

No. 137, Original



**In The
Supreme Court of the United States**



STATE OF MONTANA,

Plaintiff,

v.

STATE OF WYOMING

and

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA,

Defendants.



**On Exceptions To
The Second Interim Report
Of The Special Master
(Liability Issues)**



JOINT STATUS REPORT



December 23, 2015

Come Now the States of Montana and Wyoming (“States”) and submit the following joint status report.

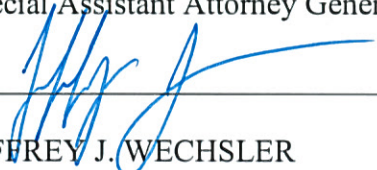
1. On October 5, 2015, the Court entered its Order granting the motion of Montana to defer consideration of this case and the Exceptions to the Special Master’s Second Interim Report filed December 29, 2014, for a period of three months. The same Order required the parties to submit a joint status report to the Court no later than December 31, 2015.

2. Despite good faith and diligent efforts on behalf of both States, they have now determined that they will be unable to reach a settlement agreement at this time.

WHEREFORE, the States jointly request that the Court reinstate this case for consideration of the Exceptions to the Special Master’s Second Interim Report filed December 29, 2014. The States are not requesting oral argument on the Exceptions unless the Court would find it helpful.

Respectfully submitted,

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Defendants.



Before the Honorable Barton H. Thompson, Jr.
Special Master



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the foregoing *Joint Status Report* was served electronically and by U.S. Mail on December 23, 2015, to the following:

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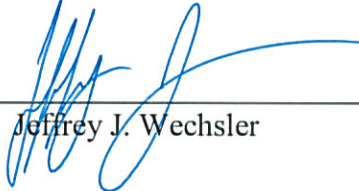
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I further certify that all parties required to be served have been served.



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