Brahma is informed, believes and therefore alleges that Third-Parly Defendant AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE COMPANY ("AHAC"):
- Is and was at all times relevant to this Third-Party Action a bonding company duly licensed and qualified to do business as a surety in Nevada; and
- Issued Bond No. 854481 ("Surety Bond") pursuant to NRS 108.2413 as Ъ. discussed more fully below.
- Brahma is informed, believes and therefore alleges that Third-Party Defendant COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC. ("Cobra"):
- Is and was at all times relevant to this Third-Party Action a Nevada corporation; and
 - Is the principal on the Surety Bond. b.

⁷ The term "Project" as used herein, does not include, and expressly excludes, the fee simple title of the BLM Parcels and the Liberty Parcels.

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Brahma does not know the true names of the individuals, corporations, partnerships and entities identified and named as Third-Party Defendants by the fictitious names of (collectively, the "Doe Defendants"), (i) BOE BONDING COMPANIES I through X, (ii) DOES I through X, and (iii) ROE CORPORATIONS I through X. Brahma alleges that such Doe Defendants claim damages (as an offset) arising from the construction of the Work of Improvement, as more fully discussed under the claims for relief set forth below. Brahma will request leave of this Honorable Court to amend this Third-Party Complaint to show the true names and capacities of each such fictitious Doe Defendants when Brahma discovers such information.

Cobra, AHAC and the Doe Defendants are collectively referred to in this Third-Party Complaint as the "Third-Party Defendants."

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION (Claim Against Surety, Surety Bond and Principal thereon)

- Brahma repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in the preceding 10. paragraphs of this Complaint, incorporates them by reference, and further alleges as follows:
- On or about February 1, 2017, Brahma entered a Services Agreement (the "Agreement") with TSE wherein Brahma agreed to provide certain construction related work, materials and/or equipment (the "Work") for the Work of Improvement.
- As provided in NRS 108.245, Brahma gave or served a copy of its Notice of Right 12. to Lien on:
 - The BLM; and a.
 - TSE, even though it had no statutory duty to do so. b.
- The Work was provided for the whole of the Work of Improvement, at the special 13. instance and/or request of TSE.
- On or about April 09, 2018, Brahma timely recorded a Notice of Lien in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada, as Document No. 890822 ("Original Lien"), in the amount of \$6,982,186.24.
- On or about April 16, 2018 and as allowed by NRS 108.229(1), Brahma recorded 15. a Notice of First Amended and Restated Lien in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada, as

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Document 891073 and as re-recorded by Brahma in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada on April 18, 2018, as Document No. 891507, in the amount of \$7,178,376.94 (the "First Amended Lien").

- On or about April 24, 2018 and allowed by NRS 108.229(1), Brahma recorded a 16. Notice of Second Amended and Restated Lien in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada, as Document 891766, in the amount of \$7,178,376.94 (the "Second Amended Lien").
- 17. On or about July 19, 2018 and as allowed by NRS 108.229(1), Brahma recorded a Third Amended and/or Restated Notice of Lien in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada, as Document 896269, in the amount of \$11,902,474.75 (the "Third Amended Lien").
- On or about September 14, 2018, Brahma recorded a Fourth Amended and/or 18. Restated Notice of Lien in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada, as Document 899351 in the amount of \$12,859,577.74 (the "Fourth Amended Lien").
- The (i) Original Lien, (ii) First Amended Lien, (iii) Second Amended Lien, (iv) 19. Third Amended Lien, and (iv) Fourth Amended Lien, collectively, the "Lien," were:
 - In writing; C.
 - Recorded against the Work of Improvement; and d.
- Were given or served on the authorized agents of the BLM and TSE, or the e. BLM and/or TSE knew of the existence of the Lien.
- The Lien is in the amount Twelve Million Eight Hundred and Fifty-Nine Thousand, 20. Five Hundred and Seventy-Seven Dollars and Seventy-Four Cents. (\$12,859,577,74), which is the amount due and owing Brahma as of the date of this Third-Party Complaint (the "Outstanding Balance").
- On or about September 6, 2018, pursuant to NRS 108.2413, Cobra (as principal) 39. and AHAC (as surety) caused a Surety Bond to be recorded in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada as Document No. 898975.
- The Surety Bond fails to meet the requirements of NRS 108,2415(1), because it is not in an amount that is 1 1/2 times the amount of Brahma's Lien.

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4.	1.	NRS 108.2421 authorizes Brahma, as lien claimant, to bring an action against the
principal	(Cobi	a) and the surety (AHAC) on the Surety Bond within this Court.
42	2.	Brahma makes claim against and Cobra and AHAC are obligated to Brahma for the
Outstandi	ing Ba	dance plus interest, costs and attorney's fees up to the penal sum ⁸ of the Surety

WHEREFORE, Brahma prays that this Honorable Court:

Bond as provided in Chapter 108 of the Nevada Revised Statutes.

- Enters judgment against the Third-Party Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally in the amount of the Outstanding Balance;
- 7. Enters a judgment against the Third-Party Defendants and each of them, jointly and severally, for Brahma's reasonable costs and attorney's fees incurred in the collection of the Outstanding Balance, as well as an award of interest thereon;
 - Enters judgment against AHAC up to the penal sum of the Surety Bond.
- For such other and further relief as this Honorable Court deems just and proper in the premises.

AFFIRMATION PURSUANT TO NRS 239B.030

The undersigned does hereby affirm that the proceeding document does not contain the social security number of any persons.

Dated this Z 4 day of September 2018.

PEEL BRIMLEY LLP

RICHARD L. PEEL, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 4359
ERIC ZIMBELMAN, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 9407
RONALD J. COX, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 12723
3333 E. Serene Avenue, Suite 200
Henderson, Nevada 89074-6571
Attorneys for Brahma Group, Inc.

⁸ Brahma has separately excepted to the sufficiency of the penal sum of the Surety Bond under NRS 108,2425. Nothing herein shall be deemed a waiver of any rights and claims that Brahma may possess under contract, at law or in equity.

Exhibit 2

Exhibit 2

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This First Amended Complaint for (Among Other Things) (i) Foreclosure of Notice of Lien Against Surety Bond, and (ii) Breach of Settlement Agreement ("Amended Complaint"), amends that certain Mechanic's Lien Foreclosure Complaint Against Surety Bond ("Original Complaint") filed with the Court on December 14, 2018 in this action (the "Action"), by Plaintiff, BRAHMA GROUP, INC. ("Brahma").

By way of this Amended Complaint against the above-named Defendants, Brahma, by and through its attorneys of record, the law firm of PEEL BRIMLEY LLP, complains, avers, and alleges as follows:

THE PARTIES

- I. Brahma is and was at all times relevant to this Action:
- A Nevada corporation, duly authorized and qualified to do business in the State of Nevada: and
- A duly licensed contractor holding a Nevada State Contractor's License, which license is in good standing.
- Brahma is informed and believes and therefore alleges that the U.S. 2. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT ("BLM"), is and was at all times relevant to this Action, an owner or reputed owner of the fee simple title to all or portions of real property located in Nye County, Nevada, and more particularly described as Nye County Parcel Numbers 012-141-01 and 012-151-01 (the "BLM Parcels").1
- 3. Brahma is informed and believes and therefore alleges that LIBERTY MOLY, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("Liberty"), is and was at all times relevant to this Action, an owner or reputed owner of the fee simple title to all or portions of real property located in Nye County, Nevada, and more particularly described as Nye County Parcel Number 012-431-06 (the "Liberty Parcel").2

The BLM is not a party to this Action and Brahma is not making a claim against the BLM or the fee simple title of the BLM Parcels by way of this Action.

² Liberty is not a party to this Action and Brahma is not making a claim against Liberty or the fee simple title of the Liberty Parcel by way of this Action.

4.	TONOPAH SOLAR ENERGY, LLC ("TSE")3 is and was at all times relevant to
this Action:	

- A Delaware limited liability company authorized to do business in Nye County, Nevada;
- b. An owner or reputed owner of the fee simple title to all or portions of real property located in Nye County, Nevada, and more particularly described as Nye County Parcel Numbers 012-031-04, 012-131-03, 012-131-04, 012-140-01, 012-150-01 and 612-141-01 (collectively, the "TSE Parcels");
- The lessee, tenant or the person, individual and/or entity who claims a license or leasehold estate with respect to the BLM Parcels and the Liberty Parcels; and
- The owner of those certain improvements and/or leasehold estate (the "Project"):
 - i. Commonly known as the Crescent Dunes Solar Energy Project; and
 - ii. Constructed on the BLM Parcels, the TSE Parcels, and the Liberty

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- The TSE Parcels, along with the Project, are collectively referred to herein as the "Work of Improvement," and include all leasehold estates, easements, rights-of-way, common areas and appurtenances related thereto, and the surrounding space as may be required for the convenient use and occupation of the Work of Improvement.
- 6. Brahma is informed, believes and therefore alleges that Defendant AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE COMPANY ("AHAC"):
- Is and was at all times relevant to this Action a company duly licensed and a. qualified to issue surety bonds and do business in Nevada;
- Issued Bond No. 854481 ("Surety Bond") pursuant to NRS 108.2413 as discussed more fully below; and
 - Issued a Surety Rider to the Surety Bond as discussed more fully below.

³ While TSE is not a party to this Case, it is a party to Case No. CV 39348 in the Fifth Judicial District Court of Nye County, which Case Brahma will seek to consolidate this Action into.

⁴ The term "Project" as used herein, does not include, and expressly excludes, the fee simple title of the BLM Parcels and the Liberty Parcels.

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- 7. Brahma is informed, believes and therefore alleges that Defendant COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC. ("Cobra"):
 - Is and was at all times relevant to this Action a Nevada corporation;
 - Is the principal on the Surety Bond and the Rider; and
- Is a party to a negotiated settlement between Cobra and Brahma for the payment of monies owed to Brahma for work Brahma performed directly for Cobra ("Cobra Work") at the Project.
- 8. Brahma does not know the true names of the individuals, corporations, partnerships and entities identified and named as Defendants by the fictitious names of (collectively, the "Doe Defendants"), (i) BOE BONDING COMPANIES I through X, (ii) DOES I through X, and (iii) ROE CORPORATIONS I through X. Brahma alleges that such Doe Defendants may be liable to Brahma for damages arising from the construction of the Work of Improvement, as more fully discussed under the claims for relief set forth below. Brahma will request leave of this Honorable Court to amend this Amended Complaint to show the true names and capacities of each such fictitious Doe Defendants when Brahma discovers such information.
- Cobra, AHAC and the Doe Defendants, are sometimes referred to in the First Cause of Action of this Amended Complaint (below), (i) individually, as a "Defendant," and (ii) collectively, as the "Defendants".
- 10. Cobra and the Does Defendants, are sometimes referred to in the Second through Fourth Causes of Action (below), (i) individually, as a "Defendant," and (ii) collectively, as the "Defendants".

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION (Claim Against Surety, Surety Bond and Principal thereon)

- Brahma repeats and realleges each allegation contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Amended Complaint, incorporates them by reference, and further alleges as follows:
- On or about February 1, 2017, Brahma entered a Services Agreement with TSE (the 12. "TSE Agreement") wherein Brahma agreed to provide certain work, materials and/or equipment (the "TSE Work") for the Work of Improvement.

- 13. As provided in NRS 108.245, Brahma gave or served a copy of its Notice of Right to Lien on:
 a. The BLM; and
 b. TSE, even though it had no statutory duty to do so.
- 14. The TSE Work was provided for the whole of the Work of Improvement, at the special instance and/or request of TSE.
- 15. On or about April 9, 2018, Brahma timely recorded a Notice of Lien in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada, as Document No. 890822 ("Original Lien"), in the amount of \$6,982,186.24.
- 16. On or about April 16, 2018 (as allowed by NRS 108.229(1)) Brahma recorded a Notice of First Amended and Restated Lien in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada, as Document 891073 and as re-recorded by Brahma in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada on April 18, 2018, as Document No. 891507, in the amount of \$7,178,376.94 (the "First Amended Lien").
- 17. On or about April 24, 2018 (as allowed by NRS 108.229(1)) Brahma recorded a Notice of Second Amended and Restated Lien in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada, as Document 891766, in the amount of \$7,178,376.94 (the "Second Amended Lien").
- 18. On or about July 19, 2018 (as allowed by NRS 108.229(1)) Brahma recorded a Third Amended and/or Restated Notice of Lien in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada, as Document 896269, in the amount of \$11,902,474.75 (the "Third Amended Lien").
- 19. On or about September 14, 2018 (as allowed by NRS 108.229(1)) Brahma recorded a Fourth Amended and/or Restated Notice of Lien in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada, as Document 899351 in the amount of \$12,859,577.74 (the "Fourth Amended Lien").
- 20. The (i) Original Lien, (ii) First Amended Lien, (iii) Second Amended Lien, (iv) Third Amended Lien, and (iv) Fourth Amended Lien, collectively, referred to herein as the "Lien," were:
 - a. in writing;
 - b. recorded against the Work of Improvement; and

FEEL BRIMLEY LLP	3333 E. SERENE AVENUE, STE. 200	HENDERSON, NEVADA 89074	702) 990-7272 + FAX (702) 990-7273
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c.	given or served on the authorized agents of the BLM and TSE, or the BLM
and/or TSE knew of	the existence of the Lien.

- 21. The Lien (as amended) is in the amount Twelve Million Eight Hundred and Fifty-Nine Thousand, Five Hundred and Seventy-Seven Dollars and Seventy-Four Cents. (\$12,859,577,74 - "Lienable Amount").
- 22. The Lienable Amount is due and owing Brahma as of the date of this Amended Complaint.
- 23. On or about September 6, 2018, pursuant to NRS 108.2413, Cobra (as principal) and AHAC (as surety) caused the Surety Bond to be recorded in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada as Document No. 898975.
- On or about October 9, 2018, Cobra (as principal) and AHAC (as surety) caused a Surety Rider ("Rider") to be recorded in the Official Records of Nye County, Nevada as Document No. 900303.
 - 25. The Rider increased the penal sum of the Surety Bond to \$19,289,300.61.
- 26. NRS 108.2421(1) authorizes Brahma, as lien claimant, to bring an action against the principal (Cobra) and the surety (AHAC) on the Surety Bond and Rider within this Court.
- 27. Brahma makes claim against the Defendants and AHAC is obligated to Brahma for the Lienable Amount plus interest, costs, and attorney's fees up to the penal sum of the Surety Bond and Rider as provided in Chapter 108 of the Nevada Revised Statutes.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

(Breach of Settlement Agreement Against Cobra)

- 28. Brahma repeats and realleges each allegation contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Amended Complaint, incorporates them by reference, and further alleges as follows:
- Prior to the commencement of the Work of Improvement, Brahma previously contracted directly with Cobra to perform the Cobra Work at the Project.
- 30. Brahma performed the Cobra Work and a dispute over payment arose between Brahma and Cobra (the "Cobra Dispute").

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	31.	Brahma and Cobra (i) negotiated a resolution of the Cobra Dispute, and (ii) agreed
to c	ertain ten	ms, which terms were memorialized in writing ("Settlement Agreement").

- Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, Cobra was to make (i) a first payment to 32. Brahma in the amount of \$2,881,397.67 ("First Payment") upon Brahma providing certain documentation/information concerning the Cobra Work (the "Documentation"), and (ii) a second payment to Brahma in the amount of \$412,224.62 ("Second Payment") upon Brahma providing additional documentation/information ("Additional Documentation").
 - 33. Brahma provided the Documentation and Cobra paid Brahma the First Payment.
- 34. Brahma tendered and/or provided Cobra the Additional Documentation to receive the Second Payment, but Cobra has failed to pay Brahma the Second Payment.
- 35. Brahma has tendered and/or performed its duties and obligations as required by the Settlement Agreement.
- The Defendants have breached the Settlement Agreement by failing to tender payment of the Second Payment to Brahma, which Second Payment is due and owing.
- Brahma has been required to engage the services of an attorney to collect the Second Payment, and Brahma is entitled to recover its reasonable costs, attorney's fees, and interest therefore.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

(Breach of Implied Covenant of Good Faith & Fair Dealing Against Cobra)

- 38. Brahma repeats and realleges each allegation contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Amended Complaint, incorporates them by reference, and further alleges as follows:
- 39. There is a covenant of good faith and fair dealing implied in every agreement, including the Settlement Agreement.
- The Defendants breached their duty to act in good faith by performing the Settlement Agreement in a manner that was unfaithful to the purpose of the Settlement Agreement, thereby denying Brahma's justified expectations.

BRIMLEY LLP	3333 E. SERENE AVENUE, STE, 200	HENDERSON, NEVADA 89074	(702) 990-7272 + FAX (702) 990-7273	
PEEL B	3333 E. SEREN	HENDERSON	(702) 990-7272 4	

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41.	Due to the actions of the Defendants, Brahma suffered damages in an amount more
than the Seco	and Payment, for which Brahma is entitled to judgment in an amount to be determined
at trial.	

42. Brahma has been required to engage the services of an attorney to collect the Second Payment, and Brahma is entitled to recover its reasonable costs, attorney's fees, and interest therefore.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION (Unjust Enrichment Against Cobra)

- Brahma repeats and realleges each allegation contained in the preceding paragraphs 43. of this Amended Complaint, incorporates them by reference, and further alleges as follows:
 - 44. This cause of action is being pled in the alternative.
- Brahma tendered and/or provided the Additional Documentation for the benefit 45. and/or at the specific instance and request of the Defendants.
- The Defendants accepted, used, and enjoyed the benefit of the Additional 46. Documentation.
 - 47. Brahma has demanded payment of the Second Payment.
- 48. To Date, the Defendants have failed, neglected, and/or refused to pay the Second Payment.
 - 49. The Defendants have been unjustly enriched, to the detriment of Brahma.
- Brahma has been required to engage the services of an attorney to collect the 50. Second Payment, and Brahma is entitled to recover its reasonable costs, attorney's fees, and interest therefore.

WHEREFORE, with respect to the First Cause of Action, Brahma prays that this Honorable Court:

1. Enters judgment against the Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally in the Lienable Amount;

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the premises.

	2.	Enters a judgment against the Defendants and each of them, jointly and severally
for I	Brahma's	reasonable costs and attorney's fees incurred in the collection of the Lienable
Amo	ount, as w	ell as an award of interest thereon;
	3.	Enters judgment against AHAC up to the penal sum of the Surety Bond and Rider;
and		4
	4.	For such other and further relief as this Honorable Court deems just and proper in

WHEREFORE, with respect to the Second through Fourth Causes of Action, Brahma prays that this Honorable Court:

- Enters judgment against the Defendants and each of them, jointly and severally, in the amount of the Second Payment, plus Brahma's reasonable costs and attorney's fees incurred in the collection of the Second Payment; and
- For such other and further relief as this Honorable Court deems just and proper in the premises.

AFFIRMATION PURSUANT TO NRS 239B.030

The undersigned does hereby affirm that the proceeding document does not contain the social security number of any persons.

Dated this 11th day of January 2019.

PEEL BRIMLEY LLP

RICHARD L. PEEL, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 4359
ERIC ZIMBELMAN, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 9407
CARY B. DOMINA, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 10567
RONALD J. COX, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 12723
3333 E. Serene Avenue, Suite 200

Henderson, Nevada 89074-6571 Attorneys for Brahma Group, Inc.

JAN 2 3 2019

WEIL & DRAGE

Exhibit 3

Exhibit 3

From:

Jeremy Kilber

Sent:

Wednesday, February 20, 2019 11:01 AM

To:

Jeremy Kilber

Subject:

Our File No. 0630-003 (Brahma vs. Cobra)

From: Richard Peel [mailto:rpeel@peelbrimley.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2019 11:25 AM

To: Geoffrey Crisp

Cc: Richard Peel; Eric Zimbelman; Terri Hansen; Ronnie Cox

Subject: Our File No. 0630-003 (Brahma vs. Cobra)

Importance: High

Geoff,

You will recall the following:

- Original Action (Case No. CV 39348) pending before Judge Elliott.
 - TSE originally sued Brahma in Nye County District Court by initiating Case No. CV39348 (the "Original Action").
 - Subsequently, Brahma filed in the Original Action:
 - A Mechanic's Lien Foreclosure Complaint against TSE ("Lien Foreclosure Complaint"); then
 - A First Amended Counter-Complaint (against TSE) and a Third Party Complaint against Cobra Thermosolar Plants, Inc. ("Cobra") and its surety, American Home Assurance Home Company ("AHAC").
 - Brahma has since been granted leave by the Court to file (but has yet to file) a Second Amended Complaint (against TSE) and a Amended Third-Party Complaint (against Cobra and AHAC).
 - We will be filing the Second Amended Complaint and Amended Third-Party Complaint this week.
 - We understand from prior conversations that your office is willing to accept service on behalf of both Cobra and AHAC of this pleading.
 - Separate Action (Case NO. CV39799), assigned to Judge Wanker.
 - Because of arguments made by TSE in in the Original Action, Brahma commenced a second action in Nye County District Court (Case No. CV39799) by filing a Mechanic's Lien Foreclosure Complaint Against Surety Bond against Cobra and AHAC.
 - Brahma subsequently filed a First Amended Complaint against Cobra and AHAC, which your office accepted service of some time ago.
 - A copy of the First Amended Complaint is attached hereto.
 - Consolidated Action (Case No. CV 39348), pending before Judge Elliott.
 - Brahma subsequently filed (and the Court granted) Brahma's Motion to Consolidate the Separate Action into the Original Action (collectively, the "Consolidated Action").
 - TSE is unwilling to stipulate to allow Brahma to file a Second Amended Complaint (in the Consolidated Action) that would amend and restate the pleadings filed previously against TSE, Cobra and AHAC in the Original and Separate Actions.

Unfortunately, due to TSE's position, Cobra/AHAC will need to separately answer:

- Brahma's First Amended Complaint (filed in the Separate Action); and
- Brahma's Second Amended Complaint and Amended Third-Party Complaint (which will be filed this week in the Consolidated Action).

In light of the foregoing, we ask (and we understand that you have agreed on behalf of Cobra and AHAC) that Cobra/AHAC:

- Answer the First Amended Complaint filed in the Separate Action by no later than February 22, 2019.
- Answer the Second Amended Complaint (to be filed in the Consolidated Action) within two weeks of service of the same on your office.

Please let me know if my understanding of the above is incorrect in any way. Otherwise, we look forward to your clients' answers as noted above.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Peel, Esq. MANAGING PARTNER



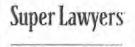
: NEVADA: 3333 E. Serene Avenue - Suite 200 - Henderson - Nevada - 89074

: WASHINGTON: 1215 Fourth Avenue - Suite 1235 - Seattle - Washington - 98161

(702) 990-7272 : (702) 561-7272 : (702) 990-7273 : rpeel@peelbrimley.com

URL: www.peelbrimley.com











(Attorneys licensed to practice in: Nevada • Washington • California • Utah • Arizona • Hawaii • North Dakota • US Court of Federal Claims)

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	BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada corporation,
	Third-Party Plaintiff,
	VS.
	COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC., a Nevada corporation; AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE COMPANY, a surety; BOE BONDING COMPANIES I through X; DOES I through X; ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,
	Third-Party Defendants.
	H&E EQUIPMENT SERVICES, INC., a Delaware corporation,
	Plaintiff-in-Intervention,
	vs.
	DRAIDA CROUD DIG N. I.
	BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada corporation, TONOPAH SOLAR ENERGY LLC, a Delaware
	limited liability company, COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC., a Nevada Corporation; AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE
	COMPANY, a surety; BOE BONDING COMPANIES I through X; DOES I through X;
	ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, and TOE TENANTS I through X, inclusive,
	Defendants-in-Intervention.
	BRAHMA GROUP, INC. a Nevada corporation,
	Plaintiff,
	T mining,
	VS.
	COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC., a Nevada corporation; AMERICAN HOME
	ASSURANCE COMPANY, a surety; BOE
	BONDING COMPANIES 1 through X; DOES I through X; ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,
	Defendants.

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an Order Granting Brahma's Motion to Consolidate Case No. 39799 with Case No. 39348 was filed on **February 19, 2019**, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit 1.

AFFIRMATION PURSUANT TO NRS 239B.030

The undersigned does hereby affirm that the proceeding document does not contain the social security number of any persons.

Dated this 13th day of March, 2019.

PEEL BRIMLEY LLP

RICHARD L. PEEL, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 4359 ERIC ZIMBELMAN, ESO.

Nevada Bar No. 9407

RONALD J. COX, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 12723

3333 E. Serene Avenue, Suite 200

Henderson, Nevada 89074-6571 Attorneys for Brahma Group, Inc.

3333 E. SERENE AVENUE, STE. 200 HENDERSON, NEVADA 89074 (702) 990-7272 + FAX (702) 990-7273

	CERTIFICATE O	F SERVICE
Purs	tuant to Nev. R. Civ. P. 5(b), I certify that	at I am an employee of PEEL BRIMLEY LLP
and that on	this 13th day of March, 2019, I cause	d the above and foregoing document entitled
	FENTRY OF ORDER to be served as	
	by placing same to be deposited for a envelope upon which first class posta	mailing in the United States Mail, in a sealed age was prepaid in Las Vegas, Nevada; and/or
	Wiznet, the Court's electronic filing s	system;
	pursuant to EDCR 7.26, to be sent via	a facsimile;
	to be hand-delivered; and/or	
	other - electronic mail	
to the party(i	ies) and/or attorney(s) listed below at th	ne address and/or facsimile number indicated
Colby I WEINF GUNN 6385 S. Las Ve Iroberts cbalken	Roberts, Jr., Esq. L. Balkenbush, Esq. BERG, WHEELER, HUDGINS & DIAL, LLC Rainbow Blvd., Suite 400 gas, NV 89118 @wwhgd.com ubush@wwhgd.com ys for Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC	Geoffrey Crisp, Esq. WEIL & DRAGE 2500 Anthem Village Drive Henderson, NV 89052 gcrisp@weildrage.com Attorneys for Cobra Thermosolar Plants, Inc. and American Home Assurance Company
Daniel I GIBBS SENET 1140 N. Las Veg rhaskin(E. Haskin, Esq. M. Hansen, Esq. GIDEN LOCHER TURNER & WITTBRODT LLP Town Center Drive, Suite 300 gas, NV 89144 @gibbsgiden.com ys for H&E Equipment Services, Inc.	
	Thu	malama

An Employee of Peel Brimley LLP

EXHIBIT 1

FILED FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

FEB 1 9 2019

Nye County Clerk
Marianne Yoffee

1 ORDR RICHARD L. PEEL, ESQ. 2 Nevada Bar No. 4359 ERIC B. ZIMBELMAN, ESQ. 3. Nevada Bar No. 9407 RONALD J. COX, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 12723 PEEL BRIMLEY LLP 3333 E. Serene Avenue, Suite 200 Henderson, Nevada 89074-6571 Telephone: (702) 990-7272 Facsimile: (702) 990-7273 7 rpeel@peelbrimley.com ezimbelman@peelbrimley.com 8 rcox@peelbrimley.com Attorneys for Brahma Group, Inc.

FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

NYE COUNTY, NEVADA

TONOPAH SOLAR ENERGY, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company,

CASE NO. : CV 39348 DEPT. NO. : 2

Plaintiff,

VS.

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BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada corporation,

NO. CV39799 WITH CASE NO. CV 39348

ORDER GRANTING BRAHMA'S

MOTION TO CONSOLIDATE CASE

Defendant.

This matter came on for hearing January 24, 2019 (the "Hearing") before the Honorable Senior Judge Steven Elliott on the Motion to Consolidate Case No. CV39799 with Case No. CV 39348 ("Motion") filed by BRAHMA GROUP, INC. ("Brahma"). Eric B. Zimbelman, Esq. of PEEL BRIMLEY LLP appeared on behalf of Brahma. Colby L. Balkenbush, Esq. of WEINBERG, WHEELER, HUDGINS, GUNN & DIAL, LLC appeared on behalf of Plaintiff TONOPAH SOLAR ENERGY. LLC ("TSE").

The Court having considered all the pleadings and papers on file, and having heard argument of counsel, hereby ORDERS as follows, having rendered its oral decision from the bench on January 24, 2019:

I. BASIS FOR CONSOLIDATION

Brahma seeks to consolidate Case No. CV39799 with Case No. CV 39348 pursuant to NRCP 42, which provides in relevant part:

[W]hen actions involving a common question of law or fact are pending before the court, it may order a joint hearing or trial of any or all the matters in issue in the actions; it may order all the actions consolidated; and it may make such orders concerning proceedings therein as may tend to avoid unnecessary costs or delay.

Consolidation is vested in the sound discretion of the trial court. (Zupancic v. Sierra Vista Recreation, Inc., 97 Nev. 187, 193, 625 P.2d 1177, 1181 (1981).

II. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS.

- The Court finds (i) the two cases involve common questions of law or fact, and
 (ii) consolidation would "avoid unnecessary costs or delay" and provide judicial economy.
- 2. TSE opposed the Motion on several grounds. First, TSE argues that it was procedurally improper for Brahma to file Case No. CV39799 when Case No. CV 39348 is pending in this Court with similar or identical claims. However, in its Motion to Strike Brahma Group, Inc.'s ("Brahma") First Amended Counter-Complaint ("Motion to Strike"), TSE argued that Brahma's proposed amended pleading was improper because "one cannot file a Counter-Complaint into a special proceeding such as this." In support of its position, TSE relied on what it claimed to be "the leading Nevada construction law treatise," LEON F. MEAD II, CONSTRUCTION LAW 286 (2016 Ed.), for the proposition that (i) "it is improper legal procedure to file a counter-claim to a petition under NRS 108.2275," and (ii) "the proper procedure is to file a complaint for foreclosure and to move the petitioning court to consolidate the two matters."
- 3. As discussed in the Court's Order Denying Motion to Strike, the Court does not agree with Mr. Mead's premise and found that there was nothing improper with Brahma filing its Counter-Complaint in the same Case TSE commenced when it filed its Motion to Expunge Brahma's Lien. Additionally, the Court has now come to the conclusion that had Brahma filed a standalone complaint as an independent action and then moved the Court to consolidate that action with Case No. CV 39348 as TSE suggests, the Parties would be in the same position they currently find themselves in.

¹ The complete title of that motion was "Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC's Motion to Strike Brahma Group, Inc.'s First Amended Counter-Complaint, or, in the Alternative, Motion to Dismiss Counter-Complaint, or in the Alternative, Motion to Stay this Action until the Conclusion of the Proceedings in Federal Court."

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4.	In any event, and especially where TSE has stated its intention to file a Writ
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Petition to	the Nevada Supreme Court with respect to this Court's denial of TSE's Motion to
Strike, it wa	as appropriate for Brahma to file Case No. CV39799 and for this Court to consolidate
that action i	nto the present action. Specifically, but without limitation, if the Supreme Court were
to ultimatel	y overrule this court and determine that it was improper for Brahma to file a counter-
claim to a p	etition under NRS 108.2275, Brahma's time to file a complaint against the applicable
	would by then have lapsed pursuant to NRS 108.2421. If, on the other hand, the
Nevada Sup	reme Court rejects TSE's position (or TSE chooses not to challenge the issue), the
	claim filed in Case No. CV39799 is (at worst) moot with no prejudice having been
	any party by way of consolidation.

- The Court also rejects TSE's contention that Case No. CV39799 and Brahma's Motion to Consolidate is futile. The Court finds that Brahma's Complaint filed in Case No. CV39799 is not impermissible claim-splitting and does not violate NRCP 1 or NRCP 15.
- Based on the foregoing, the Court hereby concludes that Case No. CV39799 may 6. be and is hereby consolidated with Case No. CV 39348.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Brahma's Motion to Consolidate is GRANTED and Case No. CV39799 is hereby consolidated with Case No. CV 39348.

Dated this 12th day February 2019.

2-14-19 Senior Judge Steven Elliott

Submitted by:

PEEL BRIMLEY LLP

RICHARD L. PEEL, ESQ. (NV Bar No. 4359) ERIC B. ZIMBELMAN, ESQ. (NV Bar No. 9307) RONALD J. COX, ESQ. (NV Bar No. 12723) 3333 E. Serene Avenue, Suite 200 Henderson, Nevada 89074-6571

Attorneys for Brahma Group, Inc.

PEEL BRIMLEY LLP	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	RICHARD L. PEEL, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 4359 ERIC B. ZIMBELMAN, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 9407 PEEL BRIMLEY LLP 3333 E. Serene Avenue, Suite 200 Henderson, Nevada 89074-6571 Telephone: (702) 990-7272 Facsimile: (702) 990-7273	
	15 16 17 18 19 20	BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada corporation, Defendant. BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada corporation, Lien/Bond Claimant, vs. TONOPAH SOLAR ENERGY LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; BOE BONDING	OPPOSITION TO COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC.'S MOTION TO DISMISS AND COUNTERMOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE A SINGLE CONSOLIDATED AMENDED COMPLAINT
	 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 	COMPANIES I through X; DOES I through X; ROE CORPORATIONS I through X; and TOE TENANTS I through X, inclusive, Counterdefendants,	

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1	BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada corporation,
2	Lien/Bond Claimant and
3	Third-Party Plaintiff,
4	vs.
5	COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC., a
6	Nevada corporation; AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE COMPANY, a surety; BOE
7	BONDING COMPANIES I through X; DOES I through X; ROE CORPORATIONS I through X,
8	inclusive,
9	Third-Party Defendants.
10	BRAHMA GROUP, INC.'S OPPOSITION TO COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS,
11	INC.'S MOTION TO DISMISS AND COUNTERMOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE A SINGLE CONSOLIDATED AMENDED COMPLAINT
12	Defendant/Lien Bond Claimant, BRAHMA GROUP, INC. ("Brahma" or "BGI"), by and
13	through its counsel of record, the law firm of Peel Brimley LLP, hereby files its Opposition to the
14	Motion to Dismiss ("Motion") filed by Third-Party Defendant COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS,
15	INC. ("Cobra") and its Bond Surety, American Home Assurance Company ("AHAC").

Brahma also concurrently submits its Countermotion for Leave to File a Consolidated Amended Complaint. This Opposition and Countermotion is supported by the papers and pleadings on file herein, the following memorandum of points and authorities, and any oral argument this Court may entertain.

Dated this 25 day of March, 2019.

PEEL BRIMLEY LLP

RICHARD L. PEEL, ESQ. (NV. Bar No. 4359) ERIC B. ZIMBELMAN, ESQ. (NV Bar No. 9407) RONALD J. COX, ESQ. (NV Bar No. 12723) 3333 E. Serene Avenue, Suite 200 Henderson, Nevada 89074-6571 Attorneys for Brahma Group, Inc.

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I. INTRODUCTION.

As the Court is aware, these consolidated actions are the subject of a lengthy procedural history involving numerous motions, pleadings amendments and related actions filed in Nye County, Clark County and the United States District Court for the District of Nevada. Recently, this Court granted Brahma's Motion to Consolidate Case No. CV39799 with Case No. CV39348 ("Motion to Consolidate") based on NRCP 42(a) and the Court's findings that "(i) these two cases involve common questions of law or fact, and (ii) consolidation would 'avoid unnecessary costs or delay."

In addition, the Court also recently denied Plaintiff/Counterdefendant Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC's ("TSE") Motion to Strike and Dismiss Brahma's Complaint ("TSE Motion to Strike and Dismiss") and granted Brahma's Motion to Amend.² As a result of these two Orders, Brahma proposed to TSE, in the interest of time, cost and efficiency, that it file a single, clean amended pleading in the consolidated action rather than have separate complaints in the two consolidated actions with partially overlapping claims. In response, TSE refused to stipulate to such consolidated pleading. Shortly thereafter, TSE's affiliate, Cobra, filed the present Motion, citing the same legal contentions relied on by TSE in refusing to stipulate to a consolidated pleading.

It is regrettable that Cobra and TSE have once again chosen to seek dismissal of Brahma's claims through wasteful procedural posturing rather than through a trial on the merits. Nonetheless, the Court should deny Cobra's Motion and grant Brahma's Countermotion for Leave to File a Single Consolidated Amended Complaint for the following non-exclusive reasons:

• While Nevada Supreme Court's recent decision in Matter of Estate of Sarge, 134 Nev. Adv. Op. 105, 432 P.3d 718, 721 (2018) conformed to federal practice in holding that "constituent cases retain their separate identities to the extent that a final decision in one is immediately appealable," this does not mean two consolidated cases can never be merged for other purposes. In fact, the United States Supreme Court precedent upon which Sarge is based is to the contrary. See Hall v. Hall, 138 S. Ct. 1118, 1122, 200 L.

¹ See Exhibit 1, Order Granting Motion to Consolidate.

² See Exhibit 2, Order (I) Denying Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC's Motion to Strike and Dismiss; (II) Granting in Part Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC's Motion for Stay and (III) Granting Brahma Group Inc.'s Motion to Amend.

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Ed. 2d 399 (2018) ("[t]his decision does not mean that district courts may not consolidate cases for all purposes in appropriate circumstances.");

- Cobra's reliance on Smith v. Hutchins, 93 Nev. 431, 432, 566 P.2d 1136, 1337 (1977) for the proposition that the parallel (now consolidated) actions violate the "one action rule" is similarly incorrect based on the same reasons this Court denied TSE's Motion to Strike and Dismiss, in which TSE argued that the two actions involved impermissible "claim-splitting:" Nothing in the Bond Action "conflicts with a statutory scheme, Cobra's or TSE's constitutional rights, or the agreed-upon or stated limits of" Case No. CV 39348, and Cobra fails to make any effort to show how this might be; and
- Proposed Consolidated Amended Pleading submitted with Brahma's The Countermotion hereto, provides an efficient, non-redundant pleading that Cobra's motion purports to promote, and as a result, the Court should approve the same.

With respect to Cobra's separate contention that Brahma's claim for unjust enrichment should be dismissed simply because Brahma also *claims* the existence of a written enforceable contract, the Court should deny that motion as (at best) premature. Brahma is entitled to plead "in the alternative" as it has done here. Unless and until Cobra acknowledges that an agreement exists between the parties (a choice Cobra clearly hopes to avoid making), Brahma should be permitted to argue for the existence of a "quasi-contract which requires the defendant to pay to plaintiff the value of the benefit conferred. In other words, the defendant makes restitution to the plaintiff in quantum meruit." See Certified Fire Prot. Inc. v. Precision Constr., 128 Nev. 371, 380-81, 283 P.3d 250, 257 (2012).

II. STATEMENT OF FACTS

At the January 24, 2019 hearing, this Court granted Brahma's Motion to Consolidate and ordered the consolidation of Case Nos. CV39348 ("the Lien Foreclosure Action") and CV39799 ("the Bond Action").3 As the Court will recall, Brahma filed the Bond Action out of an abundance of caution because TSE threatened to file a Writ Petition to the Nevada Supreme Court (and it has now done)4 arguing that this Court should have dismissed Brahma's pleading in the Lien

³ See Exhibit 1.

⁴ See Exhibit 3, Writ Petition.

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Foreclosure Action. The Lien Foreclosure Action was initially commenced by TSE as a special proceeding seeking to expunge Brahma's mechanic's lien pursuant to NRS 108.2275.

Relying on LEON F. MEAD II, CONSTRUCTION LAW 286 (2016 Ed.), TSE argued that (i) "it is improper legal procedure to file a counter-claim to a petition under NRS 108.2275," and (ii) "The proper procedure is to file a complaint for foreclosure and to move the petitioning court to consolidate the two matters." Brahma was and remains concerned (now that the Writ Petition has been filed) that if the Writ Petition is granted and Brahma's pleading is stricken or dismissed, the time for Brahma to commence an action against the Surety Bond, the Surety (AHAC) and the Principal on the Surety Bond (Cobra) would have expired unless Brahma filed the allegedly redundant claims in the Bond Action (which is exactly what TSE originally argued Brahma was required to do).

In granting Brahma's Motion to Consolidate over TSE's objection, this Court concluded, inter alia:

- 3. As discussed in the Court's Order Denying Motion to Strike, the Court does not agree with Mr. Mead's premise and found that there was nothing improper with Brahma filing its Counter-Complaint in the same Case TSE commenced when it filed its Motion to Expunge Brahma's Lien. Additionally, the Court has now come to the conclusion that had Brahma filed a standalone complaint as an independent action and then moved the Court to consolidate that action with Case No. CV 39348 as TSE suggests, the Parties would be in the same position they currently find themselves in.
- 4. In any event, and especially where TSE has stated its intention to file a Writ Petition to the Nevada Supreme Court with respect to this Court's denial of TSE's Motion to Strike, it was appropriate for Brahma to file Case No. CV39799 and for this Court to consolidate that action into the present action. Specifically, but without limitation, if the Supreme Court were to ultimately overrule this court and determine that it was improper for Brahma to file a counter-claim to a petition under NRS 108.2275, Brahma's time to file a complaint against the applicable surety bond would by then have lapsed pursuant to NRS 108.2421. If, on the other hand, the Nevada Supreme Court rejects TSE's position (or TSE chooses not to challenge the issue), the foreclosure claim filed in Case No. CV39799 is (at worst) moot with no prejudice having been suffered by any party by way of consolidation.

⁵ See Exhibit 4 hereto, TSE Reply to Brahma's Opposition to Motion to Strike (exhibits omitted for brevity), p. 7.

⁶ See Exhibit 5 hereto, excerpt from Mead treatise as submitted to this Court by TSE as Exhibit 4 to its Reply to Brahma's Opposition to TSE's Motion to Strike and Dismiss.

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5. The Court also rejects TSE's contention that Case No. CV39799 and Brahma's Motion to Consolidate is futile. The Court finds that Brahma's Complaint filed in Case No. CV39799 is not impermissible claim-splitting and does not violate NRCP 1 or NRCP 15.7

By way of this Court's Order Denying TSE's Motion to Strike and Dismiss,8 the Court granted Brahma leave to file a Second Amended Complaint in the Lien Foreclosure Action consistent with the Court's decision and its intent to stay the three causes of action that TSE had initially removed to the federal court "until such time as the Federal Court rules on whether this Court has proper jurisdiction over these claims.9

In compliance with the Order Denying TSE's Motion to Strike and Dismiss and in light of the Consolidation Order, on February 6, 2019, BRAHMA's counsel proposed to TSE's counsel that Brahma file a single "clean" document in the consolidated action that (i) amends Brahma's First Amended Counter-Complaint filed in the Lien Foreclosure Action and (ii) includes a Third-Party Complaint against Cobra, and its surety (AHAC) that would mirror the bond foreclosure claims of the Bond Action, thereby eliminating the need for parallel pleadings. 10 Brahma's proposal would have expressly reserved (i) the parties' respective positions regarding the proper jurisdiction and venue for the Parties' dispute as more fully set forth in the Parties' briefs filed in the Federal Court and (ii) TSE's rights of appeal. 11

In rejecting TSE's proposal, TSE's counsel wrote:

Procedurally, this would be inappropriate as courts view two cases as continuing to exist separately even after consolidation. Federal courts have long held this and the Nevada Supreme Court adopted the federal position on this issue in a December 2018 decision. *Matter of Estate of Sarge*, 134 Nev. Adv. Op. 105, 432 P.3d 718, 722 (2018) ("We thus overrule our decision in Mallin to the extent it holds that cases consolidated in the district court become a single case for all appellate purposes. Consolidated cases retain their separate identities so that an order resolving all of the claims in one of the consolidated cases is immediately appealable as a final judgment under NRAP 3A(b)(1)"); see also Wright & Miller, 9A FED. PRAC. & PROC. CIV. § 2382 (3d ed.) ("federal courts have held that actions do not lose their separate identity because of consolidation under Rule 42(a)(2) . . . actions consolidated under Rule 42(a)(2) retain their separate identity.").

⁷ See Exhibit 1

⁸ See Exhibit 2.

⁹ See id. The stayed claims are (i) Breach of Contract, (ii) Breach of the Duty of Good Faith and Fair Dealing and (iii) Violations of NRS 624 but not the lien and bond foreclosure causes of action at issue here.

¹⁰ See Exhibit 6.

²⁸ 11 See id.

¹² See Exhibit 7.

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While Cobra disingenuously complains in its Motion that "BGI's counsel is requiring Defendants to separately respond to" Brahma's pleadings in both actions, 13 this is only because TSE refused to permit Brahma to file a consolidated pleading. 14

Shortly thereafter, Cobra (TSE's affiliate) filed the present Motion, citing the identical legal contentions and authority relied on by TSE in refusing to stipulate to a consolidated pleading. That TSE and Cobra are coordinating these efforts is not surprising in light of their affiliate relationship. Specifically, and as set forth in TSE's Counterclaim filed in the federal court, TSE has admitted that:

- Cobra is an affiliate of Cobra Energy Investment, LLC ("Cobra Energy");15
- Cobra Energy is a member of Tonopah Solar Investments LLC ("TSI");16
- TSI is a member of Tonopah Solar Energy Holdings I, LLC ("TSEH I");¹⁷
- TSEH I is a member of Tonopah Solar Energy Holdings II ("TSEH II")18; and
- TSEH II is the sole member of TSE.¹⁹

In other words, through this complicated maze of shell companies, Cobra is not only affiliate of TSE, it is a part owner of TSE.

III. ARGUMENT/AUTHORITY

A. The Bond Action Is Not Impermissibly Redundant.

Cobra's request that the Court dismiss Brahma's entire Complaint on grounds of redundancy, should be denied on grounds similar to those this Court relied on in rejecting TSE's opposition to Brahma's Motion to Consolidate. Here, Cobra argues that under Smith v. Hutchins, 93 Nev. 431, 432, 566 P.2d 1136, 1337 (1977), the parallel (now consolidated) actions violate the so-called "one action rule." There, TSE argued that The Bond Action was "impermissible claim

¹³ See Motion p. 7.

¹⁴ See Motion, Exhibit 3. It is also worth noting that Cobra would have required far less time preparing two Answers than commencing and engaging in the present Motion proceeding.

¹⁵ See Exhibit 8, TSE Counterclaim ¶9.

¹⁶ See TSE Counterclaim ¶3

¹⁷ See TSE Counterclaim ¶3

²⁷ 18 See TSE Counterclaim ¶2

¹⁹ See TSE Counterclaim ¶2

²⁰ It is worth noting that the term "one action rule" does not appear anywhere in Smith, though it does refer to a "single cause of action rule." See 93 Nev. at 432

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splitting"²¹ and "redundant" of prior pleadings such that it should be stricken pursuant to NRCP 12(f) as "redundant, immaterial, impertinent, or scandalous matter." 22

As Brahma demonstrated in its Reply brief to TSE's Motion to Strike or Dismiss:²³

TSE offer[ed] no case authority (or rationale of any kind) for rejecting [the Bond Action] purely on the grounds of redundancy. Indeed, the only Nevada case the undersigned has located in which NRCP 12(f) was cited (an unpublished decision)²⁴ involved the dismissal of an amended pleading because it "was nearly identical, and therefore redundant, to the original complaint," which the court had previously dismissed. See Angel v. Eldorado Casino, Inc., No. 59401, 2013 WL 1116822, at *1 (Nev. Mar. 15, 2013).25

Unlike Eldorado Casino, Brahma's lien foreclosure claim in the Lien Foreclosure Action survived TSE's Motion to Dismiss.

Moreover, and at least until Brahma files the amended pleading contemplated by the Court's Order Denying Motion to Strike or Dismiss, Brahma's claim for lien foreclosure (against the Work of Improvement) in the Lien Foreclosure Action is technically not redundant of the cause of action for Claim Against Surety, Surety Bond and Principal Thereon in the Bond Action. Stated differently, the claim for lien foreclosure in the Lien Foreclosure Action was filed before Cobra and AHAC recorded the Surety Bond to release Brahma's Notice of Lien (as amended), ²⁶ after which Brahma commenced the Bond Action to assert a claim on the Surety Bond. Even if Brahma were to file an amended pleading in the Lien Foreclosure Action to (as it must) assert a claim on the Bond rather than the Work of Improvement, these claims may be easily merged (at least in part) by way of consolidation without prejudice to any party. [See Discussion infra].

²¹ See Exhibit 9, TSE Opposition to Motion to Consolidate pp. 5-6. 23

²² See TSE Opposition to Motion to Consolidate p. 6.

²³ See Exhibit 10.

²⁴ As before, Brahma in no way means to violate NRAP 36(c) by citing this unpublished decision. Rather, the lack of any non-abrogated published decisions is evidence enough that TSE's reliance on NRCP 12(f) was thin.

²⁵ The only *published* decision found has been abrogated (on other grounds) and cited Rule 12(f) merely for the proposition that abuse could be found when a litigant "persistently files documents that are unintelligible, redundant, immaterial, impertinent, or scandalous." See Jordan v. State ex rel. Dep't of Motor Vehicles & Pub. Safety, 121 Nev. 44, 61, 110 P.3d 30, 43 (2005), abrogated by Buzz Stew, LLC v. City of N. Las Vegas, 124 Nev. 224, 181 P.3d 670 (2008).

²⁶ See NRS 108.2413(6)(b) (the Surety Bond "releases the property described in the surety bond from the lien and the surety bond shall be deemed to replace the property as security for the lien.")

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In any event, like TSE's Motion to Strike or Dismiss, and despite this Court's Order Granting [Brahma's] Motion to Consolidate the Bond Action with the Lien Foreclosure Action, Cobra's present Motion claims that "[Brahma] cannot maintain the exact same cause of action against the exact same defendants in two separate actions" and asks this Court to dismiss the "duplicative" claims in the Bond Action. Other than its reliance on Smith, which acknowledges that the single cause of action rule is a "general proposition,"²⁷ Cobra offers no compelling reason for this Court to (as TSE previously asked it do to) put form over substance to give Cobra a procedural victory where it cannot defend the merits of the action.

By now, this Court certainly understands that by seeking dismissal of the Bond Action, Cobra and TSE hope to again put the timeliness of Brahma's action on the Bond at risk in the event the Supreme Court grants TSE's Writ Petition (at some delayed and future point in time). Specifically, if TSE successfully convinces the Supreme Court that Brahma's operative pleading filed in the Lien Foreclosure Action was "void," the time for filing a new complaint against the Surety Bond (the Bond Action by then having been dismissed), which is nine months after Brahma was served with notice of the recording of the surety bond, ²⁸ would have lapsed.

Notwithstanding the transparency of this strategy, Cobra disingenuously suggests that its Motion is a matter of cost, inconvenience or fairness and complains that "Brahma's counsel is requiring Defendants to separately respond to" Brahma's pleadings in both actions.²⁹ In reality, as Brahma's counsel informed Cobra's counsel, 30 Cobra is only required to answer both pleadings because TSE (Cobra's affiliate) refused to allow Brahma to file an amended pleading in the Lien Foreclosure Action, including a Third-Party Complaint Against Surety, Surety Bond and Principal Thereon that would have effectively brought Cobra and AHAC into the Lien Foreclosure Action consolidated and simplified pleading for both actions.

²⁷ See Smith, 93 Nev. at 432.

²⁸ See NRS 108.2421(1)(b)(1).

²⁹ See Motion p. 7.

³⁰ See Motion, Exhibit 3.

As noted above, in rejecting Brahma's proposed amendment, TSE's counsel argued that it would be procedurally "inappropriate as courts view two cases as continuing to exist separately even after consolidation," citing (as Cobra does here) *Matter of Estate of Sarge*, 134 Nev. Adv. Op. 105, 432 P.3d 718, 722 (2018). As discussed below, TSE's and Cobra's coordinated analysis is flawed, inapposite, inappropriate and solely intended to gain a procedural hammer to be used against Brahma and its nearly \$13 million Surety Bond claim (exclusive of interest, costs and attorney's fees) for unpaid work, which TSE and Cobra cannot defend on the merits.

B. Estate of Sarge Does Not Preclude Merger "In Appropriate Circumstances."

As Cobra and TSE have correctly noted, the Nevada Supreme Court in *Matter of Estate of Sarge*, 134 Nev. Adv. Op. 105, 432 P.3d 718, 722 (2018) conformed Nevada practice regarding NRCP 42(a) to its federal counterpart, overruling its own precedent of *Mallin v. Farmers Insurance Exchange*, 106 Nev. 606, 609, 797 P.2d 978, 980 (1990). *Mallin* held that cases consolidated by a district court "become a single case for all *appellate* purposes." *See Sarge*, 432 P.3d at 719 (emphasis added). At their core, *Mallin* and *Sarge* involve an issue of *appellate jurisdiction* – i.e., whether "an order finally resolving a constituent consolidated case is immediately appealable as a final judgment even where the other constituent case or cases remain pending." *Id.* at 720. In overruling *Mallin*, the Court in *Sarge* concluded, consistent with federal practice, that such an order is immediately appealable as a final judgment. *Id.* Of course, appellate jurisdiction has nothing to do with the procedural history and vector of this consolidated case or its constituent cases.

Cobra and TSE nonetheless contend that *Sarge* also stands for the proposition that consolidation can *never* merge constituent cases such that there must forever be substantially identical causes of action in the constituent cases (which, as noted, they also claim is improper). This is completely wrong. While *Sarge* does correctly note that in federal practice "consolidation for purposes of joint trial does not merge the cases into a single cause of action," the United States Supreme Court precedent upon which Sarge is based makes clear that this it *never* intended to preclude merger in *all* cases for *all* purposes. *See Hall v. Hall*, 138 S. Ct. 1118, 1122, 200 L. Ed. 2d 399 (2018). Instead, *Hall* concluded that "constituent cases retain their separate identities *at least to the extent* that a final

³¹ See Sarge, 432 P.3d at 721.

decision in one is immediately appealable by the losing party." Sarge at 722 quoting Hall, 138 S.Ct. at 1131 (emphasis added). Hall <u>explicitly</u> left open the possibility of merger in appropriate cases, stating: "This decision does not mean that district courts may not consolidate cases for all purposes in appropriate circumstances." Hall, 138 S. Ct. at 1122 (emphasis added).

As Sarge noted, the Hall case determined that "the term 'consolidate,' as used in FRCP 42(a), is ambiguous; it can mean 'the complete merger of discrete units' or 'joining together discrete units without causing them to lose their independent character." Sarge at 722 quoting Hall, 138 S.Ct. at 1124-25. Accordingly, Sarge and Hall stand only for the following propositions: (i) consolidation does not necessarily create merger, and (ii) consolidation does not create a merger that precludes an immediate appeal of an otherwise final decision in a constituent case of a consolidated action. To ascribe more meaning than this to Sarge (as Cobra and TSE attempt to do) is to fundamentally misrepresent its holding. Nothing in Sarge or Hall precludes this Court from (if it deems it necessary or appropriate) merging the "redundant" claims of the two consolidated actions involving the same parties to simplify the pleadings and the consolidated case. As discussed more fully below in Brahma's Countermotion, this is precisely what this Court should do.

C. Cobra's Motion to Dismiss Brahma's Claim for Unjust Enrichment is Premature.

With respect to Cobra's separate contention that Brahma's claim for unjust enrichment in the Bond Action should be dismissed simply because Brahma also claims the existence of a legal contract, the Court should deny that motion as (at best) premature. Brahma is entitled to plead in the alternative, as it has done here. See NRCP 8(a)(3) ([a] pleading that states a claim for relief must contain ... a demand for relief sought, which may include relief in the alternative or different types of relief.").³²

First, it is important to clarify that, by way of its First Amended Complaint in the Bond Action, Brahma asserted three new causes of action against Cobra (in addition to the Claim Against Surety, Surety Bond and Principal Thereon) arising out of a separate relationship between Brahma and Cobra at the same Work of Improvement.³³ In summary fashion but without limitation, Brahma claims that,

³² While Cobra does not so explicitly state, this portion of its Motion is made pursuant to NRCP 12(b)(5). On a motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim for relief, the trial court and this court must construe the pleading liberally and draw every fair intendment in favor of the plaintiff. San Diego Prestressed v. Chicago Title Ins., 92 Nev. 569, 555 P.2d 484 (1976). Allegations in the complaint must be accepted as true. Id.

³³ As the Court is aware, Cobra and AHAC posted the Surety Bond to release Brahma's Notice of Lien, as amended, from the Work of Improvement, which lien claim arose from Brahma's work for TSE.

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(i) pursuant to an earlier contract, Brahma performed work for Cobra at the Work of Improvement, (ii) a dispute over payment arose between Brahma and Cobra, (iii) Brahma and Cobra negotiated a resolution of that dispute, which terms were memorialized in writing (the "Settlement Agreement") and (iv) Cobra breached the terms of that Settlement Agreement by failing to pay Brahma as agreed.34 Based on these facts, Brahma asserts three causes of action: (i) Breach of Contract, (ii) Breach of the Duty of Good Faith and Fair Dealing and (iii) Unjust Enrichment.³⁵

Cobra argues that because Brahma claims the existence of a written agreement (the Settlement Agreement), Brahma may not seek a recovery based on unjust enrichment, citing Leasepartners Corp. v. Robert L. Brooks Tr. Dated Nov. 12, 1975, 113 Nev. 747, 755, 942 P.2d 182, 187 (1997) (an action based on a theory of unjust enrichment is not available when there is an express, written contract, because no agreement can be implied when there is an express agreement.) and May v. Anderson, 121 Nev. 668, 672, 119 P.3d 1254, 1257 (2005) (because a settlement agreement is a contract, its construction and enforcement are governed by principles of contract law).

While these authorities are certainly valid, Brahma's mere assertion of the existence of a valid contract does not preclude Brahma from asserting, in the alternative (i.e., if Court determines that there is no Settlement Agreement) that there is an implied contract entitling Brahma to the reasonable value of its work. See e.g., NRCP 8(a)(3).

"Where unjust enrichment is found, the law implies a quasi-contract which requires the defendant to pay to plaintiff the value of the benefit conferred. In other words, the defendant makes restitution to the plaintiff in quantum meruit." Certified Fire Prot. Inc. v. Precision Constr., 128 Nev. 371, 380-81, 283 P.3d 250, 257 (2012). Where an implied-in-fact contract exists "quantum meruit ensures the laborer receives the reasonable value, usually market price, for his services." Precision Constr., 128 Nev. at 380 citing Restatement (Third) of Restitution and Unjust Enrichment § 31 cmt. e (2011); Sack v. Tomlin, 110 Nev. 204, 208, 871 P.2d 298, 302 (1994) ("The doctrine of quantum meruit generally applies to an action ... involving work and labor performed which is founded on a[n] oral promise [or other circumstances] on the part of the defendant to pay the plaintiff as much as the plaintiff reasonably deserves for his labor in the absence of an agreed upon amount.").

³⁴ See Exhibit 11, First Amended Complaint ¶¶ 29-36, Case No. CV39799.

³⁵ See Id. ¶¶ 28-50.

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Here, unless and until Cobra acknowledges the existence and terms of an agreement between the parties (the Settlement Agreement, as Brahma alleges), Brahma should be permitted to argue for the existence of a quasi-contract entitling Brahma to restitution in quantum meruit, which is the basis of its claim for unjust enrichment. See Certified Fire Prot. Inc. v. Precision Constr., 128 Nev. 371, 380-81, 283 P.3d 250, 257 (2012). If the Court were to dismiss Brahma's alternative cause of action, Brahma may be left without any remedy whatsoever if the Court also concludes (as Cobra will no doubt argue) that there is no enforceable Settlement Agreement under May v. Anderson. See 121 Nev at 673-74 ("an enforceable settlement agreement cannot exist when the parties have not agreed to the essential terms of the release because these provisions constitute a material term of the settlement contract.").

By filing its Motion in lieu of an Answer, Cobra has so far avoided taking a position regarding the existence of an enforceable Settlement Agreement. Making the reasonable assumption that, once required to file an Answer, Cobra will deny the existence of an enforceable Settlement Agreement, the foundational basis of Brahma's claim for unjust enrichment (and the basis of Cobra's Motion) will be at play. Should Cobra concede the existence and enforceability of the Settlement Agreement, Brahma will happily dismiss its claim for unjust enrichment. Because such an event seems unlikely at best, Brahma should be allowed to proceed with its alternative claim for unjust enrichment.

D. Conclusion.

Based on the foregoing, Brahma respectfully requests that the Court deny Cobra's Motion in its entirety.

IV. COUNTERMOTION

For all of the reasons set forth in Brahma's Opposition to Cobra's Motion, Brahma respectfully seeks leave of this Court to file a single consolidated pleading in this consolidated action substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit 12 ("the Proposed Consolidated Pleading").

The Court Should Grant Leave to Brahma to File and Serve the Proposed A. Consolidated Pleading.

Brahma's Proposed Consolidated Pleading:

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•	Acknowledges and incorporates this Court's reasoning in (i) denying TSI	Ξ's
	Motion to Dismiss or Strike, and (ii) granting Brahma's Motion to Consolida	ıte:

- Simplifies the pleadings and reduces needless paperwork in the interest of judicial economy; and
- Eliminates arguable redundancies in causes of action appearing in both the Lien Foreclosure Action and the Bond Action.

The Proposed Consolidated Pleading also creates no prejudice to any party. Nothing in the Proposed Consolidated Pleading prevents or precludes TSE from maintaining (i) its appeal of the Court's denial of its Motion to Expunge or (ii) its Writ Petition seeking review of this Court's denial of TSE's Motion to Dismiss or Strike. Similarly, those claims already stayed pending the outcome of the motions pending in the federal court will remain stayed. Unlike Cobra and TSE, Brahma seeks no procedural advantage other than the judicial economy the Proposed Consolidated Pleading will afford all parties.

B. Conclusion.

Based on the foregoing, the Court should grant Brahma leave to file and serve the Proposed Consolidated Pleading in substantially the form set forth in this Motion.

Dated this 25 day of March, 2019.

PEEL BRIMLEY LLP

RICHARD L. PEEL, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 4359
ERIC ZIMBELMAN, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 9407
RONALD J. COX, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 12723
3333 E. Serene Avenue, Suite 200
Henderson, Nevada 89074-6571
Attorneys for Brahma Group, Inc.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuan	t to Nev. R. Civ. P. 5(b), I certify that I am an employee of PEEL BRIMLEY LLP
and that on this	day of March, 2019, I caused the above and foregoing document entitled,
BRAHMA G	ROUP, INC.'S OPPOSITION TO COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS,
INC.'S MOTI	ON TO DISMISS AND COUNTERMOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE A
SINGLE CON	SOLIDATED AMENDED COMPLAINT, to be served as follows:
	by placing same to be deposited for mailing in the United States Mail, in a sealed envelope upon which first class postage was prepaid in Las Vegas, Nevada; and/or
	Wiznet, the Court's electronic filing system;
	pursuant to EDCR 7.26, to be sent via facsimile;
	to be hand-delivered; and/or
	other – electronic mail
to the party(ies) and/or attorney(s) listed below at the address and/or facsimile number indicated
below:	

D. Lee Roberts, Jr., Esq.
Colby L. Balkenbush, Esq.
WEINBERG, WHEELER, HUDGINS
GUNN & DIAL, LLC
6385 S. Rainbow Blvd., Suite 400
Las Vegas, NV 89118
linearrow.ncbalkenbush@wwhgd.com
Attorneys for Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC

Geoffrey Crisp, Esq.
WEIL & DRAGE
2500 Anthem Village Drive
Henderson, NV 89052
gcrisp@weildrage.com
Attorneys for Cobra Thermosolar
Plants, Inc. and American Home
Assurance Company

Richard E. Haskin, Esq.
Daniel M. Hansen, Esq.
GIBBS GIDEN LOCHER TURNER
SENET & WITTBRODT LLP
1140 N. Town Center Drive, Suite 300
Las Vegas, NV 89144
rhaskin@gibbsgiden.com
Attorneys for H&E Equipment Services, Inc.

An Employee of Peel Brimley LLP

Page 15 of 15

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1	D. Lee Roberts, Jr., Esq.
2	Nevada Bar No. 8877 lroberts@wwhgd.com
3	Colby L. Balkenbush, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 13066
4	cbalkenbush@wwhgd.com Ryan T. Gormley, Esq.
5	Nevada Bar No. 13494 rgormley@wwhgd.com
6	Weinberg, Wheeler, Hudgins, Gunn & Dial, LLC
7	6385 South Rainbow Blvd., Suite 400 Las Vegas, Nevada 89118
8	Telephone: (702) 938-3838 Facsimile: (702) 938-3864
9	Attorneys for Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC
10	
11	IN THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRI
12	IN AND FOR THE
13	TONOPAH SOLAR ENERGY, LLC, a Delaware
14	limited liability company,
15	Plaintiff,
16	vs.
17	BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada corporation,
18	Defendant.
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FILED FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

APR 1 0 2019

Nye County Clerk Sarah Westfall Deputy

UDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA NAND FOR THE COUNTY OF NYE

Y, LLC, a Delaware | Case No. CV 39348 Dept. No. 2

Consolidated with: Case No. CV 39799

TSE'S OPPOSITION TO BRAHMA'S COUNTERMOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE A SINGLE CONSOLIDATED **COMPLAINT**

Hearing Date: April 17, 2019 Hearing Time: 10:00 a.m.

Counterclaimant/Lien Claimant, vs. TONOPAH SOLAR ENERGY LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; BOE BONDING

COMPANIES I through X; DOES I through X; ROE CORPORATIONS I through X; and TOE TENANTS I through X, inclusive,

Counterdefendant.

Page 1 of 9

1	BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada corporation,
2	Third-Party Plaintiff,
3	VS.
4	COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC., a
5	Nevada corporation; AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE COMPANY, a surety; BOE
6	BONDING COMPANIES I through X; DOES I through X; ROE CORPORATIONS I through X,
7	inclusive,
8	Third-Party Defendants.
9	H&E EQUIPMENT SERVICES, INC., a
10	Delaware corporation,
11	Plaintiff-In-Intervention,
12	VS.
13	BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada corporation, TONOPAH SOLAR ENERGY LLC, a Delaware
14	limited liability company, COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC., a Nevada
15	corporation; AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE COMPANY, a surety; BOE BONDING
16	COMPANIES I through X; DOES I through X; ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, and TOE
17	TENANTS I through X, inclusive,
18	Defendants-In-Intervention.
19	BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada corporation,
20	Plaintiff,
21	vs.
22	COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC., a
23	Nevada corporation; AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE COMPANY, a surety; BOE
24	BONDING COMPANIES I through X; DOES I through X; ROE CORPORATIONS I through X,
25	inclusive,
26	Defendants.
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Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC ("TSE"), by and through its undersigned counsel, hereby opposes Brahma Group, Inc.'s Countermotion for Leave to File a Single Consolidated Complaint ("Countermotion"). Based on the following Memorandum of Points and Authorities, Brahma's Countermotion should be denied.

DATED this What day of April, 2019.

later (14946); on behalf of D. Lee Roberts, Jr., Esq. Colby L. Balkenbush, Esq. Ryan T. Gormley, Esq. WEINBERG, WHEELER, HUDGINS, GUNN & DIAL, LLC 6385 S. Rainbow Blvd., Suite 400 Las Vegas, NV 89118 Attorneys for Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I. INTRODUCTION

The Nevada Supreme Court's December 2018 decision in Matter of Estate of Sarge requires that the Court deny Brahma's Countermotion. Prior to the Sarge decision, the Mallin case arguably permitted courts to merge two consolidated cases into each other. However, Sarge expressly overruled Mallin and held that consolidated cases "retain their separate identities" and cannot be merged into one another. Moreover, the Sarge decision relied in part on the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Hall. In Hall, the U.S. Supreme Court stated that "consolidated cases should remain separate as to parties, pleadings, and judgment." Thus, contrary to Brahma's mischaracterization of it, the *Hall* case actually supports denying the Countermotion.

Perhaps sensing that its motion faces an uphill battle, Brahma seeks to play the victim and argues that Cobra and TSE are conspiring to achieve some kind of procedural victory against it. Brahma is not a victim nor is it in danger of becoming one. It is a massive national contractor with approximately 2,500 employees and hundreds of millions in yearly revenue that submitted millions in fraudulent charges on this Project.

TSE opposes the Countermotion because it seeks relief that is expressly barred by Page 3 of 9

Nevada case law and may have unintended consequences as this litigation progresses. The purpose of Nevada's procedural rules is to "secure the just, speedy, and inexpensive determination of every action and proceeding." NRCP 1. Taking these goals into account, the Nevada Supreme Court decided in *Sarge* that consolidated cases should maintain separate pleadings, verdicts and judgments. The Countermotion is a solution in search of a problem. If the Countermotion is denied, both actions (i.e. CV 39348 and CV 39799) will still remain consolidated and be heard together. To the extent judicial economy and convenience are considerations, they have already been achieved by the granting of Brahma's prior Motion to Consolidate.

In addition, although it is irrelevant to the merits of the Countermotion, TSE is compelled to point out that, contrary to Brahma's assertions, TSE and Cobra are not ganging up on Brahma and coordinating their defenses. Any similarity between Cobra's and TSE's arguments is either pure coincidence or a product of Cobra's counsel reading the publicly available prior motion work in this case.

TSE requests that the Court deny the Countermotion as it seeks relief that is prohibited under the *Sarge* and *Hill* decisions and could have unforeseen procedural ramifications.

II. LEGAL ARGUMENT

A. The Nevada Supreme Court's December 2018 Decision in *Matter of Estate of Sarge* Prohibits the Court From Merging Two Separate Actions into a Single Action and is Directly on Point.

To properly understand the *Sarge* decision, it is necessary to first look at the case it overruled – *Mallin v. Farmers Ins. Exch.*, 106 Nev. 606, 607, 797 P.2d 978, 979 (1990). In *Mallin*, the district court granted a motion to consolidate two insurance coverage actions "for all purposes." *Id.* at 608, 797 P.2d at 980. Put another way, the district court in *Mallin* granted the exact same motion that Brahma is now bringing before this Court. The Nevada Supreme Court upheld the district court's decision and found that because the two actions had merged into one, an order of the district court disposing of one of the two consolidated cases was not appealable since the action as a whole remained undecided. *Id.* at 609, 797 P.2d at 980.

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Mallin remained good law until December 2018 when the Nevada Supreme Court expressly overruled it in Sarge, stating as follows:

> [J]oinder for trial . . . does not merge two suits into a single suit . . . We thus overrule our decision in Mallin to the extent it holds that cases consolidated in the district court become a single case for all appellate purposes. Consolidated cases retain their separate identities so that an order resolving all of the claims in one of the consolidated cases is immediately appealable as a final judgment under NRAP 3A(b)(1).

Matter of Estate of Sarge, 134 Nev. Adv. Op. 105, 432 P.3d 718, 722 (2018) (emphasis added) (internal citations omitted). The Sarge holding is not ambiguous. Prior to December 2018, it was arguably permissible for district courts in Nevada to merge two consolidated cases into a single action "for all purposes" just as Brahma's Countermotion requests. After Sarge, merger of consolidated actions is prohibited. Brahma's Countermotion is three months too late and should be denied.

В. Contrary to Brahma's Assertions, the U.S. Supreme Court's Decision in Hall v. Hall also Stands for the Proposition that Two Separation Actions Cannot Be Merged After Consolidation.

Realizing that the Sarge decision precludes the relief it seeks, Brahma cites to the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Hall to support its Countermotion. Hall v. Hall, 138 S. Ct. 1118, 1120, 200 L. Ed. 2d 399 (2018). However, Hall is equally unfavorable to Brahma's position. In Hall, the U.S. Supreme Court analyzed whether cases that are consolidated under FRCP 42(a), which is nearly identical to NRCP 42(a), may be merged into a single case. The Court answered the question in the negative after extensively surveying the history of FRCP 42(a), the 1813 statute on which FRCP 42(a) was based and addressing policy concerns. See generally id. ("consolidation is permitted as a matter of convenience and economy in administration, but does not merge the suits into a single cause, or change the rights of the parties, or make those who are parties in one suit parties in another.").

¹ 28 U.S.C. § 734 (repealed in 1948).

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In an attempt to distort the Hall holding, Brahma seizes on a section² of the decision that states that the term "consolidate" in FRCP 42(a) is ambiguous. See Countermotion at 11:5-15. Brahma goes on to argue that, since the term is ambiguous, merger of two separate actions into one is still permissible in certain circumstances. *Id.*

What Brahma leaves out is that, after finding this ambiguity, the U.S. Supreme Court resolved the ambiguity by resorting to FRCP 42(a)'s legislative history and determining that the term "consolidate" meant that the two separate cases are joined together but do not lose their separate character. Hall, 138 S. Ct. at 1130 ("No sensible draftsman, let alone a Federal Rules Advisory Committee, would take a term that had meant, for more than a century, that separate actions do not merge into one, and silently and abruptly reimagine the same term to mean that they do.").

The U.S. Supreme Court went on to explain the policy rationale for not permitting merger of two consolidated actions:

> through consolidation under Rule 42(a) one or many or all of the phases of the several actions may be merged. But merger is never so complete in consolidation as to deprive any party of any substantial rights which he may have possessed had the actions proceeded separately. Thus, separate verdicts and judgments are normally necessary.

Id. (internal citations omitted) (emphasis added).

Since separate verdicts and judgments are necessary, allowing the filing of a single merged complaint makes no sense and would only create confusion as to what case a particular decision or order applies to. Indeed, the Hall decision notes that federal courts may not merge the pleadings of two consolidated cases as Brahma seeks to do. Id. at 1128 ("Treatises summarizing federal precedent applying the consolidation statute also concluded that consolidated cases remain distinct. They recognized that consolidated cases should remain

² See Hall, 138 S. Ct. at 1124 ("Consolidation can thus sometimes signify the complete merger of discrete units: "The company consolidated two branches." But the term can also mean joining together discrete units without causing them to lose their independent character.") (discussing the ambiguity of the term).

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separate as to parties, pleadings, and judgment.") (emphasis added) (internal citations and quotations omitted).

In sum, the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Hill is consistent with the Nevada Supreme Court's decision in Sarge and supports denial of Brahma's Countermotion. Both decisions preclude courts from merging two separate cases into one and require that the two cases have separate pleadings and separate judgments.

C. Contrary to Brahma's Assertions, TSE and Cobra are Not Conspiring to Defeat Brahma Via Procedural Trickery. TSE Refused to Stipulate to Allowing the Filing of a Single Merged Complaint Because Such Action is Prohibited by the Nevada Supreme Court and Could Have Unintended Consequences.

Brahma attempts to distract the Court from the above unfavorable case law by accusing TSE and Cobra of ganging up against Brahma to gain some kind of procedural advantage. First, Brahma, a massive contractor with approximately 2,500 employees and hundreds of millions in yearly revenue, is hardly at risk of being taken advantage of in this dispute. Second, Brahma is incorrect that TSE and Cobra are coordinating their defenses. Cobra was the EPC contractor on the Project while TSE was the Project owner. Further, Cobra has no influence over TSE's conduct of this litigation.

TSE is not seeking to gain any procedural advantage but rather to ensure that this case proceeds in the correct procedural manner and to avoid unintended consequences. The Sarge case simply prevents the Court from merging the two consolidated cases into a single case.

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Page 7 of 9

WEINBERG WHEELER HUDGINS GUNN & DIAL

III. CONCLUSION

The Nevada Supreme Court's decision in *Sarge* precludes courts from merging two consolidated actions into each other as Brahma is seeking to do. Further, the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Hall*, upon which the *Sarge* decision in part relied, states that consolidated cases must maintain separate pleadings. For these reasons Brahma's Countermotion should be denied.

DATED this 10th day of April, 2019.

D. Lee Roberts, Jr., Esq.
Colby L. Balkenbush, Esq.
Ryan T. Gormley, Esq.
WEINBERG, WHEELER, HUDGINS,
GUNN & DIAL, LLC

Las Vegas, NV 89118 Attorneys for Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC

6385 S. Rainbow Blvd., Suite 400

Page 8 of 9

WEINBERG WHEELER HUDGINS GUNN & DIAL

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the <u>10</u> day of April, 2019, a true and correct copy of the foregoing TSE'S OPPOSITION TO BRAHMA'S COUNTERMOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE A SINGLE CONSOLIDATED COMPLAINT was hand delivered to the following:

Richard L. Peel. Esq.
Eric B. Zimbelman, Esq.
Ronald J. Cox, Esq.
Peel Brimley, LLP
3333 E. Serene Avenue, Suite 200
Henderson, Nevada 89074
Attorneys for Brahma Group, Inc.

An employee of Weinberg, Wheeler, Hudgins Gunn & Dial, LLC

Page 9 of 9

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Nevada Bar No. 8877 lroberts@wwhgd.com Colby L. Balkenbush, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 13066 cbalkenbush@wwhgd.com Ryan T. Gormley, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 13494 5 rgormley@wwhgd.com WEINBERG, WHEELER, HUDGINS, 6 GUNN & DIAL, LLC 6385 South Rainbow Blvd., Suite 400 Las Vegas, Nevada 89118 Telephone: (702) 938-3838 8 Facsimile: (702) 938-3864 9 Attorneys for Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC 10 IN THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 11 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF NYE 12 13 TONOPAH SOLAR ENERGY, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, 14

Plaintiff,

VS.

D. Lee Roberts, Jr., Esq.

Case No. CV 39348 Dept. No. 2

Consolidated with: Case No. CV 39799

RECEIPT OF COPY

BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada corporation, Defendant. BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada corporation, Counterclaimant/Lien Claimant, VS. TONOPAH SOLAR ENERGY LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; BOE BONDING COMPANIES I through X; DOES I through X; ROE CORPORATIONS I through X; and TOE TENANTS I through X, inclusive, Counterdefendant. BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada corporation, Third-Party Plaintiff,

Page 1 of 3

1	vs.
	COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC., a
2	Nevada corporation; AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE COMPANY, a surety; BOE
3	BONDING COMPANIES I through X; DOES I through X; ROE CORPORATIONS I through X,
4	inclusive,
5	Third-Party Defendants.
6	H&E EQUIPMENT SERVICES, INC., a
7	Delaware corporation,
8	Plaintiff-In-Intervention,
9	vs.
10	BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada corporation,
11	TONOPAH SOLAR ENERGY LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, COBRA
12	THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC., a Nevada corporation; AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE
13	COMPANY, a surety; BOE BONDING COMPANIES I through X; DOES I through X;
14	ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, and TOE TENANTS I through X, inclusive,
15	Defendants-In-Intervention.
16	
17	BRAHMA GROUP, INC., a Nevada corporation,
18	Plaintiff,
19	vs.
20	COBRA THERMOSOLAR PLANTS, INC., a
21	Nevada corporation; AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE COMPANY, a surety; BOE
	BONDING COMPANIES I through X; DOES I through X; ROE CORPORATIONS I through X,
22	inclusive,
23	Defendants.
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RECEIPT OF COPY

COPY OPPOSITION RECEIPT of TSE'S TO **BRAHMA'S** OF COUNTERMOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE A SINGLE CONSOLIDATED COMPLAINT is hereby acknowledged this of April, 2019.

Richard L. Peel. Esq. Eric B. Zimbelman, Esq. Ronald J. Cox, Esq. Peel Brimley, LLP 3333 E. Serene Avenue, Suite 200 Henderson, Nevada 89074

Attorneys for Brahma Group, Inc.