

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

MERRIMACK, SS

SUPERIOR COURT

Docket No. 03-E-0106

**In the Matter of the Liquidation of
The Home Insurance Company**

**AFFIDAVIT OF PETER A. BENGELSDORF, SPECIAL DEPUTY LIQUIDATOR,
IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
WITH GENERAL ELECTRIC**

I, Peter A. Bengelsdorf, hereby depose and say:

1. I was appointed Special Deputy Liquidator of the Home Insurance Company (“Home”), by the Insurance Commissioner for the State of New Hampshire, as Liquidator (“Liquidator”) of Home. I submit this affidavit in support of the Liquidator’s Motion for Approval of Settlement Agreement with General Electric. The facts and information set forth are either within my own knowledge gained through my involvement with this matter, in which case I confirm that they are true, or are based on information provided to me by others, in which case they are true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

2. The motion seeks approval for the Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release (“Settlement Agreement”) between General Electric Company (“GE”) and the Liquidator. The Settlement Agreement was negotiated under my supervision. A copy of the Settlement Agreement is attached as Exhibit A to the Liquidator’s motion.

3. Home issued ten insurance policies to GE for various policy periods between August 1, 1962 and November 2, 1993. Upon Home’s placement in liquidation, GE filed six proofs of claim in the Home liquidation regarding claims under policies, including but not limited to claims for coverage for environmental clean-up costs and damages and claims for asbestos bodily injury. The term “policies,” as used in the Settlement Agreement, does not apply

to policies issued to companies that GE acquired or to reinsurance contracts. Settlement Agreement, third Whereas clause.

4. The Liquidator and GE have negotiated a Settlement Agreement reflecting a resolution of the proofs of claim and all matters under the policies. The Settlement Agreement is subject to approval by the Court. Settlement Agreement ¶ 1.

5. The Settlement Agreement provides that the Liquidator will recommend allowance of the proofs of claim in the aggregate amount of \$24,000,000 as a Class II priority claim of GE under RSA 402-C:44. Settlement Agreement ¶ 2(A). Allowance of the recommended amount as a Class II claim will fully and finally resolve the proofs of claim and all claims GE has under the policies. Id. ¶ 2(B). Distributions based on that allowance will be made at the same intervals and at the same percentages as distributions to other Class II creditors of Home. Id. ¶ 2(C).

6. The Settlement Agreement is intended to resolve the proofs of claim and all claims under the policies. See Settlement Agreement seventh Whereas clause, ¶¶ 2, 5. To that end, the Settlement Agreement provides for mutual releases of all claims among the Liquidator, Home and GE arising from or related to the proofs of claim or the policies. Id. ¶¶ 3, 4. The Liquidator also agrees to waive claims respecting the underlying matters covered by the proofs of claim against other insurers of GE that agree in a settlement with GE to waive such claims against Home. Id. ¶ 6.

7. The Liquidator is not aware of any third party claimants asserting claims under the policies.¹ However, in resolving all matters relating to the proofs of claim and the policies, the Settlement Agreement contemplates denial of any third party claimants' claims under the

¹ Four insurers have submitted contribution claims in respect of the policies. Unlike third party claimants' claims, a contribution claim is independent of the insured's claims (although derived from the same underlying circumstances), and it will remain to be determined on its own merits in the liquidation proceeding.

policies in the Home liquidation without prejudice to their claims against GE. Accordingly, GE acknowledges in the Settlement Agreement that it is intended to resolve all matters between GE and the Liquidator/Home relating to the proofs of claim and the policies, including asserted rights of third party claimants. Settlement Agreement ¶ 5. GE agrees to address, at its sole cost, the claims of claimants asserting claims against GE as if GE had no insurance coverage from Home under the policies. Id. GE agrees to indemnify the Liquidator and Home against claims arising from the policies up to the amounts actually distributed to GE. Id.

8. The denial of any third party claimants' proofs of claim without prejudice to their claims against GE will not harm the third party claimants, who will continue to have their full claims against GE. As noted above, GE has agreed to address these claims as if it had no insurance coverage from Home under the policies. Settlement Agreement ¶ 5. Third party claimants' proofs of claim against the insolvent Home, if not denied with this agreement, would release GE from those claims up to the limits of the policies but only entitle the third party claimants (assuming their claims were allowed) to a presently undetermined percentage distribution at the future date when a distribution is made. It is not expected that the allowed claims of any third party claimants (or other Class II creditors) will be paid in full. Under the Settlement Agreement, GE will continue to be fully responsible for any third party claimants' claims against it. See Settlement Agreement ¶ 5.

9. The Settlement Agreement reflects a compromise of the claims asserted in the proofs of claim. It is the result of negotiations involving the Claims Department, under my supervision, which has extensive experience in assessing the exposure presented by environmental clean-up costs and damages and claims for asbestos bodily injury under Home's insurance policies. The agreed settlement amount is based on careful evaluation and negotiation of coverage obligations under Home's policies respecting the underlying liabilities of GE. The

Liquidator accordingly recommends approval of the Settlement Agreement and allowance of the \$24,000,000 settlement amount as a Class II claim of GE in accordance with RSA 402-C:45 and RSA 402-C:44.

10. I believe that the Settlement Agreement is fair and reasonable and in the best interests of the policyholders and creditors of Home.

Signed under the penalties of perjury this 1ST day of June, 2011.

Peter A. Bengelsdorf
Peter A. Bengelsdorf
Special Deputy Liquidator of The Home Insurance
Company

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF VENTURA

On June 1, 2011 before me, Tina Trinh Le, Notary Public, personally appeared Peter A. Bengelsdorf, Special Deputy Liquidator of The Home Insurance Company, who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his authorized capacity, and that by his signature on the instrument the person, or the entity upon behalf of which the person acted, executed the instrument.

I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

Signature Tina
Signature of Notary Public

