(SPACE BELOW FOR FILING STAMP ONLY) 1 WALTER & WILHELM LAW GROUP a Professional Corporation Riley C. Walter #91839 205 East River Park Circle, Ste. 410 3 Fresno, CA 93720 (559) 435-9800 Telephone: 4 (559) 435-9868 Facsimile: rileywalter@W2LG.com E-mail: 5 Attorneys for 5T Farms; Alberta Otto; Alex Kobets; Alfred Duran; Ara Karkazian, Assemi 6 & Sons, Inc.; Lincoln Grantor Farms; Manning Avenue Pistachios; Bryan & Kimberly Ambrosini; Cameron Wulf; Christie V. Willet; Christie Valorosi Willet, Trustee of the 7 Valorosi Trust; Good Earth, Inc.; Hagopian Enterprises, Inc.; Harriet Vawter; Mark Hagopian; Jared Vawter; J.M. Lasgoity; Kenneson Farms, Inc.; Michael Logoluso, Jr.; 8 Schafer & Schafer; Richard & Dorothy Geringer; and Ty Bellach ("Growers") 9 IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT 10 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 11 FRESNO DIVISION 12 13 In re Case No. 15-11079 14 WEST COAST GROWERS, INC., Chapter 11 15 Debtor in Possession. DCN: KDG-5 16 TAX ID: 77-0345163 May 28, 2015 Date: 4087 North Howard 2:30 p.m. Address: Time: 17 Kerman, CA 93630 2500 Tulare Street Place: Fresno, CA 93721 18 Courtroom 12 Honorable W. Richard Lee Judge: 19 REPORT ON MEET AND CONFER AND SUPPLEMENT TO GROWERS' SUPPORT 20 OF MOTION FOR ORDER AUTHORIZING DEBTOR IN POSSESSION TO MAKE FIRST INTERIM DISTRIBUTION TO 2014 GROWERS 21 TO THE HONORABLE W. RICHARD LEE, UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE: 22 At the preliminary hearing held on May 14, 2015, the Court directed counsel for 23 Growers to convene a meet and confer to address several points raised by the Court at 24 the time of the preliminary hearing. 25 **MEET AND CONFER** 26 Pursuant to the direction of the Court, counsel for Growers invited Gregory 27 Powell, Scott Belden, Ronald Clifford, Kurt Vote and Hagop Bedoyan to participate in an 28 -1-

REPORT ON MEET AND CONFER AND SUPPLEMENT TO GROWERS' SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR ORDER AUTHORIZING DEIP TO MAKE FIRST INTERIM DISTRIBUTION, ETC.

1

11

17

16

18 19

20 21

23 24

22

25 26

2728

in person meet and confer. Messrs. Bedoyan, Vote and Walter agreed and met in person. Messrs. Clifford and Belden attended by conference call. Mr. Powell did not participate.

The meet and confer was held at Walter & Wilhelm Law Group on May 26, 2015 at 3:30 p.m.

WHY IS THERE A CREDITORS' COMMITTEE?

At the May 14, 2015 hearing the Court asked the question "Why is there a Creditors' Committee?" This is a good question. There are only two members of the Committee. One is a Grower who received a very large amount of 2014 proceeds on account of the 2013 debt and will have to repay that sum before receiving a distribution.

The other member of the Committee is a single relatively small trade creditor who probably has been told it would be a free ride.

In the view of the Growers, the appointment of a general unsecured creditor committee in this case is a very bad idea. All of the assets are secured by either the Growers/growers or Central Valley Community Bank. There are no free assets.

Even if the avoidance proceeds were to go to the estate, which is disputed, there is between \$500,000 to \$1.4 million in priority claims. It simply does not make sense for there to be a committee under these circumstances.

WHAT IS THE COMMITTEE OBJECTING TO?

At the hearing on May 14th the Court asked counsel for the Committee what the specific objection is. At the meet and confer on May 26, 2015 Mr. Clifford advised he would seek direction from the Committee on this issue so we are still unclear.

WHY IS IT A BAD IDEA?

The Court asked the question of why it is a bad idea to distribute the money to the Growers. Growers, of course, think it is a very good idea and one that is warranted. There is no dispute that the Growers (and other growers) have Producer's Liens. Growers need to have distributions so they can finance the completion of their 2015 crop. If there is no dispute as to the liens there should be distributions. In fact, it

continues to be the position of Growers that there should be a procedure in place that allows for distributions anytime the funds in the account exceed \$X.

RECLASSIFICATION

At the hearing held on May 14 the Court asked whether the reclassification of payments made from 2014 proceeds on account of 2013 debts was "binding forever."

The current motion before the Court deals only with a distribution of about \$1 million. Growers believe that they should confer with the Debtor and come up with an overall mechanism for ongoing distributions which would include the reclassification issue and payment from the bottom up.

HOW TO PRESERVE RIGHTS

At the preliminary hearing the Court asked the question of how the Debtor proposes to make distributions while preserving the right to claw back money. Growers suggest that this can be solved by including a provision in the Order that says that a grower who cashes a distribution check understands and agrees that there may be an effort to recover monies from that grower once further investigation as to any such recovery rights is made by the Debtor.

WHEREFORE, Growers pray that the Court hear and consider their position with respect to the first interim distribution and they seek such other and further relief as is just and proper.

Dated: May 27, 2015

WALTER & WILHELM LAW GROUP. a Professional Corporation

By:

ley C. Walter

Attorneys for Growers

28