# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MEGAN VILLELLA, Individually and on Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,

: Civil Action No. 1:15-cv-02106-ER-GWG: (Consolidated)

Plaintiff,

: CLASS ACTION

VS.

STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT

CHEMICAL AND MINING COMPANY OF CHILE INC., et al.,

Defendants.

This Stipulation of Settlement, dated December 11, 2020 (the "Stipulation"), is made and entered into by and between: (i) Lead Plaintiff The Council of the Borough of South Tyneside Acting in its Capacity as the Administering Authority of the Tyne and Wear Pension Fund ("Tyne and Wear") (on behalf of itself and each Class Member), by and through its counsel of record in the Litigation; and (ii) Defendant Chemical and Mining Company of Chile Inc., a/k/a Sociedad Química y Minera de Chile S.A. ("SQM" or the "Company"), by and through its counsel of record in the Litigation. The Stipulation is intended to fully, finally, and forever resolve, discharge, and settle the Litigation and the Released Claims, subject to the approval of the Court and the terms and conditions set forth in this Stipulation.

## I. THE LITIGATION

The Litigation is currently pending before the Honorable Edgardo Ramos in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York (the "Court"). The initial complaint in this action was filed on March 19, 2015. On October 14, 2015, the Court appointed Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel.

Lead Plaintiff's Corrected Consolidated Complaint for Violation of the Securities Laws (the "Complaint"), filed on February 9, 2016, alleges that Defendant violated §10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. More specifically, Lead Plaintiff alleges that throughout the Class Period (June 30, 2010 through March 18, 2015, inclusive), Defendant made materially false and misleading statements and/or failed to disclose adverse information regarding the Company's business and operations, which caused the price of the Company's American Depository Shares ("ADSs") to trade at artificially inflated prices, until the market learned of the false and misleading statements or

All capitalized terms not otherwise defined shall have the meanings ascribed to them in §IV.1 herein.

omissions, and the Company's ADS price significantly declined. Defendant contends that it did not violate §10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Specifically, Defendant denies, *inter alia*, that the alleged fraudulent statements caused alleged damages to Class Members, including Lead Plaintiff.

On March 30, 2016, SQM moved to dismiss the Complaint. Lead Plaintiff opposed the motion on May 26, 2016, and SQM filed its reply on June 29, 2016. On March 28, 2017, the Court issued its Opinion and Order, granting in part and denying in part SQM's motion to dismiss. SQM answered the Complaint on April 25, 2017. On January 10, 2018, Lead Plaintiff moved for class certification. SQM took document and deposition discovery of Lead Plaintiff and Lead Plaintiff's investment manager responsible for Lead Plaintiff's investment in SQM. On December 12, 2018, SQM filed its opposition to the class certification motion. SQM simultaneously filed a motion to exclude Lead Plaintiff's expert. Lead Plaintiff filed its opposition to the motion to exclude and its reply to the class certification motion on January 25, 2019. SQM filed its reply to its motion to exclude Lead Plaintiff's expert on February 15, 2019. On September 23, 2019, the Court certified the Class and denied SQM's motion to exclude.

The Settling Parties have conducted extensive fact and expert discovery, including depositions, the production and review of documents, and exchange of expert reports.

On April 16, 2020, the Settling Parties filed motions for summary judgment and motions to exclude experts at trial. On June 19, 2020, the Settling Parties filed their responses to the various motions, and filed their reply briefs on August 3, 2020. The motions remained pending at the time this Settlement was reached.

On April 19, 2018, the Settling Parties participated in a voluntary confidential mediation with the Hon. Layn R. Phillips (Ret.), an experienced mediator. The mediation was preceded by

submission of mediation statements by the Settling Parties. The Settling Parties engaged in good faith negotiations, but did not reach a settlement, and litigation continued. On October 9, 2020, Defendant and Lead Plaintiff participated in another mediation session with Judge Phillips. Prior to this session, the Settling Parties provided to Judge Phillips and exchanged supplemental mediation materials. The Settling Parties engaged in arm's-length negotiations during the mediation session, and were unable to reach an agreement, but continued settlement discussions through Judge Phillips. On November 11, 2020, the Settling Parties reached an agreement-in-principle to resolve the Litigation, and executed a term sheet memorializing their agreement. The agreement included, among other things, the Settling Parties' agreement to settle the Litigation in return for a cash payment of \$62,500,000 for the benefit of the Class, subject to the negotiation of the terms of a Stipulation of Settlement and approval by the Court. This Stipulation (together with the Exhibits hereto) reflects the final and binding agreement between the Settling Parties.

# II. DEFENDANT'S DENIALS OF LIABILITY

Throughout this Litigation, Defendant has denied, and continues to deny, causing any damages and any liability under §10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Among other things, Defendant expressly has denied, and continues to deny, that the price of SQM ADSs was artificially inflated as a result of any materially false or misleading statement or omission, that any Class Member, including Lead Plaintiff, has suffered any damages, or that any Class Member, including Lead Plaintiff, was harmed by any conduct alleged in the Litigation or that could have been alleged therein. Defendant maintains that it has meritorious defenses to the §10(b) claim alleged in the Litigation.

As set forth below, neither the Settlement nor any of the terms of this Stipulation shall be construed or deemed to be evidence of or constitute an admission, concession, or finding of any

liability or damage whatsoever or any infirmity in the defenses that Defendant has, or could have, asserted. Defendant is entering into this Stipulation solely to eliminate the burden, expense, and uncertainty of further litigation. Defendant has determined that it is desirable and beneficial to it that the Litigation be settled in the manner and upon the terms and conditions set forth in this Stipulation.

## III. LEAD PLAINTIFF'S CLAIMS AND THE BENEFITS OF SETTLEMENT

Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel believe that the claims asserted in the Litigation have merit and that the evidence developed to date supports the claims asserted therein. However, Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel recognize and acknowledge the expense and length of continued proceedings necessary to prosecute the Litigation through trial and through appeals. Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel also have taken into account the uncertain outcome and the risk of any litigation, especially in complex actions such as this Litigation, as well as the difficulties and delays inherent in this Litigation where witnesses are located in Chile and where much of the evidence requires translation from Spanish to English. Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel also are mindful of the inherent problems of proof under and possible defenses to the securities law violations asserted in the Litigation. Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel believe that the Settlement set forth in this Stipulation confers substantial benefits upon the Class. Based on their own investigation and evaluation, Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel have determined that the Settlement set forth in this Stipulation is in the best interests of Lead Plaintiff and the Class.

# IV. TERMS OF THE STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT OF SETTLEMENT

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between Lead Plaintiff (on behalf of itself and the Class Members) and Defendant, by and through their counsel that, subject to the approval of the Court pursuant to Rule 23(e) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, in consideration of the benefits flowing to the parties from the Settlement, the Litigation

and the Released Claims shall be finally and fully compromised, settled, and released, and the Litigation shall be dismissed with prejudice upon and subject to the terms and conditions of this Stipulation, as follows:

#### 1. Definitions

As used in this Stipulation the following terms, when capitalized, have the meanings specified below:

- 1.1 "Authorized Claimant" means any Class Member who submits a valid Claim to the Claims Administrator that is accepted for payment.
- 1.2 "Claim(s)" means a paper claim submitted on a Proof of Claim and Release form or an electronic claim that is submitted to the Claims Administrator.
  - 1.3 "Claims Administrator" means the firm of Gilardi & Co. LLC.
- 1.4 "Class" means all Persons who purchased or otherwise acquired SQM ADSs traded on the New York Stock Exchange during the Class Period. Excluded from the Class are: (i) SQM; (ii) any entity in which SQM has a controlling interest; (iii) the officers and directors of SQM; (iv) the legal representatives, heirs, successors or assigns of any such excluded party; and (v) any person who sold the entirety of their position in SQM ADS before January 11, 2015. Also excluded from the Class is any Person who would otherwise be a Member of the Class but who validly and timely requests exclusion in accordance with the requirements set by the Court.
- 1.5 "Class Member" or "Member of the Class" mean a Person who falls within the definition of the Class as set forth in ¶1.4 above.
- 1.6 "Class Period" means the period from June 30, 2010 through March 18, 2015, inclusive.

- 1.7 "Defendant" means Chemical and Mining Company of Chile Inc., a/k/a Sociedad Química y Minera de Chile S.A.
- 1.8 "Effective Date," or the date upon which this Settlement becomes "Effective," means the first date by which all of the events and conditions specified in ¶7.1 of the Stipulation have been met and have occurred or have been waived.
- 1.9 "Escrow Agent" means the law firm of Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP or its successor(s).
- "Final" means, with respect to any order or Judgment of the Court, that such order or 1.10 Judgment represents a final and binding determination of all issues within its scope and has not been reversed, vacated, or modified in any way and is no longer subject to appellate review, either because of disposition on appeal and conclusion of the appellate process or because of passage, without action, of time for seeking appellate review. Without limitation, an order or Judgment becomes final when: (a) either no appeal therefrom has been filed and the time has passed for any notice of appeal to be timely filed therefrom; or (b) an appeal has been filed and either (i) the court of appeals has either affirmed the order or Judgment or dismissed that appeal and the time for any reconsideration or further appellate review has passed; or (ii) a higher court has granted further appellate review and that court has either affirmed the underlying order or judgment or affirmed the court of appeals' decision affirming the judgment or dismissing the appeal. For purposes of this paragraph, an "appeal" shall include any motion for reconsideration or petition for a writ of certiorari or other writ that may be filed in connection with approval or disapproval of this Settlement. Any appeal or proceeding seeking subsequent judicial review pertaining solely to an order issued with respect to: (i) attorneys' fees, costs, or expenses, (ii) the Plan of Allocation (as submitted or subsequently modified), or (iii) the procedures for determining Authorized Claimants'

recognized Claims, shall not in any way delay, affect, or preclude the time set forth above for the Judgment to become Final, or otherwise preclude the Judgment from becoming Final.

- 1.11 "Judgment" means the Final Judgment and Order of Dismissal with Prejudice to be rendered by the Court, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B, as well as any form of final judgment that may be entered by the Court in a form other than the form attached hereto as Exhibit B and where none of the Settling Parties elects to terminate this Settlement by reason of such variance, consistent with the terms of this Stipulation.
  - 1.12 "Lead Counsel" means the law firm of Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP.
- 1.13 "Lead Plaintiff" means The Council of the Borough of South Tyneside Acting in Its Capacity as the Administering Authority of the Tyne and Wear Pension Fund.
- 1.14 "Lead Plaintiff's Counsel" means any attorney or firm who has appeared in the Litigation on behalf of Lead Plaintiff or the Class.
- 1.15 "Litigation" means the action captioned *Villella v. Chemical and Mining Company of Chile Inc.*, No. 1:15-cv-02106-ER-GWG, pending in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.
- 1.16 "Net Settlement Fund" means the Settlement Fund less: (i) any Court-awarded attorneys' fees, expenses, and interest thereon; (ii) Notice and Administration Expenses; (iii) Taxes and Tax Expenses; and (iv) other Court-approved deductions.
- 1.17 "Person(s)" means an individual, corporation (including all divisions and subsidiaries thereof), limited liability corporation, professional corporation, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability partnership, limited liability company, joint venture, association, joint stock company, estate, legal representative, trust, unincorporated association, government or any political subdivision or agency thereof, and any business or legal entity and all of their respective spouses,

heirs, beneficiaries, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, representatives, or assignees.

- 1.18 "Plan of Allocation" means a plan or formula of allocation of the Net Settlement Fund whereby the Net Settlement Fund shall be distributed to Authorized Claimants. Any Plan of Allocation is not part of this Stipulation and neither Defendant nor their Related Parties shall have any responsibility or liability with respect thereto.
- 1.19 "Proof of Claim and Release" means the Proof of Claim and Release form for submitting a Claim that a Class Member must complete and submit should that Class Member seek to share in a distribution of the Net Settlement Fund. The Proof of Claim and Release shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A-2, subject to approval of the Court.
- 1.20 "Related Parties" means Defendant's former, present or future parents, subsidiaries, divisions, controlling persons, associates, related entities and affiliates and each and all of their respective present and former employees, members, partners, principals, officers, directors, controlling shareholders, agents, attorneys, advisors (including financial or investment advisors), accountants, auditors, consultants, underwriters, investment bankers, commercial bankers, entities providing fairness opinions, general or limited partners or partnerships, limited liability companies, members, joint ventures and insurers and reinsurers of each of them; as well as the predecessors, successors, estates, immediate family members, spouses, heirs, executors, trusts, trustees, administrators, agents, legal or personal representatives, assigns, and assignees of each of them, in their capacity as such.
- 1.21 "Released Claims" means any and all rights, liabilities, suits, debts, obligations, demands, damages, losses, judgment matters, issues, claims (including "Unknown Claims," as defined in ¶1.31 hereof), and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, in law,

equity, or otherwise, whether known or unknown, asserted or unasserted, accrued or unaccrued, fixed or contingent, liquidated or unliquidated, whether arising under federal, state, local, statutory, common or foreign law, or any other law, rule, or regulation, whether class and/or individual in nature, based on, arising out of, or in connection with both: (i) the purchase of SQM ADSs during the Class Period; and (ii) the allegations, transactions, acts, facts, matters, occurrences, disclosures, filings, representations, statements, omissions, or events that were or could have been alleged or asserted in the Litigation. "Released Claims" does not include claims to enforce the Settlement, or the claims of any person or entity that submits a request for exclusion that is accepted by the Court.

- 1.22 "Released Defendant's Claims" means any and all claims and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, including both known claims and Unknown Claims, against Lead Plaintiff, Lead Plaintiff's Counsel or any Class Member that arise out of or relate in any way to the institution, prosecution, or settlement of the claims against Defendant in the Litigation, except for claims relating to the enforcement of the Settlement.
- 1.23 "Released Defendant Party" or "Released Defendant Parties" or "Released Persons" mean each and all of Defendant, Defendant's counsel, and any of their Related Parties.
- 1.24 "Releasing Plaintiff Party" or "Releasing Plaintiff Parties" mean each and every Class Member, Lead Plaintiff, Lead Counsel, Lead Plaintiff's Counsel, and each of their respective past or present trustees, executors, administrators, officers, directors, partners, members, employees, contractors, auditors, principals, agents, attorneys, predecessors, successors, assigns, representatives, affiliates, joint venturers, shareholders, underwriters, insurers, personal or legal representatives, estates, financial advisors or consultants, banks or investment bankers, parents, subsidiaries, general or limited partners or partnerships, and limited liability companies; and the spouses, members of the immediate families, representatives, and heirs of any Releasing Plaintiff Party who is an individual,

as well as any trust of which any Releasing Plaintiff Party is the settlor or which is for the benefit of any of their immediate family members. Releasing Plaintiff Parties do not include any Person who would otherwise be a Member of the Class but who validly and timely requests exclusion from the Class.

- 1.25 "Settlement" means the resolution of the Litigation in accordance with the terms and provisions of this Stipulation.
- 1.26 "Settlement Amount" means Sixty-Two Million Five Hundred Thousand U.S. Dollars (U.S. \$62,500,000.00) to be paid by check or wire transfer to the Escrow Agent pursuant to ¶2.2 of this Stipulation, which payment the Settling Parties agree was made by SQM on or about December 1, 2020.
- 1.27 "Settlement Fund" means the Settlement Amount plus all interest and accretions thereto.
- 1.28 "Settlement Hearing" means the hearing set by the Court under Rule 23(e)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure to consider final approval of the Settlement.
- 1.29 "Settling Parties" means, collectively, Defendant and Lead Plaintiff, on behalf of itself and the Class.
- 1.30 "Tax" or "Taxes" mean any and all taxes, fees, levies, duties, tariffs, imposts, and other charges of any kind (together with any and all interest, penalties, additions to tax and additional amounts imposed with respect thereto) imposed by any governmental authority, including, but not limited to, any local, state, and federal taxes.
- 1.31 "Unknown Claims" means (a) any and all Released Claims which any of the Releasing Plaintiff Parties do not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of the Released Defendant Parties, which, if known by him, her, or it, might have affected

his, her, or its settlement with and release of the Released Defendant Parties, or might have affected his, her, or its decision(s) with respect to the Settlement, including, but not limited to, whether or not to object to this Settlement or seek exclusion from the Class; and (b) any and all Released Defendant's Claims that any of the Released Defendant Parties do not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of Lead Plaintiff, the Class and Lead Plaintiff's Counsel, which, if known by him, her, or it, might have affected his, her, or its settlement and release of Lead Plaintiff, the Class and Lead Plaintiff's Counsel. With respect to (a) any and all Released Claims against the Released Defendant Parties, and (b) any and all Released Defendant's Claims against Lead Plaintiff, the Class and Lead Plaintiff's Counsel, the Settling Parties stipulate and agree that, upon the Effective Date, the Settling Parties shall expressly waive, and each Releasing Plaintiff Party and Released Defendant Party shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Judgment shall have, expressly waived the provisions, rights, and benefits of California Civil Code §1542, which provides:

A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release and that, if known by him or her, would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or released party.

The Settling Parties shall expressly waive, and each Releasing Plaintiff Party and Released Defendant Party shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Judgment shall have, expressly waived any and all provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by any law of any state or territory of the United States, or principle of common law, which is similar, comparable, or equivalent to California Civil Code §1542. The Releasing Plaintiff Parties and Released Defendant Parties acknowledge that they may hereafter discover facts, legal theories or authorities in addition to or different from those which he, she, it or their counsel now knows or believes to be true with respect to the subject matter of the Released Claims or Released Defendant's Claims, but (a) the Releasing

Plaintiff Parties shall expressly fully, finally, and forever waive, compromise, settle, discharge, extinguish and release, and each Releasing Plaintiff Party shall be deemed to have waived, compromised, settled, discharged, extinguished, and released, and upon the Effective Date, and by operation of the Judgment shall have waived, compromised, settled, discharged, extinguished, and released, fully, finally, and forever, any and all Released Claims against the Released Defendant Parties, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, contingent or non-contingent, accrued or unaccrued, whether or not concealed or hidden, which now exist, or heretofore have existed, or may hereafter exist, upon any theory of law or equity now existing or coming into existence in the future, including, but not limited to, conduct which is negligent, intentional, with or without malice, or a breach of any duty, law or rule, without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts, legal theories, or authorities, and (b) the Released Defendant Parties shall expressly fully, finally, and forever waive, compromise, settle, discharge, extinguish and release, and upon the Effective Date, and by operation of the Judgment shall have waived, compromised, settled, discharged, extinguished, and released, fully, finally, and forever, any and all Released Defendant's Claims against Lead Plaintiff, the Class and Lead Plaintiff's Counsel, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, contingent or non-contingent, whether or not concealed or hidden, which now exist, or heretofore have existed, upon any theory of law or equity now existing or coming into existence in the future, including, but not limited to, conduct which is negligent, intentional, with or without malice, or a breach of any duty, law or rule, without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts, legal theories, or authorities. The Settling Parties acknowledge, and the Releasing Plaintiff Parties and Released Defendant Parties shall be deemed by operation of the Judgment to have acknowledged, that the foregoing waiver was separately bargained for and is an essential element of the Settlement of which this release is a part.

## 2. The Settlement

2.1 The obligations incurred pursuant to the Stipulation are: (a) subject to approval by the Court and the Judgment, reflecting such approval, becoming Final; and (b) in full and final disposition of the Litigation and any and all Released Claims and Released Defendant's Claims upon and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein.

## a. The Settlement Amount

- 2.2 In full and final settlement of the claims asserted in the Litigation and in consideration of the releases specified in ¶¶4.1-4.4 herein, SQM shall pay or shall cause the Settlement Amount to be paid by check or wire transfer on or before December 14, 2020. The Settling Parties agree that SQM paid the Settlement Amount to the Escrow Agent on or about December 1, 2020. The Escrow Agent shall deposit the Settlement Amount plus any accrued interest in a segregated escrow account (the "Escrow Account") maintained by the Escrow Agent.
- 2.3 Other than the obligation to pay or cause to be paid the Settlement Amount into the Settlement Fund set forth in ¶2.2 herein, the Released Defendant Parties shall have no responsibility for, interest in, or liability whatsoever with respect to: (i) any act, omission, or determination by Lead Counsel or the Claims Administrator, or any of their respective designees, in connection with the administration of the Settlement or otherwise; (ii) the management, investment, or distribution of the Settlement Fund; (iii) the Plan of Allocation; (iv) the determination, administration, calculation, or payment of any Claims asserted against the Settlement Fund; (v) any loss suffered by, or fluctuation in value of, the Settlement Fund; or (vi) the payment or withholding of any Taxes, expenses, and/or costs incurred in connection with the taxation of the Settlement Fund, distributions or other payments from the Escrow Account, or the filing of any federal, state, or local returns.

2.4 Other than the obligation to cause the payment of the Settlement Amount in accordance with the terms of  $\P 2.2$ , Defendant shall have no obligation to make any other payments pursuant to the Stipulation.

# b. The Escrow Agent

- 2.5 The Escrow Agent shall invest the Settlement Amount deposited pursuant to ¶2.2 hereof in United States Agency or Treasury Securities or other instruments backed by the Full Faith & Credit of the United States Government or an Agency thereof, or fully insured by the United States Government or an Agency thereof and shall reinvest the proceeds of these instruments as they mature in similar instruments at their then-current market rates. All risks related to the investment of the Settlement Fund in accordance with the investment guidelines set forth in this paragraph shall be borne by the Settlement Fund, and the Released Defendant Parties shall have no responsibility for, interest in, or liability whatsoever with respect to investment decisions or the actions of the Escrow Agent, or any transactions executed by the Escrow Agent. The Escrow Agent, through the Settlement Fund, shall indemnify and hold each of the Released Defendant Parties and their counsel harmless for the actions of the Escrow Agent.
- 2.6 The Escrow Agent shall not disburse the Settlement Fund except as provided in this Stipulation, by an order of the Court, or with the prior written agreement of Defendant's counsel.
- 2.7 Subject to further order(s) and/or directions as may be made by the Court, or as provided in this Stipulation, the Escrow Agent is authorized to execute such transactions as are consistent with the terms of this Stipulation. The Released Defendant Parties shall have no responsibility for, interest in, or liability whatsoever with respect to the actions of the Escrow Agent, or any transaction executed by the Escrow Agent. The Escrow Agent, through the Settlement Fund,

shall indemnify and hold each of the Released Defendant Parties and their counsel harmless for any transaction executed by the Escrow Agent.

- 2.8 All funds held by the Escrow Agent shall be deemed and considered to be in *custodia legis* of the Court, and shall remain subject to the jurisdiction of the Court, until such time as such funds shall be distributed pursuant to this Stipulation and/or further order(s) of the Court.
- 2.9 Notwithstanding the fact that the Effective Date of the Settlement has not yet occurred, Lead Counsel may pay from the Settlement Fund, without further approval from Defendant and/or order of the Court, reasonable costs and expenses actually incurred in connection with providing notice of the Settlement by mail, publication, and other means, locating potential Class Members, assisting with the submission of Claims, processing Proof of Claim and Release forms, administering the Settlement, and paying escrow taxes, fees and costs, if any ("Notice and Administration Expenses"), up to the sum of \$500,000.00. Prior to the Effective Date, all such Notice and Administration Expenses in excess of \$500,000.00 may be paid from the Settlement Fund only with prior approval of the Court. After the Effective Date, Notice and Administration Expenses may be paid as incurred, without approval of Defendant or further order of the Court.
- 2.10 It shall be Lead Counsel's responsibility to disseminate the Notice (as defined in ¶3.1 below), Proof of Claim and Release, and Summary Notice (as defined in ¶3.1 below) to potential Class Members in accordance with this Stipulation and as ordered by the Court. The Released Defendant Parties shall have no responsibility for or liability whatsoever with respect to the Notice and Administration Expenses, nor shall they have any responsibility or liability whatsoever for any claims with respect thereto, including any claims that may arise from any failure of the notice process. The Escrow Agent through the Settlement Fund, shall indemnify and hold each of the Released Defendant Parties and their counsel harmless for any Notice and Administration Expenses.

#### c. Taxes

- 2.11 The Settling Parties agree as follows:
- (a) The Settling Parties and the Escrow Agent agree to treat the Settlement Fund as being at all times a "qualified settlement fund" within the meaning of Treas. Reg. §1.468B-1, and the regulations promulgated thereunder. The Settling Parties and the Escrow Agent further agree that the Settlement Fund shall be established pursuant to the Court's subject matter jurisdiction within the meaning of Treas. Reg. §1.468B-1(c)(1). In addition, the Escrow Agent shall timely make such elections as necessary or advisable to carry out the provisions of this ¶2.11, including the "relation-back election" (as defined in Treas. Reg. §1.468B-1) back to the earliest permitted date. Such elections shall be made in compliance with the procedures and requirements contained in such regulations. It shall be the responsibility of the Escrow Agent to timely and properly prepare and deliver the necessary documentation for signature by all necessary parties, and thereafter to cause the appropriate filing to occur.
- (b) For the purpose of §1.468B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and the regulations promulgated thereunder, the "administrator" (as defined in Treas. Reg. §1.468B-2(k)(3)) shall be the Escrow Agent. The Escrow Agent shall timely and properly file all informational and other federal, state, or local tax returns necessary or advisable with respect to the earnings on the Settlement Fund (including, without limitation, the returns described in Treas. Reg. §1.468B-2(k)). Such returns (as well as the elections described in ¶2.11(a) hereof) shall be consistent with this ¶2.11 and in all events shall reflect that all Taxes (including any estimated Taxes, interest, or penalties) on the income earned by the Settlement Fund shall be paid out of the Settlement Fund as provided in ¶2.11(c) hereof.

All (i) Taxes (including any estimated Taxes, interest, or penalties) arising (c) with respect to the income earned by the Settlement Fund, including any Taxes or tax detriments that may be imposed upon the Released Defendant Parties or their counsel with respect to any income earned by the Settlement Fund for any period, after the deposit of the Settlement Amount, during which the Settlement Fund does not qualify as a "qualified settlement fund" for federal or state income tax purposes, and (ii) expenses and costs incurred in connection with the operation and implementation of this ¶2.11 (including, without limitation, expenses of tax attorneys and/or accountants and mailing and distribution costs and expenses relating to filing (or failing to file) the returns described in this ¶2.11) ("Tax Expenses"), shall be paid out of the Settlement Fund; in all events, the Released Defendant Parties and their counsel shall have no liability or responsibility whatsoever for the Taxes or the Tax Expenses. The Escrow Agent, through the Settlement Fund, shall indemnify and hold each of the Released Defendant Parties and their counsel harmless for Taxes and Tax Expenses (including, without limitation, Taxes payable by reason of any such indemnification). Further, Taxes and Tax Expenses shall be treated as, and considered to be, a cost of administration of the Settlement Fund and shall be timely paid by the Escrow Agent out of the Settlement Fund without prior order from the Court and the Escrow Agent shall be authorized (notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary) to withhold from distribution to Authorized Claimants any funds necessary to pay such amounts, including the establishment of adequate reserves for any Taxes and Tax Expenses (as well as any amounts that may be required to be withheld under Treas. Reg. §1.468B-2(1)(2)); neither the Released Defendant Parties nor their counsel are responsible nor shall they have any liability for any Taxes or Tax Expenses. The Settling Parties hereto agree to cooperate with the Escrow Agent, each other, and their tax attorneys and accountants to the extent reasonably necessary to carry out the provisions of this ¶2.11.

2.12 This is not a claims-made settlement. As of the Effective Date, the Released Defendant Parties, and/or any other Person funding the Settlement on their behalf, shall not have any right to the return of the Settlement Fund or any portion thereof for any reason, and shall not have liability should Claims made exceed the amount available in the Settlement Fund for payment of such Claims. The Released Defendant Parties shall not be liable for the loss of any portion of the Settlement Fund, nor have any liability, obligation, or responsibility for the payment of Claims, Taxes, legal fees, or any other expenses payable from the Settlement Fund.

## d. Termination of Settlement

2.13 In the event that this Stipulation is not approved or the Settlement is not approved, or is terminated, canceled, or the Effective Date otherwise fails to occur for any reason, including, without limitation, in the event the Judgment is reversed or vacated or altered following any appeal taken therefrom, or is successfully collaterally attacked, or otherwise does not become Final, the Settlement Fund less Notice and Administration Expenses or Taxes or Tax Expenses paid, incurred, or due and owing pursuant to ¶¶2.9 and 2.11 hereof in connection with the Settlement provided for herein, shall be refunded pursuant to written instructions from Defendant's counsel in accordance with ¶7.4 herein.

# 3. Preliminary Approval Order and Settlement Hearing

3.1 Immediately following execution of this Stipulation, Lead Counsel shall submit this Stipulation together with its Exhibits to the Court and shall apply for entry of an order (the "Preliminary Approval Order"), substantially in the form of Exhibit A attached hereto, requesting, *inter alia*, the preliminary approval of the Settlement set forth in this Stipulation, and approval for the mailing of a settlement notice (the "Notice") and publication of a summary notice ("Summary Notice"), substantially in the forms of Exhibits A-1 and A-3 attached hereto. The Notice shall

include the general terms of the Settlement set forth in this Stipulation, the proposed Plan of Allocation, the general terms of the Fee and Expense Application, as defined in ¶6.1 hereof, and the date of the Settlement Hearing.

- 3.2 Within ten (10) business days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, SQM shall provide the Claims Administrator, at no cost to Lead Plaintiff or the Class, whatever shareholder records it is reasonably able to obtain from The Bank of New York Mellon, as depositary of the SQM ADSs, containing the names and addresses of purchasers of SQM ADSs during the Class Period. It shall be solely Lead Counsel's responsibility to disseminate the Notice and Summary Notice to the Class in accordance with this Stipulation and as ordered by the Court. Class Members shall have no recourse as to the Released Defendant Parties with respect to any claims they may have that arise from any failure of the notice process.
- 3.3 Lead Counsel shall request that, after notice is given and not earlier than ninety (90) calendar days after the later of the dates on which the appropriate Federal official and the appropriate State officials are provided with notice pursuant to the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005, 28 U.S.C. §1715 *et seq.* ("CAFA"), the Court hold the Settlement Hearing and approve the Settlement of the Litigation as set forth herein. At or after the Settlement Hearing, Lead Counsel also will request that the Court approve the proposed Plan of Allocation and the Fee and Expense Application.

## 4. Releases

4.1 Upon the Effective Date, as defined in ¶1.8 hereof, Lead Plaintiff shall, and each and every Releasing Plaintiff Party shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever waived, released, relinquished, discharged, and dismissed each and every one of the Released Claims against each and every one of the Released Defendant Parties and shall forever be barred and enjoined from commencing, instituting, prosecuting, or maintaining any

and all of the Released Claims against any and all of the Released Defendant Parties, whether or not such Releasing Plaintiff Party executes and delivers the Proof of Claim and Release or shares in the Net Settlement Fund. Claims to enforce the terms of this Stipulation are not released.

- 4.2 Any Proof of Claim and Release that is executed by Class Members shall release all Released Claims against the Released Defendant Parties and shall be substantially in the form contained in Exhibit A-2 attached hereto.
- 4.3 Upon the Effective Date, the Releasing Plaintiff Parties will be forever barred and enjoined from commencing, instituting, prosecuting, or continuing to prosecute any action or other proceeding in any court of law or equity, arbitration tribunal, or administrative forum, asserting the Released Claims against any of the Released Defendant Parties.
- 4.4 Upon the Effective Date, each of the Released Defendant Parties shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished, and discharged all Released Defendant's Claims against Lead Plaintiff, the Class and Lead Plaintiff's Counsel. Claims to enforce the terms of this Stipulation are not released.
  - 5. Administration and Calculation of Claims, Final Awards, and Supervision and Distribution of the Settlement Fund
- 5.1 The Claims Administrator, subject to such supervision and direction of Lead Counsel and the Court as may be necessary or as circumstances may require, shall administer and calculate the Claims submitted by Class Members and shall oversee distribution of the Net Settlement Fund to Authorized Claimants. Other than SQM's obligation to provide the ADS holders' records it is reasonably able to obtain from The Bank of New York Mellon, as depositary of the SQM ADSs, as provided in ¶3.2 above, the Released Defendant Parties and Defendant's counsel shall have no responsibility for or interest whatsoever in the administration of the Settlement or the actions or decisions of the Claims Administrator, and shall have no liability whatsoever to the Releasing

Plaintiff Parties, including Lead Plaintiff, any other Class Members, or Lead Plaintiff's Counsel, in connection with such administration, including, but not limited to: (i) any act, omission, or determination by Lead Counsel, the Escrow Agent, and/or the Claims Administrator, or any of their respective designees or agents, in connection with the administration of the Settlement or otherwise; (ii) the management or investment of the Settlement Fund or the Net Settlement Fund, or the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund; (iii) the Plan of Allocation; (iv) the determination, administration, calculation, or payment of any Claims asserted against the Settlement Fund; (v) any losses suffered by, or fluctuations in value of, the Settlement Fund; or (vi) the payment or withholding of any Taxes, expenses, and/or costs incurred with the taxation of the Settlement Fund or the filing of any federal, state, or local returns.

- 5.2 The Settlement Fund shall be applied as follows:
  - (a) to pay all Notice and Administration Expenses;
  - (b) to pay the Taxes and Tax Expenses;
- (c) to pay attorneys' fees and expenses of Lead Plaintiff's Counsel and to pay any award to Lead Plaintiff for its reasonable costs and expenses (including lost wages) pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §78u-4(a)(4), if and to the extent allowed by the Court (the "Fee and Expense Award"); and
- (d) after the Effective Date, to distribute the Net Settlement Fund to Authorized Claimants as provided by this Stipulation, the Plan of Allocation, or the orders of the Court.
- 5.3 After the Effective Date, and in accordance with the terms of this Stipulation, the Plan of Allocation, or such further approval and further order(s) of the Court as may be necessary or as circumstances may require, the Net Settlement Fund shall be distributed to Authorized Claimants, subject to and in accordance with the following provisions of this Stipulation.

- 5.4 Within ninety (90) calendar days after the mailing of the Notice or such other time as may be set by the Court, each Class Member shall be required to submit to the Claims Administrator a completed Proof of Claim and Release, substantially in the form of Exhibit A-2 attached hereto, signed under penalty of perjury and supported by such documents as are specified in the Proof of Claim and Release.
- 5.5 Except as provided herein or otherwise ordered by the Court, all Class Members who fail to timely submit a valid Proof of Claim and Release, shall be forever barred from receiving any payments pursuant to this Stipulation and the Settlement set forth herein, but will, in all other respects, be subject to and bound by the provisions of this Stipulation, the releases contained herein, and the Judgment, and will be barred from bringing any action against the Released Defendant Parties concerning the Released Claims. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Lead Counsel shall have the discretion (but not an obligation) to accept late-submitted Claims for processing by the Claims Administrator so long as the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund to Authorized Claimants is not materially delayed thereby. No Person shall have any claim against Lead Plaintiff, Lead Plaintiff's Counsel, the Claims Administrator or any Class Member by reason of the exercise or non-exercise of such discretion.
- 5.6 Each Proof of Claim and Release shall be submitted to and reviewed by the Claims Administrator, under the supervision of Lead Counsel, who shall determine, in accordance with this Stipulation and the approved Plan of Allocation, the extent, if any, to which each Claim shall be allowed, subject to review by the Court pursuant to ¶5.8 below.
- 5.7 Proof of Claim and Release forms that do not meet the submission requirements may be rejected. Prior to rejecting a Proof of Claim and Release in whole or in part, the Claims Administrator shall communicate with the claimant in writing to give the claimant the chance to

remedy any curable deficiencies in the Proof of Claim and Release submitted. The Claims Administrator, under the supervision of Lead Counsel, shall notify, in a timely fashion and in writing, all claimants whose Claims the Claims Administrator proposes to reject in whole or in part for curable deficiencies, setting forth the reasons therefor, and shall indicate in such notice that the claimant whose Claim is to be rejected has the right to a review by the Court if the claimant so desires and complies with the requirements of ¶5.8 below.

- 5.8 If any claimant whose timely Claim has been rejected in whole or in part for curable deficiency desires to contest such rejection, the claimant must, within twenty (20) calendar days after the date of mailing of the notice required in ¶5.7 above, or a lesser period of time if the Claim was untimely, serve upon the Claims Administrator a notice and statement of reasons indicating the claimant's grounds for contesting the rejection along with any supporting documentation, and requesting a review thereof by the Court. If a dispute concerning a Claim cannot be otherwise resolved, Lead Counsel shall thereafter present the claimant's request for review to the Court.
- Each claimant who declines to be excluded from the Class shall be deemed to have submitted to the jurisdiction of the Court with respect to the claimant's Claim, including, but not limited to, all releases provided for herein and in the Judgment, and the Claim will be subject to investigation and discovery under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, provided that such investigation and discovery shall be limited to the claimant's status as a Class Member and the validity and amount of the claimant's Claim. In connection with processing the Proofs of Claim and Release, no discovery shall be allowed on the merits of the Litigation or the Settlement. All proceedings with respect to the administration, processing and determination of Claims and the determination of all controversies relating thereto, including disputed questions of law and fact with respect to the validity of Claims, shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Court, but shall not, in any

event, delay or affect the finality of the Judgment. All Class Members, other claimants, and parties to this Settlement expressly waive trial by jury (to the extent any such right may exist) and any right of appeal or review with respect to such determinations.

- 5.10 Following the Effective Date, the Net Settlement Fund shall be distributed to the Authorized Claimants substantially in accordance with the Plan of Allocation set forth in the Notice and approved by the Court. No distributions will be made to Authorized Claimants who would otherwise receive a distribution of less than \$10.00. If there is any balance remaining in the Net Settlement Fund after a reasonable period of time after the date of the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund, the Claims Administrator at Lead Counsel's direction shall, if feasible, redistribute such balance among Authorized Claimants who negotiated the checks sent in the initial distribution and who would receive a minimum of \$10.00. These redistributions shall be repeated until the balance remaining in the Net Settlement Fund is *de minimis*. Any *de minimis* balance that still remains in the Net Settlement Fund after such reallocation(s) and payments, which is not feasible or economical to reallocate, shall be donated to an appropriate non-sectarian, non-profit charitable organization(s) unaffiliated with any party or their counsel serving the public interest selected by Lead Counsel and approved by the Court.
- 5.11 The Released Defendant Parties shall have no responsibility for, interest in, or liability whatsoever with respect to the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund, the Plan of Allocation, the determination, administration, or calculation of Claims, the payment or withholding of Taxes or Tax Expenses, or any losses incurred in connection therewith. No Person shall have any claim of any kind against the Released Defendant Parties with respect to the matters set forth in ¶5.1-5.13 hereof; and the Releasing Plaintiff Parties release the Released Defendant Parties from

any and all liability and claims arising from or with respect to the administration, investment, or distribution of the Settlement Fund.

- 5.12 No Person shall have any claim against the Released Defendant Parties, Lead Plaintiff, Lead Plaintiff's Counsel or the Claims Administrator, or any other Person designated by Lead Counsel based on determinations or distributions made substantially in accordance with this Stipulation and the Settlement contained herein, the Plan of Allocation, or further order(s) of the Court.
- 5.13 It is understood and agreed by the Settling Parties that any proposed Plan of Allocation of the Net Settlement Fund, including, but not limited to, any adjustments to an Authorized Claimant's Claim set forth therein, is not a part of this Stipulation and is to be considered by the Court separately from the Court's consideration of the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Settlement set forth in this Stipulation, and any order or proceeding relating to the Plan of Allocation shall not operate to terminate or cancel this Stipulation or affect the finality of the Court's Judgment approving this Stipulation and the Settlement set forth herein, or any other orders entered pursuant to the Stipulation.

# 6. Lead Plaintiff's Counsel's Attorneys' Fees and Expenses

6.1 Lead Counsel may submit an application or applications (the "Fee and Expense Application") from the Settlement Fund for: (a) an award of attorneys' fees; plus (b) expenses or charges in connection with prosecuting the Litigation; plus (c) any interest earned on such attorneys' fees and expenses at the same rate and for the same periods as earned by the Settlement Fund (until paid) as may be awarded by the Court. An application for fees and expenses may include a request for reimbursement of Lead Plaintiff's reasonable costs and expenses in connection with its

representation of the Class pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §78u-4(a)(4). Lead Counsel reserves the right to make additional applications for fees and expenses incurred.

- discretion of the Court. Any fees and expenses, as awarded by the Court is within the sole discretion of the Court. Any fees and expenses, as awarded by the Court, shall be paid to Lead Counsel from the Settlement Fund, as ordered, immediately after the Court executes the Judgment and an order awarding such fees and expenses, notwithstanding the existence of any timely filed objections thereto or to the Settlement, or potential for appeal therefrom, or collateral attack on the Settlement or any part thereof. Lead Counsel may thereafter allocate the attorneys' fees among Lead Plaintiff's Counsel in a manner in which it in good faith believes reflects the contributions of such counsel to the initiation, prosecution, and resolution of the Litigation.
- 6.3 In the event that the Effective Date does not occur, or the Judgment or the order making the Fee and Expense Award is reversed or modified, or this Stipulation is canceled or terminated for any other reason, and such reversal, modification, cancellation or termination becomes Final and not subject to review, and in the event that the Fee and Expense Award has been paid to any extent, then Lead Counsel, including its partners and/or shareholders, and such other Lead Plaintiff's Counsel, including their law firms, partners, and/or shareholders, and Lead Plaintiff who have received any portion of the Fee and Expense Award shall, within five (5) business days from receiving notice from Defendant's counsel or from a court of appropriate jurisdiction, refund to the Settlement Fund all such fees and expenses previously paid to them from the Settlement Fund plus interest thereon at the same rate as earned by the Settlement Fund in an amount consistent with such reversal, modification, cancellation or termination, and such fees and expenses shall be returned to the Settlement Fund in accordance with ¶7.4. Any refunds required pursuant to this ¶6.3 shall be the several obligation of Lead Plaintiff's Counsel, including their law firms, partners, and/or

shareholders, and Lead Plaintiff that received fees or expenses to make appropriate refunds or repayments to the Settlement Fund. Each such Lead Plaintiff's Counsel or Lead Plaintiff receiving an award of fees and expenses, as a condition of receiving such fees and expenses, on behalf of itself and each partner and/or shareholder of it, agrees that (a) such Person and its partners, shareholders, and/or members are subject to the jurisdiction of the Court for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this paragraph, and (b) are jointly and severally liable for the full amount of all fees, expenses, and/or costs paid to them from the Settlement Fund together with the interest paid thereon. Without limitation, Lead Plaintiff's Counsel and Lead Plaintiff and their partners, shareholders, and/or members agree that the Court may, upon application of Defendant and notice to Lead Plaintiff's Counsel, summarily issue orders, including, but not limited to, judgments and attachment orders, and may make appropriate findings of or sanctions for contempt, should such law firms or their partners, shareholders, or members fail to timely repay fees and expenses pursuant to this paragraph.

6.4 The procedure for and the allowance or disallowance by the Court of any applications by any Lead Plaintiff's Counsel for attorneys' fees and expenses to be paid out of the Settlement Fund is not part of the Settlement set forth in this Stipulation, and is to be considered by the Court separately from the Court's consideration of the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Settlement set forth in this Stipulation, and shall have no effect on the terms of the Stipulation or on the validity or enforceability of this Settlement. The approval of the Settlement, and it becoming Final, shall not be contingent on the award of attorneys' fees and expenses, any award to Lead Plaintiff, Lead Counsel, or Lead Plaintiff's Counsel, nor any appeals from such awards. Any order or proceeding relating to the Fee and Expense Application, or any appeal from any order relating thereto or reversal or modification thereof, shall not operate to terminate or cancel this Stipulation, or

affect or delay the finality of the Judgment approving this Stipulation and the Settlement of the Litigation set forth therein, or any other orders entered pursuant to the Stipulation of Settlement.

- 6.5 Any fees and/or expenses awarded by the Court shall be paid solely from the Settlement Fund. With the sole exception of Defendant's obligation to pay or cause the Settlement Amount to be paid into the Escrow Account as provided for in ¶2.2, the Released Defendant Parties shall have no responsibility for, and no liability whatsoever with respect to, any payment of attorneys' fees and/or expenses (including Taxes) to Lead Plaintiff's Counsel, or any other counsel or Person who receives payment from the Settlement Fund.
- 6.6 The Released Defendant Parties shall have no responsibility for, and no liability whatsoever with respect to, the allocation among Lead Plaintiff's Counsel and/or any other Person who may assert some claim thereto, of any Fee and Expense Award that the Court may make in the Litigation.
- 6.7 The Released Defendant Parties shall have no responsibility for, and no liability whatsoever with respect to, any attorneys' fees, costs, or expenses (including Taxes) incurred by or on behalf of any Class Member, whether or not paid from the Escrow Account.

# 7. Conditions of Settlement, Effect of Disapproval, Cancellation, or Termination

- 7.1 The Effective Date of the Settlement shall be conditioned on the occurrence of all of the following events:
- (a) the Court has entered the Preliminary Approval Order directing notice to the Class, as required by ¶3.1 hereof;
  - (b) the Settlement Amount has been deposited into the Escrow Account;
- (c) Defendant has not exercised its option to terminate the Stipulation pursuant to \$\\$7.3 hereof;

- (d) the Court has entered the Judgment, or a judgment substantially in the form of Exhibit B attached hereto; and
  - (e) the Judgment has become Final, as defined in ¶1.10 hereof.
- 7.2 Upon the Effective Date, any and all remaining interest or right of the Defendant in or to the Settlement Fund, if any, shall be absolutely and forever extinguished. The Released Defendant Parties shall not have any liability, obligation, or responsibility for the payment of Claims, Taxes, legal fees, or any other expenses payable from the Settlement Fund. If the conditions specified in ¶7.1 hereof are not met, then the Settlement shall be canceled and terminated subject to ¶¶7.4-7.6 hereof unless the Settling Parties mutually agree in writing to proceed with the Settlement. For avoidance of doubt, no order of the Court or modification or reversal on appeal of any order of the Court concerning the Plan of Allocation or the amount of any attorneys' fees, expenses, and interest awarded by the Court to Lead Counsel or expenses to Lead Plaintiff shall operate to terminate or cancel this Stipulation or constitute grounds for cancellation or termination of the Stipulation.
- 7.3 Each of Lead Plaintiff and Defendant shall have the right to terminate the Settlement and this Stipulation by providing written notice of their election to do so ("Termination Notice") to all other parties hereto within thirty (30) calendar days of: (a) the Court's refusal to enter an order preliminarily approving the Settlement and/or permitting Notice of the Settlement to Class Members; (b) the Court's refusal to approve the Settlement; (c) the Court's refusal to enter the Judgment; (d) the date upon which the Judgment is reversed or vacated or altered following any appeal taken therefrom, or is successfully collaterally attacked, or otherwise does not become Final; or (e) the failure of the Effective Date to occur for any reason. Only Defendant shall have the right to terminate the Settlement and render it null and void in the event that Persons who would otherwise

be Members of the Class who purchased more than a certain number of SQM ADSs subject to this Settlement exclude themselves from the Class, as set forth in a separate agreement (the "Supplemental Agreement") executed between Lead Plaintiff and Defendant, by and through their counsel. The Settling Parties agree to maintain the confidentiality of the Supplemental Agreement, which is being executed concurrently herewith. The Supplemental Agreement shall not be filed with the Court unless and until the Court requires the Settling Parties to file the Supplemental Agreement or disclose its terms. If submission of the Supplemental Agreement is ordered by the Court, the Settling Parties will seek to have the Supplemental Agreement submitted to the Court *in camera* or filed under seal, but such disclosure shall be carried out to the fullest extent possible in accordance with the practices of the Court so as to preserve the confidentiality of the Supplemental Agreement, particularly the threshold aggregate number of SQM ADSs.

This Stipulation or the Settlement is terminated, or canceled, or the Effective Date otherwise fails to occur for any reason, including, without limitation, in the event the Judgment is reversed or vacated or altered following any appeal taken therefrom, or is successfully collaterally attacked, or otherwise does not become Final, within ten (10) business days after written notification of such event is sent by Defendant's counsel or Lead Counsel to the Escrow Agent, the Settlement Fund (including accrued interest), less Taxes, Tax Expenses and Notice and Administration Expenses which have either been disbursed pursuant to ¶2.9 and/or 2.11 hereof, or are chargeable to the Settlement Fund pursuant to ¶2.9 and/or 2.11 hereof, shall be refunded by the Escrow Agent to the Persons who contributed to the Settlement Fund in proportion to their respective contribution. Such refunds shall be pursuant to written instructions from Defendant's counsel. The Escrow Agent or its designee shall apply for any tax refund owed on the Settlement Amount and pay the proceeds, after deduction

of any fees or expenses incurred in connection with such application(s) for refund to the same Persons in the same manner as the Settlement Fund described in this ¶7.4. Such payments shall be pursuant to written instructions from Defendant's counsel.

- In the event that this Stipulation is not approved or this Stipulation or the Settlement is terminated, canceled, or the Effective Date otherwise fails to occur for any reason, the Settling Parties shall be restored to their respective positions in the Litigation as of November 11, 2020. In such event, the terms and provisions of the Stipulation, with the exception of ¶1.1-1.31, 2.7-2.9, 2.11-2.13, 6.3, 7.4-7.6, 8.1, and 9.7 hereof, shall have no further force and effect with respect to the Settling Parties and shall not be used in this Litigation or in any other proceeding for any purpose, and any judgment or order entered by the Court in accordance with the terms of this Stipulation shall be treated as vacated, *nunc pro tunc*. No order of the Court or modification or reversal on appeal of any order of the Court concerning the Plan of Allocation or any Fee and Expense Award shall operate to terminate or cancel this Stipulation or constitute grounds for cancellation or termination of this Stipulation.
- 7.6 If the Effective Date does not occur, or if this Stipulation is terminated pursuant to its terms, neither Lead Plaintiff nor Lead Plaintiff's Counsel shall have any obligation to repay any amounts disbursed pursuant to ¶¶2.9 or 2.11. In addition, any amounts already incurred pursuant to ¶¶2.9 or 2.11 hereof at the time of such termination or cancellation but which have not been paid, shall be paid by the Escrow Agent in accordance with the terms of this Stipulation prior to the balance being refunded in accordance with ¶¶2.13 and 7.4 hereof.

## 8. No Admission of Liability

8.1 Neither the Settlement, this Stipulation (whether or not consummated), including the Exhibits hereto and the Plan of Allocation contained therein (or any other plan of allocation that may

be approved by the Court), the negotiations leading to the execution of this Stipulation and the Settlement, nor any proceedings, communications, drafts, documents or agreements taken pursuant to or in connection with this Stipulation, and/or approval of the Settlement (including any arguments proffered in connection therewith):

- (a) shall be offered or received against Defendant as evidence of or construed as or deemed to be evidence of any presumption, concession, or admission by Defendant of the truth of any allegations by Lead Plaintiff or any Member of the Class or the validity of any claim that has been or could have been asserted in the Litigation, or the deficiency of any defense that has been or could have been asserted in the Litigation or in any other litigation, including, but not limited to, litigation of the Released Claims, or of any liability, negligence, fault, or wrongdoing of any kind of Defendant or in any way referred to for any other reason as against Defendant, in any civil, criminal, or administrative action or proceeding, other than such proceedings as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of this Stipulation;
- (b) shall be offered or received against or to the prejudice of Defendant as evidence of a presumption, concession, or admission of liability for any fault, misrepresentation, or omission with respect to any statement or written document approved or made by Defendant, or against Lead Plaintiff or any Member of the Class as evidence of any infirmity in the claims of Lead Plaintiff and the Class;
- (c) shall be offered or received against Defendant as evidence of a presumption, concession, or admission of any liability, negligence, fault, or wrongdoing or in any way referred to for any other reason as against any of the parties to this Stipulation, in any other civil, criminal, or administrative action or proceeding; provided, however, that if this Stipulation is approved by the

Court, Defendant and its Related Parties may refer to it to effectuate the release granted them hereunder; or

(d) shall be construed against Defendant, Lead Plaintiff, or the Class as evidence of a presumption, concession or admission that the consideration to be given hereunder represents the amount which could be or would have been recovered after trial or in any proceeding other than this Settlement.

### 9. Miscellaneous Provisions

- 9.1 The Settling Parties: (a) acknowledge that it is their intent to consummate this Settlement; and (b) agree to cooperate to the extent reasonably necessary to effectuate and implement all terms and conditions of this Stipulation and to exercise their best efforts to accomplish the foregoing terms and conditions of this Stipulation.
- 9.2 The Settling Parties intend this Settlement to be a final and complete resolution of all disputes between the Class and the Defendant with respect to the Litigation. The Settlement shall not be deemed an admission by any Settling Party as to the merits of any claim or defense. The Judgment will contain a finding that, during the course of the Litigation, the Settling Parties and their respective counsel at all times complied with the requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11. The Settling Parties agree that the Settlement Amount and the other terms of the Settlement were negotiated in good faith by the Settling Parties, and reflect a settlement that was reached voluntarily after consultation with competent legal counsel.
- 9.3 The Settling Parties and their counsel agree not to assert in any statement made to any media representative (whether or not for attribution) that the Litigation was commenced or prosecuted by Lead Plaintiff or defended by Defendant in bad faith or without a reasonable basis, nor will they deny that the Litigation was commenced and prosecuted and defended in good faith and is

Parties and their counsel shall not make any accusations of wrongful or actionable conduct by any party concerning the prosecution, defenses and resolution of the Litigation, and shall not otherwise suggest that the Settlement constitutes an admission of any claim or defense alleged. The Settling Parties reserve their right to rebut, in a manner that such party determines to be appropriate, any contention made in any public forum regarding the Litigation, including that the Litigation was brought or defended in bad faith or without a reasonable basis.

- 9.4 Defendant and/or the Released Defendant Parties may file this Stipulation and/or the Judgment from this action in any other action in order to support a defense or counterclaim based on principles of *res judicata*, collateral estoppel, release, statute of limitations, statute of repose, good faith settlement, judgment bar or reduction, or any theory of claim preclusion or issue preclusion or similar defense or counterclaim, or to effectuate any liability protection under any applicable insurance policy. The Settling Parties may file this Stipulation and/or the Judgment in any action that may be brought to enforce the terms of this Stipulation and/or the Judgment. All Settling Parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Court for purposes of implementing and enforcing the Settlement.
- 9.5 All agreements made and orders entered during the course of the Litigation relating to the confidentiality of information shall survive this Stipulation.
- 9.6 All of the Exhibits to this Stipulation and the Supplemental Agreement are material and integral parts hereof and are fully incorporated herein by this reference.
- 9.7 This Stipulation, along with its Exhibits and the Supplemental Agreement, may be amended or modified only by a written instrument signed by or on behalf of all Settling Parties or their respective successors-in-interest.

- 9.8 This Stipulation and the Exhibits attached hereto together with the Supplemental Agreement constitute the entire agreement among the Settling Parties hereto as to the subject matter hereof and supersede any prior or contemporaneous written or oral agreements or understandings between the Settling Parties. No representations, warranties, or inducements have been made to any party concerning this Stipulation, its Exhibits, or the Supplemental Agreement, other than the representations, warranties, and covenants contained and memorialized in such documents.
- 9.9 Except as otherwise provided herein, or otherwise agreed to in writing by the parties hereto, each party shall bear his, her, or its own fees and costs.
- 9.10 Lead Counsel, on behalf of the Class, is expressly authorized by Lead Plaintiff to take all appropriate action required or permitted to be taken by the Class pursuant to this Stipulation to effectuate its terms and also is expressly authorized to enter into any modifications or amendments to this Stipulation on behalf of the Class which it deems appropriate.
- 9.11 Each counsel or other Person executing this Stipulation, its Exhibits, the Supplemental Agreement, or any related Settlement document, on behalf of any party hereto hereby warrants that such Person has the full authority to do so, and that they have the authority to take appropriate action required or permitted to be taken pursuant to the Stipulation to effectuate its terms, without requiring additional consent, approval, or authorization of any other Person, board, entity, tribunal, or other regulatory or governmental authority.
- 9.12 This Stipulation may be executed in one or more counterparts. All executed counterparts and each of them shall be deemed to be one and the same instrument. A complete set of executed counterparts shall be filed with the Court. Signatures sent by facsimile or pdf'd via e-mail shall be deemed originals.

9.13 All notices, requests, demands, claims, and other communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed duly given (i) when delivered personally to the recipient, (ii) one (1) business day after being sent to the recipient by reputable overnight courier service (charges prepaid), or (iii) seven (7) business days after being mailed to the recipient by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested and postage prepaid, and addressed to the intended recipient as set forth below:

#### If to Lead Plaintiff or to Lead Counsel:

ROBBINS GELLER RUDMAN & DOWD LLP ELLEN GUSIKOFF STEWART 655 West Broadway, Suite 1900 San Diego, CA 92101

#### If to the Defendant or Defendant's counsel:

MILBANK LLP GRANT R. MAINLAND 55 Hudson Yards New York, NY 10001

- 9.14 This Stipulation shall be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors and assigns of the Settling Parties.
- 9.15 The Court shall retain jurisdiction with respect to implementation and enforcement of the terms of this Stipulation, and all Settling Parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Court for purposes of implementing and enforcing the Settlement embodied in this Stipulation and matters related to the Settlement.
- 9.16 The waiver by one Settling Party of any breach of this Stipulation by any other party shall not be deemed a waiver by any other Settling Party or a waiver of any other prior or subsequent breach of this Stipulation.

- 9.17 Pending approval of the Court of this Stipulation and its Exhibits, all non-settlement-related proceedings in this Litigation shall be stayed and all Members of the Class shall be barred and enjoined from prosecuting any of the Released Claims against any of the Released Defendant Parties.
- 9.18 This Stipulation, its Exhibits and the Supplemental Agreement shall be considered to have been negotiated, executed and delivered, and to be wholly performed, in the State of New York and the rights and obligations of the parties to the Stipulation shall be construed and enforced in accordance with, and governed by, the internal, substantive laws of the State of New York without giving effect to its choice-of-law principles, except to the extent that federal law requires that federal law govern.
- 9.19 The headings herein are used for the purpose of convenience only and are not meant to have legal effect.
- 9.20 This Stipulation shall not be construed more strictly against one party than another merely by virtue of the fact that it, or any part of it, may have been prepared by counsel for one of the Settling Parties, it being recognized that it is the result of arm's-length negotiations between the Settling Parties and the Settling Parties have contributed substantially and materially to the preparation of this Stipulation.
- 9.21 Nothing in the Stipulation, or the negotiations relating thereto, is intended to or shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of any applicable privilege or immunity, including, without limitation, attorney-client privilege, joint defense privilege, or work product protection.

9.22 Unless otherwise provided, the Settling Parties may agree to reasonable extensions of time to carry out any of the provisions of this Stipulation without further order of the Court.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused the Stipulation to be executed, by their duly authorized attorneys, dated December 11, 2020.

ROBBINS GELLER RUDMAN & DOWD LLP AELISH M. BAIG MATTHEW S. MELAMED ARMEN ZOHRABIAN JOHN H. GEORGE

AELISH M. BAIG

Post Montgomery Center
One Montgomery Street, Suite 1800
San Francisco, CA 94104
Telephone: 415/288-4545
415/288-4534 (fax)
aelishb@rgrdlaw.com
mmelamed@rgrdlaw.com
azohrabian@rgrdlaw.com
jgeorge@rgrdlaw.com

ROBBINS GELLER RUDMAN & DOWD LLP SAMUEL H. RUDMAN 58 South Service Road, Suite 200 Melville, NY 11747 Telephone: 631/367-7100 631/367-1173 (fax) srudman@rgrdlaw.com

ROBBINS GELLER RUDMAN & DOWD LLP
DANIEL S. DROSMAN
ELLEN GUSIKOFF STEWART
655 West Broadway, Suite 1900
San Diego, CA 92101
Telephone: 619/231-1058
619/231-7423 (fax)
elleng@rgrdlaw.com
ddrosman@rgrdlaw.com

ROBBINS GELLER RUDMAN & DOWD LLP
SABRINA E. TIRABASSI
120 East Palmetto Park Road, Suite 500
Boca Raton, FL 33432
Telephone: 561/750-3000
561/750-3364 (fax)
stirabassi@rgrdlaw.com

Lead Counsel for Plaintiff

MILBANK LLP SCOTT A. EDELMAN GRANT R. MAINLAND ALISON BONELLI

GRANT R. MAINLAND

55 Hudson Yards New York, NY 10001 Telephone: 212/530-5000 gmainland@milbank.com

Counsel for Defendant SQM

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I Aelish M. Baig, hereby certify that on December 11, 2020, I authorized a true and correct copy of the foregoing document to be electronically filed with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system, which will send notification of such public filing to all counsel registered to receive such notice.

/s/ Aelish M. Baig AELISH M. BAIG

# INDEX OF EXHIBITS TO STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT

DOCUMENT	EXHIBIT
[Proposed] Order Preliminarily Approving Settlement	A
and Providing for Notice	
Notice of Pendency and Proposed Settlement of Class	A-1
Action	
Proof of Claim and Release	A-2
	A 2
Summary Notice of Proposed Settlement of Class	A-3
Action	
[Proposed] Final Judgment and Order of Dismissal	В
with Prejudice	

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MEGAN VILLELLA, Individually and on Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,

: Civil Action No. 1:15-cv-02106-ER-GWG: (Consolidated)

Plaintiff,

**CLASS ACTION** 

VS.

[PROPOSED] ORDER PRELIMINARILY APPROVING SETTLEMENT AND PROVIDING FOR NOTICE

CHEMICAL AND MINING COMPANY OF CHILE INC., et al.,

EXHIBIT A

- x

Defendants.

WHEREAS, an action is pending before this Court entitled *Villella v. Chemical and Mining Company of Chile Inc.*, No. 1:15-cv-02106-ER-GWG (S.D.N.Y.) (the "Litigation");

WHEREAS, the parties having made application, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(e), for an order preliminarily approving the Settlement of this Litigation, in accordance with a Stipulation of Settlement dated December 11, 2020 (the "Stipulation"), which, together with the Exhibits annexed thereto, sets forth the terms and conditions for a proposed Settlement of the Litigation and for dismissal of the Litigation with prejudice upon the terms and conditions set forth therein; and the Court having read and considered the Stipulation and the Exhibits annexed thereto;

WHEREAS, the Court preliminarily finds that:

- (a) the Settlement resulted from informed, extensive arm's-length negotiations between experienced counsel following mediation under the direction of an experienced mediator, the Hon. Layn R. Phillips (Ret.);
- (b) the proposed Settlement eliminates risks to the Settling Parties of continued litigation;
- (c) the Settlement does not provide undue preferential treatment to Lead Plaintiff or to segments of the Class;
- (d) the Settlement does not provide excessive compensation to counsel for Lead Plaintiff; and
- (e) the Settlement appears to fall within the range of possible approval and is therefore sufficiently fair, reasonable and adequate to warrant providing notice of the Settlement to the Class; and

WHEREAS, unless otherwise defined, all capitalized terms used herein have the same meanings as set forth in the Stipulation.

#### NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The Court hereby preliminarily approves the Settlement set forth in the Stipulation, subject to further consideration at the Settlement Hearing described below.
- 2. The Court preliminarily finds that the proposed Settlement should be approved as:
  (i) the result of serious, extensive arm's-length and non-collusive negotiations; (ii) falling within a range of reasonableness warranting final approval; (iii) having no obvious deficiencies; and (iv) warranting notice of the proposed Settlement to Class Members and further consideration of the Settlement at the Settlement Hearing described below.
- 3. A hearing (the "Settlement Hearing") shall be held before this Court on \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2021, at \_\_\_\_\_\_.m. (a date that is at least 100 calendar days from entry of this Order), at the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse, 500 Pearl Street, New York, NY 10007, to determine: (a) whether the proposed Settlement of the Litigation on the terms and conditions provided for in the Stipulation is fair, reasonable, and adequate to the Class and should be approved by the Court; (b) whether a Judgment, as provided in ¶1.11 of the Stipulation, should be entered; (c) whether the proposed Plan of Allocation is fair, reasonable, and adequate and should be approved; (d) the amount of fees and expenses that should be awarded to Lead Counsel and Lead Plaintiff; and (e) any such other matters as the Court may deem appropriate. The Court may adjourn the Settlement Hearing or decide to hold the Settlement Hearing telephonically or by videoconference without further notice to the Members of the Class, and may approve the proposed Settlement with such modifications as the Settling Parties may agree to, if appropriate, without further notice to the Class.
- 4. The Court approves, as to form and content, the Notice of Pendency and Proposed Settlement of Class Action (the "Notice"), the Proof of Claim and Release form (the "Proof of

Claim"), and Summary Notice of Proposed Settlement of Class Action (the "Summary Notice") annexed hereto as Exhibits A-1, A-2, and A-3, respectively, and finds that the mailing and distribution of the Notice and publishing of the Summary Notice, substantially in the manner and form set forth in ¶6 of this Order, meet the requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23, the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, and due process, and is the best notice practicable under the circumstances and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to all Persons entitled thereto.

- 5. All fees, costs, and expenses incurred in identifying and notifying potential Class Members shall be paid from the Settlement Fund as set forth in the Stipulation, and in no event shall any of the Released Persons bear any responsibility for such fees, costs, or expenses. Notwithstanding the foregoing, SQM shall be responsible for the costs and expenses of obtaining whatever shareholder records it is reasonably able to obtain from The Bank of New York Mellon, as depositary of the SQM ADSs, containing the names and addresses of purchasers of SQM ADSs during the Class Period pursuant to ¶3.2 of the Stipulation.
- 6. The firm of Gilardi & Co. LLC ("Claims Administrator") is hereby appointed to supervise and administer the notice procedure as well as the processing of Claims as more fully set forth below:
- (a) SQM shall provide to the Claims Administrator, at no cost to Lead Plaintiff or the Class, within ten (10) business days after the Court signs this Order, whatever shareholder records it is reasonably able to obtain from The Bank of New York Mellon, as depositary of the SQM ADSs, containing the names and addresses of Persons who purchased SQM ADSs during the Class Period;
- (b) Not later than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2021 (the "Notice Date") (a date twenty-one (21) calendar days after entry by this Court of this Order), the Claims Administrator shall commence

mailing the Notice and Proof of Claim, substantially in the forms annexed hereto, by First-Class Mail to all potential Class Members who can be identified with reasonable effort and post the Notice and Proof of Claim on its website at www.SQMSecuritiesSettlement.com;

- (c) Not later than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2021 (a date seven (7) calendar days after the Notice Date), the Claims Administrator shall cause the Summary Notice to be published once in the national edition of *The Wall Street Journal* and once over a national newswire service; and
- (d) At least seven (7) calendar days prior to the Settlement Hearing, Lead Counsel shall serve on Defendant's counsel and file with the Court proof, by affidavit or declaration, of such mailing and publishing.
- 7. Nominees who purchased SQM ADSs during the Class Period for the beneficial ownership of potential Class Members shall send the Notice and the Proof of Claim to all such beneficial owners of SQM ADSs within ten (10) calendar days after receipt thereof, or send a list of the names and addresses of such beneficial owners to the Claims Administrator within ten (10) calendar days of receipt thereof, in which event the Claims Administrator shall promptly mail the Notice and Proof of Claim to such beneficial owners. Nominee purchasers who elect to send the Notice and Proof of Claim to their beneficial owners shall send a statement to the Claims Administrator confirming that the mailing was made as directed. Additional copies of the Notice shall be made available to any record holder requesting such for the purpose of distribution to beneficial owners, and Lead Counsel shall, upon receipt by the Claims Administrator of proper documentation, reimburse banks, brokerage houses or other nominees solely for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in providing notice to beneficial owners who are potential Class Members out of the Settlement Fund, which expenses would not have been incurred except for the

sending of such notice, subject to further order of this Court with respect to any dispute concerning such compensation.

- 8. Class Members shall be bound by all determinations and judgments in the Litigation concerning the Settlement, including, but not limited to, the releases provided for therein, whether favorable or unfavorable to the Class, whether or not such Class Members submit Proofs of Claim or otherwise seek or obtain by any means any distribution from the Settlement Fund.
- 10. Any Class Member that opts out of the Class or otherwise has settled claims with Defendant for claims arising out of the conduct alleged in the Litigation is hereby enjoined from submitting a Proof of Claim or having another person or entity submit a Proof of Claim on its behalf.
- 11. Any Class Member may enter an appearance in the Litigation, at his, her, or its own expense, individually or through counsel of their own choice. Any Class Member who does not enter an appearance will be represented by Lead Counsel.

- 12. Any Person who purchased SQM ADSs during the Class Period may, upon request, be excluded or "opt out" from the Class. Any such Person must submit to the Claims Administrator a signed request for exclusion ("Request for Exclusion") such that it is postmarked no later than , 2021 (a date that is twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the Settlement Hearing). A Request for Exclusion must state: (i) the name, address, and telephone number of the Person requesting exclusion; (ii) a list identifying the number of SQM ADSs and date of each purchase of SQM ADSs and the price paid for any purchase of SQM ADSs between June 30, 2010 and March 18, 2015, inclusive; and (iii) that the Person wishes to be excluded from the Class. All Persons who submit valid and timely Requests for Exclusion in the manner set forth in this paragraph and the Notice shall have no rights under the Settlement, shall not share in the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund, and shall not be bound by the Settlement or any final Judgment. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, any Person who purchased SQM ADSs during the Class Period who fails to timely request exclusion from the Class in compliance with this paragraph shall be deemed to have waived his, her, or its right to be excluded from the Class, and shall be barred from requesting exclusion from the Class in this or any other proceeding.
- 13. Lead Counsel or the Claims Administrator shall cause to be provided to Defendant's counsel copies of all Requests for Exclusion, and any written revocation of Requests for Exclusion, promptly upon receipt and as expeditiously as possible, but in no event later than five (5) business days of receipt thereof, and in any event, not less than fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the Settlement Hearing.
- 14. Any Class Member may file a written objection to the proposed Settlement and show cause why the proposed Settlement of the Litigation should not be approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate, why a judgment should not be entered thereon, why the Plan of Allocation should not be

approved, or why attorneys' fees and expenses should not be awarded to Lead Counsel, provided, however, that no Class Member or any other Person shall be heard or entitled to contest such matters, unless that Person has delivered by hand or sent by First-Class Mail written objections and copies of any papers and briefs such that they are received, not simply postmarked, on or before , 2021 (a date that is twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the Settlement Hearing), by Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP, Ellen Gusikoff Stewart, 655 West Broadway, Suite 1900, San Diego, CA 92101; Milbank LLP, Grant R. Mainland, 55 Hudson Yards, New York, NY 10001, and filed said objections, papers, and briefs with the Clerk of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse, 500 Pearl Street, New York, NY 10007 on or before , 2021 (a date that is twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the Settlement Hearing). Any Class Member who does not make his, her, or its objection in the manner provided herein and in the Notice shall be deemed to have waived such objection and shall forever be foreclosed from making any objection to the fairness or adequacy of the proposed Settlement as set forth in the Stipulation, to the Plan of Allocation, or to the award of attorneys' fees and expenses to Lead Counsel or expenses of Lead Plaintiff, unless otherwise ordered by the Court. Attendance at the Settlement Hearing is not necessary. However, Persons wishing to be heard orally in opposition to approval of the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, and/or the award of attorneys' fees and expenses to Lead Counsel are required to indicate in their written objection their intention to appear at the Settlement Hearing. Class Members do not need to appear at the Settlement Hearing or take any action if they do not oppose any aspect of the Settlement.

15. Any objections, filings, and other submissions by an objecting Class Member must: (i) state the name, address, and telephone number of the Person objecting and must be signed by the objector; (ii) contain a statement of the Class Member's objection or objections, and the specific

reasons for each objection, including any legal and evidentiary support the Class Member wishes to bring to the Court's attention and whether the objection applies only to the objector, a specific subset of the Class, or to the entire Class; and (iii) include documents sufficient to prove membership in the Class, including the objecting Class Member's purchases and sales of SQM ADSs during the Class Period, including the dates, the number of SQM ADSs purchased or sold, and price paid or received for each such purchase or sale.

- 16. All funds held by the Escrow Agent shall be deemed and considered to be in *custodia legis* of the Court, and shall remain subject to the jurisdiction of the Court, until such time as such funds shall be distributed pursuant to the Stipulation and/or further order(s) of the Court.
- Allocation, and any application by Lead Counsel for attorneys' fees and expenses shall be filed and served by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2021 (a date that is thirty-five (35) calendar days prior to the Settlement Hearing). Replies to any objections shall be filed and served by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2021 (a date that is seven (7) calendar days prior to the Settlement Hearing).
- 18. Neither the Defendant and its Related Parties nor Defendant's counsel shall have any responsibility for the Plan of Allocation or any application for attorneys' fees or expenses submitted by Lead Counsel or expenses of Lead Plaintiff, and such matters will be considered separately from the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Settlement. Any order or proceeding relating to the Plan of Allocation or any application for attorneys' fees or expenses, or any appeal from any order relating thereto or reversal or modification thereof, shall not operate to terminate or cancel the Stipulation, or affect or delay the finality of the Judgment and the settlement of the Litigation.

- 19. At or after the Settlement Hearing, the Court shall determine whether the Plan of Allocation proposed by Lead Counsel, and any application for attorneys' fees or payment of expenses shall be approved.
- 20. All reasonable expenses incurred in identifying and notifying potential Class Members, as well as administering the Settlement Fund, shall be paid as set forth in the Stipulation. In the event the Settlement is not approved by the Court, or otherwise fails to become Effective, neither Lead Plaintiff nor any of its counsel shall have any obligation to repay any amounts incurred and properly disbursed pursuant to ¶2.9 or 2.11 of the Stipulation.
- 21. Neither this Order nor the Stipulation, nor any of their respective terms or provisions, nor any of the negotiations, discussions, or proceedings connected with them, nor any act performed or document executed pursuant to or in furtherance of the Stipulation shall be construed as an admission or concession by Defendant as to the validity of any claims or as to the truth of any of the allegations in the Litigation, or of any liability, fault, or wrongdoing of any kind, or offered or received in evidence, or otherwise used by any person in the Litigation, or in any other action or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, or administrative, in any court, administrative agency, or other tribunal, except in connection with any proceeding to enforce the terms of the Stipulation or this Order. The Released Defendant Parties, Lead Plaintiff, Class Members, and each of their counsel may file the Stipulation, and/or this Order and/or the Judgment in any action that may be brought against them in order to support a defense or counterclaim based on principles of res judicata, collateral estoppel, release, good faith settlement, judgment bar, or reduction, or any other theory of claim preclusion or issue preclusion or similar defense or counterclaim.
- 22. The Court reserves the right to adjourn the date of the Settlement Hearing without further notice to Class Members, and retains jurisdiction to consider all further applications arising

out of or connected with the proposed Settlement. The Court may approve the Settlement, with such

modifications as may be agreed to by the Settling Parties, if appropriate, without further notice to the

Class.

23. If the Stipulation and the Settlement set forth therein is not approved or consummated

for any reason whatsoever, this Order shall be rendered null and void, and be of no further force and

effect, except as otherwise provided by the Stipulation. This Order, the Stipulation, and the

Settlement and all proceedings had in connection therewith shall be without prejudice to the rights of

the Settling Parties status quo ante as of November 11, 2020.

24. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, all proceedings in the Litigation are stayed,

except as may be necessary to implement the Settlement or comply with the terms of the Stipulation

or other agreement of the Settling Parties. Pending final determination of whether the proposed

Settlement should be approved, neither Lead Plaintiff nor any Class Member, directly or indirectly,

representatively, or in any other capacity, shall commence or prosecute against Defendant any action

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

or proceeding in any court or tribunal asserting any of the Released Claims.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED:	
·	THE HONORABLE EDGARDO RAMOS

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MEGAN VILLELLA, Individually and on Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,

: Civil Action No. 1:15-cv-02106-ER-GWG: (Consolidated)

Plaintiff,

**CLASS ACTION** 

VS.

NOTICE OF PENDENCY AND PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF CLASS ACTION

CHEMICAL AND MINING COMPANY OF CHILE INC., et al.,

EXHIBIT A-1

Defendants.

TO: ALL PERSONS WHO PURCHASED CHEMICAL AND MINING COMPANY OF CHILE INC., A/K/A SOCIEDAD QUÍMICA Y MINERA DE CHILE S.A. ("SQM" OR THE "COMPANY") AMERICAN DEPOSITARY SHARES ("ADSs") DURING THE PERIOD BETWEEN JUNE 30, 2010 THROUGH AND INCLUDING MARCH 18, 2015, AND ARE NOT OTHERWISE EXCLUDED FROM THE CLASS

This Notice of Pendency and Proposed Settlement of Class Action ("Notice") has been sent to you pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and an Order of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York (the "Court"). The purpose of this Notice is to inform you of the pendency of this class action (the "Litigation") between Lead Plaintiff The Council of the Borough of South Tyneside Acting in its Capacity as the Administering Authority of the Tyne and Wear Pension Fund and Defendant SQM; the proposed \$62,500,000 settlement reached therein (the "Settlement"); and the hearing to be held by the Court to consider the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Settlement as well as counsel's application for fees and expenses. This Notice describes what steps you may take in relation to the Settlement and the Litigation.<sup>1</sup>

This Notice is not intended to be, and should not be construed as, an expression of any opinion by the Court with respect to the truth of the allegations in the Litigation as to the Defendant or the merits of the claims or defenses asserted by or against the Defendant. This Notice is solely to advise you of the proposed Settlement of the Litigation and of your rights in connection therewith.

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT					
SUBMIT A CLAIM FORM	The only way to be eligible to receive a payment from the Settlement. Proof of Claim forms must be postmarked or submitted online on or before, 2021.				
EXCLUDE YOURSELF	Get no payment. This is the only option that <i>potentially</i> allows you to ever be part of any other lawsuit against the Defendant or any other Released Persons about the legal claims being resolved by this Settlement. Should you elect to exclude yourself from the Class you should understand that Defendant and the other Released Defendant Parties will have the right to assert any and all defenses they may have to any claims that you may seek to assert, including, without				

All capitalized terms used in this Notice that are not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings provided in the Stipulation of Settlement dated December 11, 2020 (the "Settlement Agreement" or "Stipulation"), which is available on the website www.SQMSecuritiesSettlement.com.

	limitation, the defense that any such claims are untimely under applicable statutes of limitations and statutes of repose. Exclusions must be postmarked on or before, 2021.		
OBJECT	Write to the Court about why you do not like the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, and/or the request for attorneys' fees and expenses. You will still be a Member of the Class. Objections must be received by the Court and counsel on or before, 2021. If you submit a written objection, you may (but do not have to) attend the hearing.		
GO TO THE HEARING ON, 2021	Ask to speak in Court about the fairness of the Settlement. Requests to speak must be received by the Court and counsel on or before, 2021.		
DO NOTHING	Receive no payment. You will, however, still be a Member of the Class, which means that you give up your right to ever be part of any other lawsuit against the Defendant or any other Released Defendant Parties about the legal claims being resolved by this Settlement and you will be bound by any judgments or orders entered by the Court in the Litigation.		

#### **SUMMARY OF THIS NOTICE**

# **Statement of Class Recovery**

Pursuant to the Settlement described herein, a \$62.5 million Settlement Fund has been established. Based on Lead Plaintiff's estimate of the number of SQM ADSs eligible to recover under the Settlement, the average distribution per ADS under the Plan of Allocation is approximately \$1.04 before deduction of any taxes on the income earned on the Settlement Amount thereof, notice and administration costs, and the attorneys' fees and expenses as determined by the Court. Class Members should note, however, that these are only estimates. A Class Member's actual recovery will be a proportion of the Net Settlement Fund determined by that Class Member's claims as compared to the total claims of all Class Members who submit acceptable Proofs of Claim. An individual Class Member may receive more or less than this estimated average amount. See Plan of Allocation set forth and discussed at pages \_\_\_\_ below for more information on the calculation of your claim.

#### **Statement of Potential Outcome of Case**

The Settling Parties disagree on both liability and damages and do not agree on the amount of damages per security, if any, that would be recoverable if the Class prevailed on each claim alleged. SQM denies that it is liable to the Class and denies that the Class has suffered any damages. The issues on which the parties disagree are many, but include: (1) whether Defendant engaged in conduct that would give rise to any liability to the Class under the federal securities laws, or any other laws; (2) whether Defendant has valid defenses to any such claims of liability; (3) the appropriate economic model for determining the amount by which the price of SQM ADSs was allegedly artificially inflated (if at all) during the Class Period; (4) the amount, if any, by which the price of SQM ADSs was allegedly artificially inflated (if at all) during the Class Period; (5) the effect of various market forces on the price of SQM ADSs at various times during the Class Period;

(6) the extent to which external factors influenced the price of SQM ADSs at various times during the Class Period; (7) the extent to which the various statements that Lead Plaintiff alleged were materially false or misleading influenced (if at all) the price of SQM ADSs at various times during the Class Period; and (8) the extent to which the various allegedly adverse material facts that Lead Plaintiff alleged were omitted influenced (if at all) the price of SQM ADSs at various times during the Class Period.

#### Statement of Attorneys' Fees and Expenses Sought

Since the Litigation's inception, Lead Counsel has expended considerable time and effort in the prosecution of this Litigation on a wholly contingent basis and has advanced the expenses of the Litigation in the expectation that if it was successful in obtaining a recovery for the Class, it would be paid from such recovery. Lead Counsel will apply to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees not to exceed seventeen and one-half percent (17.5%) of the Settlement Amount, plus expenses not to exceed \$1,400,000, plus interest earned on both amounts at the same rate as earned by the Settlement Fund. If the amounts requested are approved by the Court, the average cost per SQM ADS will be approximately \$0.21. In addition, Lead Plaintiff may seek payment for its time and expenses incurred in representing the Class. Any such award will be paid from the Settlement Fund.

#### **Further Information**

For further information regarding the Litigation, this Notice or to review the Stipulation of Settlement, please contact the Claims Administrator toll-free at \_\_\_\_\_\_, or visit the website www.SQMSecuritiesSettlement.com.

You may also contact a representative of counsel for the Class: Rick Nelson, Shareholder Relations, Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP, 655 West Broadway, Suite 1900, San Diego, CA 92101, 1-800-449-4900, www.rgrdlaw.com.

#### Please Do Not Call the Court or Defendant with Questions About the Settlement.

#### **Reasons for the Settlement**

Lead Plaintiff's principal reason for entering into the Settlement is the benefit to the Class now, without further risk or the delays inherent in continued litigation. The cash benefit under the Settlement must be considered against the significant risk that a smaller recovery – or, indeed, no recovery at all – might be achieved after contested motions, trial, and likely appeals, a process that could last several years into the future. For the Defendant, the principal reason for entering into the Settlement is to eliminate the uncertainty, risk, costs, and burdens inherent in any litigation, especially in complex cases such as this Litigation. Defendant has concluded that further conduct of this Litigation could be protracted and distracting.

#### **BASIC INFORMATION**

# 1. Why did I get this Notice package?

This Notice was sent to you pursuant to an Order of a U.S. District Court because you or someone in your family or an investment account for which you serve as custodian may have purchased SQM ADSs during the period from June 30, 2010 through and including March 18, 2015 (the "Class Period").

This Notice explains the class action lawsuit, the Settlement, Class Members' legal rights in connection with the Settlement, what benefits are available, who is eligible for them, and how to get them.

The Court in charge of the Litigation is the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, and the case is known as *Villella v. Chemical and Mining Company of Chile Inc.*, No. 1:15-cv-02106-ER-GWG. The case has been assigned to the Honorable Edgardo Ramos. The entity representing the Class is the "Lead Plaintiff," and the company it sued and which has now settled is called the Defendant.

#### 2. What is this lawsuit about?

The Litigation is currently pending before the Honorable Edgardo Ramos in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York (the "Court"). The initial complaint in this action was filed on March 19, 2015. On October 14, 2015, the Court appointed Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel.

Lead Plaintiff's Corrected Consolidated Complaint for Violation of the Securities Laws (the "Complaint"), filed on February 9, 2016, alleges that Defendant violated §10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. More specifically, Lead Plaintiff alleges that throughout the Class Period (June 30, 2010 through March 18, 2015, inclusive), Defendant made materially false and misleading statements and/or failed to disclose adverse information regarding the Company's business and operations, which caused the price of the Company's American Depository Shares ("ADSs") to trade at artificially inflated prices, until the market learned of the false and misleading statements or omissions, and the Company's ADS price significantly declined. Defendant contends that it did not violate §10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Specifically, Defendant denies, *inter alia*, that the alleged fraudulent statements caused any damages to Class Members, including Lead Plaintiff.

On March 30, 2016, SQM moved to dismiss the Complaint. Lead Plaintiff opposed the motion on May 26, 2016, and SQM filed its reply on June 29, 2016. On March 28, 2017, the Court issued its Opinion and Order, granting in part and denying in part SQM's motion to dismiss. SQM answered the Complaint on April 25, 2017. On January 10, 2018, Lead Plaintiff moved for class certification. SQM took document and deposition discovery of Lead Plaintiff and Lead Plaintiff's investment manager responsible for Lead Plaintiff's investment in SQM. On December 12, 2018, SQM filed its opposition to the class certification motion. SQM simultaneously filed a motion to exclude Lead Plaintiff's expert. Lead Plaintiff filed its opposition to the motion to exclude and its reply to the class certification motion on January 25, 2019. SQM filed its reply to its motion to

exclude Lead Plaintiff's expert on February 15, 2019. On September 23, 2019, the Court certified the Class and denied SQM's motion to exclude.

The Settling Parties have conducted extensive fact and expert discovery, including depositions, the production and review of documents, and exchange of expert reports.

On April 16, 2020, the Settling Parties filed motions for summary judgment and motions to exclude experts at trial. On June 19, 2020, the Settling Parties filed their responses to the various motions, and filed their reply briefs on August 3, 2020. The motions remained pending at the time this Settlement was reached.

On April 19, 2018, the Settling Parties participated in a voluntary confidential mediation with the Hon. Layn R. Phillips (Ret.), an experienced mediator. The mediation was preceded by submission of mediation statements by the Settling Parties. The Settling Parties engaged in good faith negotiations, but did not reach a settlement, and litigation continued. On October 9, 2020, Defendant and Lead Plaintiff participated in another mediation session with Judge Phillips. Prior to this session, the Settling Parties provided to Judge Phillips and exchanged supplemental mediation materials. The Settling Parties engaged in arm's-length negotiations during the mediation session, and were unable to reach an agreement, but continued settlement discussions through Judge Phillips. On November 11, 2020, the Settling Parties reached an agreement-in-principle to resolve the Litigation, and executed a term sheet memorializing their agreement. The agreement included, among other things, the Settling Parties' agreement to settle the Litigation in return for a cash payment of \$62,500,000 for the benefit of the Class, subject to the negotiation of the terms of a Stipulation of Settlement and approval by the Court.

Throughout this Litigation, Defendant has denied, and continues to deny, causing any damages and any liability under § 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Among other things, Defendant expressly has denied, and continues to deny, that the price of SQM ADSs was artificially inflated as a result of any materially false or misleading statement or omission, that any Class Member, including Lead Plaintiff, has suffered any damages, or that any Class Member, including Lead Plaintiff, was harmed by any conduct alleged in the Litigation or that could have been alleged therein. Defendant maintains that it has meritorious defenses to the §10(b) claim alleged in the Litigation.

Neither the Settlement nor any of the terms of the Stipulation shall be construed or deemed to be evidence of or constitute an admission, concession, or finding of any liability or damage whatsoever or any infirmity in the defenses that Defendant has, or could have, asserted.

THE COURT HAS NOT RULED AS TO WHETHER DEFENDANT IS LIABLE TO LEAD PLAINTIFF OR TO THE CLASS. THIS NOTICE IS NOT INTENDED TO BE AN EXPRESSION OF ANY OPINION BY THE COURT WITH RESPECT TO THE TRUTH OF THE ALLEGATIONS IN THIS LITIGATION OR THE MERITS OF THE CLAIMS OR DEFENSES ASSERTED. THIS NOTICE IS SOLELY TO ADVISE YOU OF THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF THIS LITIGATION AND YOUR RIGHTS IN CONNECTION WITH THAT SETTLEMENT.

# 3. Why is there a settlement?

The Court has not decided in favor of Defendant or of the Lead Plaintiff. Instead, both sides agreed to the Settlement to avoid the burden, expense, and uncertainty of further litigation, and Lead Plaintiff agreed to the Settlement in order to ensure that Class Members will receive compensation.

#### WHO IS IN THE SETTLEMENT

#### 4. How do I know if I am a Member of the Class?

The Court directed that everyone who fits this description is a Class Member: all Persons who purchased or otherwise acquired SQM ADSs traded on the New York Stock Exchange during the period from June 30, 2010, through and including March 18, 2015, except those Persons and entities that are excluded.

Excluded from the Class are: (i) SQM; (ii) any entity in which SQM has a controlling interest; (iii) the officers and directors of SQM; (iv) the legal representatives, heirs, successors or assigns of any such excluded party; and (v) any person who sold the entirety of their position in SQM ADS before January 11, 2015. Also excluded from the Class are those Persons who timely and validly exclude themselves therefrom by submitting a request for exclusion in accordance with the requirements set forth in question 11 below.

**Please Note**: Receipt of this Notice does not mean that you are a Class Member or that you will be entitled to receive a payment from the Settlement. If you are a Class Member and you wish to be eligible to participate in the distribution of proceeds from the Settlement, you are required to submit the Proof of Claim that is being distributed with this Notice and the required supporting documentation as set forth therein postmarked or submitted online on or before , 2021.

#### 5. What if I am still not sure if I am included?

If you are still not sure whether you are included, you can ask for free help. You can contact the Claims Administrator toll-free at \_\_\_\_\_\_, or you can fill out and return the Proof of Claim form enclosed with this Notice package to see if you qualify.

#### THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS – WHAT YOU GET

#### 6. What does the Settlement provide?

The Settlement provides that, in exchange for the release of the Released Claims (defined below) and dismissal of the Litigation, Defendant has agreed to pay (or cause to be paid) \$62.5 million in cash to be distributed after taxes, tax expenses, notice and claims administration expenses, and approved attorneys' fees and expenses, *pro rata*, to Class Members who send in a valid Proof of Claim form pursuant to the Court-approved Plan of Allocation. The Plan of Allocation is described in more detail at the end of this Notice.

# 7. How much will my payment be?

Your share of the Net Settlement Fund will depend on several things, including the total dollar amount of claims represented by the valid Proof of Claim forms that Class Members send in, compared to the dollar amount of your claim, all as calculated under the Plan of Allocation discussed below.

#### HOW YOU GET A PAYMENT - SUBMITTING A CLAIM FORM

# 8. How can I get a payment?

To be eligible to receive a payment from the Settlement, you must submit a Proof of Claim form. A Proof of Claim form is enclosed with this Notice or it may be downloaded at www.SQMSecuritiesSettlement.com. Read the instructions carefully, fill out the Proof of Claim, include all the documents the form asks for, sign it, and mail or submit it online so that it is postmarked or received no later than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2021. The Proof of Claim form may be submitted online at www.SQMSecuritiesSettlement.com.

# 9. When would I get my payment?

# 10. What am I giving up to get a payment or to stay in the Class?

Unless you timely and validly exclude yourself, you are staying in the Class, and that means you cannot sue, continue to sue, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendant or its Related Parties about the Released Claims (as defined below) in this case. It also means that all of the Court's orders will apply to you and legally bind you. If you remain a Class Member, and if the Settlement is approved, you will give up all "Released Claims" (as defined below), including "Unknown Claims" (as defined below), against the "Released Persons" (as defined below):

• "Released Claims" means any and all rights, liabilities, suits, debts, obligations, demands, damages, losses, judgment matters, issues, claims (including "Unknown Claims," as defined below), and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, in law, equity, or otherwise, whether known or unknown, asserted or unasserted, accrued or unaccrued, fixed or contingent, liquidated or unliquidated, whether arising under federal, state, local, statutory, common or foreign law, or any other law, rule, or regulation, whether class and/or individual in nature based on, arising out of, or in connection with both: (i) the purchase of SQM ADSs during the Class Period; and (ii) the allegations, transactions, acts, facts, matters, occurrences, disclosures, filings, representations, statements, omissions, or events that were or could have been alleged or asserted in the Litigation. "Released Claims" does not

- include claims to enforce the Settlement, or the claims of any person or entity that submits a request for exclusion that is accepted by the Court.
- "Released Defendant's Claims" means any and all claims and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, including both known claims and Unknown Claims, against Lead Plaintiff, Lead Plaintiff's Counsel or any Class Member that arise out of or relate in any way to the institution, prosecution, or settlement of the claims against Defendant in the Litigation, except for claims relating to the enforcement of the Settlement.
- "Released Defendant Party" or "Released Defendant Parties" or "Released Persons" means each and all of the Defendant, Defendant's counsel, and any of their Related Parties.
- "Related Parties" means Defendant's former, present or future parents, subsidiaries, divisions, controlling persons, associates, related entities and affiliates and each and all of their respective present and former employees, members, partners, principals, officers, directors, controlling shareholders, agents, attorneys, advisors (including financial or investment advisors), accountants, auditors, consultants, underwriters, investment bankers, commercial bankers, entities providing fairness opinions, general or limited partners or partnerships, limited liability companies, members, joint ventures and insurers and reinsurers of each of them; as well as the predecessors, successors, estates, immediate family members, spouses, heirs, executors, trusts, trustees, administrators, agents, legal or personal representatives, assigns, and assignees of each of them, in their capacity as such.
- "Unknown Claims" means (a) any and all Released Claims which any of the Releasing Plaintiff Parties do not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of the Released Defendant Parties, which, if known by him, her, or it, might have affected his, her, or its settlement with and release of the Released Defendant Parties, or might have affected his, her, or its decision(s) with respect to the Settlement, including, but not limited to, whether or not to object to this Settlement or seek exclusion from the Class; and (b) any and all Released Defendant's Claims that any of the Released Defendant Parties do not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of Lead Plaintiff, the Class and Lead Plaintiff's Counsel, which, if known by him, her, or it, might have affected his, her, or its settlement and release of Lead Plaintiff, the Class and Lead Plaintiff's Counsel. With respect to (a) any and all Released Claims against the Released Defendant Parties, and (b) any and all Released Defendant's Claims against Lead Plaintiff, the Class and Lead Plaintiff's Counsel, the Settling Parties stipulate and agree that, upon the Effective Date, the Settling Parties shall expressly waive, and each Releasing Plaintiff Party and Released Defendant Party shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Judgment shall have, expressly waived the provisions, rights, and benefits of California Civil Code §1542, which provides:

A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his

or her favor at the time of executing the release and that, if known by him or her, would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or released party.

The Settling Parties shall expressly waive, and each Releasing Plaintiff Party and Released Defendant Party shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Judgment shall have, expressly waived any and all provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by any law of any state or territory of the United States, or principle of common law, which is similar, comparable, or equivalent to California Civil Code §1542. The Releasing Plaintiff Parties and Released Defendant Parties acknowledge that they may hereafter discover facts, legal theories or authorities in addition to or different from those which he, she, it or their counsel now knows or believes to be true with respect to the subject matter of the Released Claims or Released Defendant's Claims, but (a) the Releasing Plaintiff Parties shall expressly fully, finally, and forever waive, compromise, settle, discharge, extinguish and release, and each Releasing Plaintiff Party shall be deemed to have waived, compromised, settled, discharged, extinguished, and released, and upon the Effective Date, and by operation of the Judgment shall have waived, compromised, settled, discharged, extinguished, and released, fully, finally, and forever, any and all Released Claims against the Released Defendant Parties, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, contingent or noncontingent, accrued or unaccrued, whether or not concealed or hidden, which now exist, or heretofore have existed, or may hereafter exist, upon any theory of law or equity now existing or coming into existence in the future, including, but not limited to, conduct which is negligent, intentional, with or without malice, or a breach of any duty, law or rule, without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts, legal theories, or authorities, and (b) the Released Defendant Parties shall expressly fully, finally, and forever waive, compromise, settle, discharge, extinguish and release, and upon the Effective Date, and by operation of the Judgment shall have waived, compromised, settled, discharged, extinguished, and released, fully, finally, and forever, any and all Released Defendant's Claims against Lead Plaintiff, the Class and Lead Plaintiff's Counsel, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, contingent or non-contingent, whether or not concealed or hidden, which now exist, or heretofore have existed, upon any theory of law or equity now existing or coming into existence in the future, including, but not limited to, conduct which is negligent, intentional, with or without malice, or a breach of any duty, law or rule, without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts, legal theories, or authorities. The Settling Parties acknowledge, and the Releasing Plaintiff Parties and Released Defendant Parties shall be deemed by operation of the Judgment to have acknowledged, that the foregoing waiver was separately bargained for and is an essential element of the Settlement of which this release is a part.

#### **EXCLUDING YOURSELF FROM THE CLASS**

If you do not want to participate in this Settlement, and you want to keep the right to potentially sue Defendant and the other Released Persons, on your own, about the claims being

released by the Settlement, then you must take steps to remove yourself from the Settlement. This is called excluding yourself – or is sometimes referred to as "opting out." If you are requesting exclusion because you want to bring your own lawsuit based on the matters alleged in this Litigation, you may want to consult an attorney and discuss whether any individual claim that you may wish to pursue would be time-barred by the applicable statutes of limitation or repose.

# 11. How do I get out of the Class and the proposed Settlement?

To exclude yourself from the Class and the Settlement, you must send a letter by First-Class Mail stating that you "request exclusion from the Class in the *SQM Securities Settlement*." Your letter must include your purchases of SQM ADSs during the Class Period, including the dates, the number of SQM ADSs purchased, and price paid for each such purchase or acquisition. In addition, you must include your name, address, telephone number, and your signature. You must submit your exclusion request so that it is **postmarked no later than** , 2021 to:

SQM Securities Settlement
Claims Administrator
c/o Gilardi & Co. LLC
EXCLUSIONS
One McInnis Parkway, Suite 250
San Rafael, CA 94903

If you ask to be excluded, you will not get any payment from the Settlement, and you cannot object to the Settlement. You will not be legally bound by anything that happens in this lawsuit, and you may be able to sue the Defendant and the other Released Persons about the Released Claims in the future.

# 12. If I do not exclude myself, can I sue the Defendant and the other Released Persons for the same thing later?

No. Unless you exclude yourself, you give up any rights you may potentially have to sue the Defendant and the other Released Persons for any and all Released Claims. If you have a pending lawsuit against the Released Persons, speak to your lawyer in that case immediately. You must exclude yourself from the Class in this Litigation to continue your own lawsuit. Remember, the exclusion deadline is , 2021.

# 13. If I exclude myself, can I get money from the proposed Settlement?

No. If you exclude yourself, you should not send in a Proof of Claim to ask for any money. But you may have the right to potentially sue or be part of a different lawsuit against the Defendant and the other Released Persons.

#### THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

#### 14. Do I have a lawyer in this case?

The Court ordered that the law firm of Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP represents the Class Members, including you. These lawyers are called Lead Counsel. If you want to be represented by your own lawyer, you may hire one at your own expense.

# 15. How will the lawyers be paid?

Lead Counsel will apply to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees not to exceed seventeen and one-half percent (17.5%) of the Settlement Amount and for expenses, costs and charges in an amount not to exceed \$1,400,000 in connection with the Litigation, plus interest on such fees and expenses at the same rate as earned by the Settlement Fund. In addition, Lead Plaintiff may seek up to \$20,000 for its time and expenses incurred in representing the Class. Such sums as may be approved by the Court will be paid from the Settlement Fund.

#### **OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT**

You can tell the Court that you do not agree with the Settlement or any part of it.

# 16. How do I tell the Court that I object to the proposed Settlement?

If you are a Class Member, you can comment on or object to the proposed Settlement, the proposed Plan of Allocation and/or Lead Counsel's fee and expense application. You can write to the Court setting out your comment or objection. The Court will consider your views. To comment or object, you must send a signed letter saying that you wish to comment on or object to the proposed Settlement in the *SQM Securities Settlement*. Include your name, address, telephone number, and your signature, identify the date(s), price(s), and number of SQM ADSs you purchased and sold during the Class Period, and state with specificity your comments or the reasons why you object to the proposed Settlement, Plan of Allocation and/or fee and expense application, including any legal support for such objection. Any objection must state whether it applies only to the objector, to a specific subset of the Class, or to the entire Class. You must also include copies of documents demonstrating such purchase(s) and/or sale(s). Your comments or objection must be filed with the Court and mailed or delivered to each of the following addresses such that it is *received* no later than , 2021:

#### **COURT**

# CLERK OF THE COURT UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007

#### LEAD COUNSEL

ROBBINS GELLER RUDMAN & DOWD LLP ELLEN GUSIKOFF STEWART 655 West Broadway, Suite 1900 San Diego, CA 92101

#### DEFENDANT'S COUNSEL

MILBANK LLP GRANT R. MAINLAND 55 Hudson Yards New York, NY 10001

# 17. What is the difference between objecting and excluding?

Objecting is simply telling the Court that you do not like something about the Settlement. You can object **only** if you stay in the Class.

Excluding yourself is telling the Court that you do not want to be paid and do not want to release any claims you think you may have against any of the Released Defendant Parties. If you exclude yourself, you cannot object to the Settlement because it does not affect you.

#### THE COURT'S SETTLEMENT HEARING

The Court will hold a hearing to decide whether to approve the proposed Settlement. You may attend and you may ask to speak, but you do not have to.

# 18. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the proposed Settlement?

The Court will hold a Settlement Hearing at \_\_\_\_\_, 2021, in the Courtroom of the Honorable Edgardo Ramos, at the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse, 500 Pearl Street, New York, NY 10007. At the hearing, the Court will consider whether the Settlement and the Plan of Allocation are fair, reasonable, and adequate. If there are objections, the Court will consider them, even if you do not ask to speak at the hearing. The Court will listen to people who have asked to speak at the hearing. The Court may also decide how much to pay to Lead Counsel and Lead Plaintiff. After the Settlement Hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the Settlement and the Plan of Allocation. We do not know how long these decisions will take. You should be aware that the Court may change the date and time of the Settlement Hearing without another notice being sent to Class Members. In addition, the recent outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a fluid situation that creates the possibility that the Court may decide to conduct the Settlement Hearing by video or telephonic conference, or otherwise allow Class Members to appear at the hearing by phone, without further written notice to the Class. In order to determine whether the date and time of the Settlement Hearing have changed, or whether Class Members must or may participate by phone or video, it is important that you monitor the Court's docket and the Settlement website, www.SQMSecuritiesSettlement.com, before making any plans to attend the Settlement Hearing. Any updates regarding the Settlement Hearing, including any

changes to the date and time of the hearing or updates regarding in-person, telephonic or video conference appearances at the hearing, will be posted to the Settlement website, www.SQMSecuritiesSettlement.com. Also, if the Court requires or allows Class Members to participate in the Settlement Hearing by telephone or video conference, the phone number for accessing the telephonic conference or the website for accessing the video conference will be posted to the Settlement website, www.SQMSecuritiesSettlement.com. If you want to attend the hearing, either in person or telephonically, if permitted, you should check with Lead Counsel or the Settlement website, www.SQMSecuritiesSettlement.com, beforehand to be sure that the date and/or time has not changed.

# 19. Do I have to come to the hearing?

No. Lead Counsel will answer questions the Court may have. But, you are welcome to come at your own expense. If you send an objection, you do not have to come to Court to talk about it. As long as you mailed your written objection on time, the Court will consider it. You may also pay your own lawyer to attend, but it is not necessary. Class Members do not need to appear at the hearing or take any other action to indicate their approval.

#### 20. May I speak at the hearing?

You cannot speak at the hearing if you exclude yourself from the Class.

#### IF YOU DO NOTHING

# 21. What happens if I do nothing?

If you do nothing, you will not receive any money from this Settlement. In addition, unless you exclude yourself, you will not be able to start a lawsuit, continue with a lawsuit, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendant and its Related Parties about the Released Claims in this case.

#### **GETTING MORE INFORMATION**

#### 22. How do I get more information?

For even more detailed information concerning the matters involved in this Litigation, you can obtain answers to common questions regarding the proposed Settlement by contacting the Claims Administrator toll-free at \_\_\_\_\_\_. Reference is also made to the Settlement Agreement, to the pleadings in support of the Settlement, to the Orders entered by the Court and to the other Settlement related papers filed in the Litigation, which are posted on the Settlement website at www.SQMSecuritiesSettlement.com, and which may be inspected at the Office of the Clerk of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, during regular business hours. For a fee, all papers filed in this Litigation are available at www.pacer.gov.

# THE PROPOSED PLAN OF ALLOCATION OF NET SETTLEMENT FUND AMONG CLASS MEMBERS

# 23. How will my claim be calculated?

As discussed above, the Settlement provides \$62,500,000.00 in cash for the benefit of the Class. The Settlement Amount and any interest it earns constitute the "Settlement Fund." The Settlement Fund, after deduction of Court-approved attorneys' fees and expenses, Notice and Administration Expenses, Taxes, and any other fees or expenses approved by the Court, is the "Net Settlement Fund." If the Settlement is approved by the Court, the Net Settlement Fund will be distributed to eligible Authorized Claimants -i.e., members of the Class who timely submit valid Proofs of Claim that are accepted for payment by the Court – in accordance with this proposed Plan of Allocation ("Plan of Allocation" or "Plan") or such other plan of allocation as the Court may approve. Class Members who do not timely submit valid Proofs of Claim will not share in the Net Settlement Fund but will otherwise be bound by the Settlement. The Court may approve this proposed Plan of Allocation, or modify it, without additional notice to the Class. Any order modifying the Plan of Allocation will be posted on the Settlement website, www.SOMSecuritiesSettlement.com.

The objective of the Plan of Allocation is to distribute the Net Settlement Fund proceeds equitably among Class Members based on their respective alleged economic losses resulting from the securities law violations alleged in the Litigation. The Plan of Allocation is not a formal damage analysis, and the calculations made in accordance with the Plan of Allocation are not intended to be estimates of, or indicative of, the amounts that Class Members might have been able to recover after a trial. Nor are the calculations in accordance with the Plan of Allocation intended to be estimates of the amounts that will be paid to Authorized Claimants under the Settlement. The computations under the Plan of Allocation are only a method to weigh, in a fair and equitable manner, the claims of Authorized Claimants against one another for the purpose of making *pro rata* allocations of the Net Settlement Fund.

The Plan of Allocation is intended to compensate Class Members who purchased SQM ADSs during the period June 30, 2010 through March 18, 2015, inclusive ("Class Period").

For purposes of determining the amount an Authorized Claimant may recover under the Plan, Lead Counsel conferred with its damages consultant and the Plan reflects an assessment of the daily per ADS artificial inflation amounts which allegedly were proximately caused by Defendant's alleged false and misleading statements and material omissions. In calculating the estimated artificial inflation allegedly caused by Defendant's alleged misrepresentations and omissions, Lead Plaintiff's damages consultant considered price changes in SQM ADSs in reaction to certain public announcements regarding SQM in which such misrepresentations and material omissions were alleged to have been revealed to the market, adjusting for price changes that were attributable to market forces, the allegations in the Complaint, and the evidence developed in support thereof.

In order to have recoverable damages in connection with purchases of SQM ADSs during the Class Period, disclosure(s) of the allegedly misrepresented or omitted information must be the cause of the decline in the price of SQM ADSs. In this case, Lead Plaintiff alleges that Defendant made false statements and omitted material facts during the Class Period, which had the effect of artificially inflating the price of SQM ADSs. Lead Plaintiff also alleges that, as a result of the alleged corrective disclosures, artificial inflation was removed from the price of SQM ADSs between: March 11 through March 18, 2015.

In order to have a "Recognized Loss Amount" under the Plan of Allocation, SQM ADSs must have been purchased or otherwise acquired during the Class Period and held through the issuance of at least one corrective disclosure.

To the extent there are sufficient funds in the Net Settlement Fund, each Authorized Claimant will receive an amount equal to the Authorized Claimant's "Recognized Loss," as described below. If, however, as expected, the amount in the Net Settlement Fund is not sufficient to permit payment of the total Recognized Loss of each Authorized Claimant, then each Authorized Claimant shall be paid the percentage of the Net Settlement Fund that each Authorized Claimant's Recognized Loss bears to the total of the Recognized Loss of all Authorized Claimants -i.e., the Authorized Claimant's pro rata share of the Net Settlement Fund.

For each Class Period purchase of SQM ADSs that is properly documented, a "Recognized Loss" will be calculated according to the formulas described below. If a Recognized Loss Amount calculates to a negative number or zero under the formulas below, that Recognized Loss Amount will be zero.

Estimated damages and the Plan of Allocation were developed based on an event study analysis, which determines how much artificial inflation was in the ADS price on each day during the Class Period by measuring how much the ADS price allegedly was inflated as a result of alleged misrepresentations and omissions and allegedly declined as a result of disclosures that corrected the alleged misrepresentations and omissions. Because the alleged corrective disclosures reduced the artificial inflation in stages over the course of the Class Period, the alleged damages suffered by any particular Authorized Claimant depends on when that Authorized Claimant purchased and sold ADSs, or retained ADSs beyond the end of the Class Period.

Table 1 provides the per ADS amount of alleged artificial inflation in SQM ADSs during the Class Period for specified periods. Each Authorized Claimant's Recognized Losses, if any, will be computed as follows:

- 1. For each of the SQM ADSs purchased or otherwise acquired from June 30, 2010 through 11:20 a.m. eastern time on March 18, 2015,<sup>2</sup> and:
  - (a) Sold prior to the close of trading on March 10, 2015, the Recognized Loss Amount will be \$0.00;
  - (b) Sold from March 11, 2015 through 11:20 a.m. eastern time on March 18, 2015, the Recognized Loss Amount will be *the lesser of*: (i) the decline in inflation during the holding period (as presented in Table 1 below), (ii) the purchase price minus the sale price;
  - (c) Sold after 11:20 a.m. eastern time on March 18, 2015 through the close of trading on June 15, 2015, the Recognized Loss Amount will be *the least of*: (i) the decline in inflation during the holding period (as presented in Table 1 below), (ii) the purchase price minus the sale price, and (iii) the purchase price minus the average closing price between March 18, 2015 and the date of sale as stated in Table 2 at the end of this Notice; and
  - (d) Held as of the close of trading on June 15, 2015, the Recognized Loss Amount will be *the lesser of*: (i) the decline in inflation during the holding period (as presented in Table 2 below), and (ii) the purchase price minus \$20.00, the average closing price for SQM ADSs between March 18, 2015 and June 15, 2015 (the last entry on Table 2).<sup>3</sup>
- 2. For each of the publicly traded SQM ADSs purchased or otherwise acquired after 11:20 a.m. eastern time on 18 March 2015 through the close of trading on 18 March 2015, the Recognized Loss Amount will be \$0.00.
- 3. If an Authorized Claimant had a market gain with respect to his, her, or its overall transactions in the publicly traded SQM ADSs during the Class Period, the value of the Authorized Claimant's Recognized Claim will be zero. If an Authorized Claimant suffered an overall market loss with respect to his, her, or its overall transactions in SQM ADSs during the Class Period but that market loss was less than the Authorized Claimant's total Recognized Claim calculated above, then the Authorized Claimant's Recognized Claim will be limited to the amount of the actual market loss. For purposes of determining whether an Authorized Claimant had a market gain with respect to his, her, or its overall transactions in SQM ADSs during the Class Period or suffered a market loss, the

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "Potash Corp says quit SQM board over handling of allegations," by Rod Nickel, *Reuters News*, 18 March 2018, 11:20 a.m.

Under Section 21(D)(e)(1) of the Exchange Act, "in any private action arising under this Act in which the plaintiff seeks to establish damages by reference to the market price of a security, the award of damages to the plaintiff shall not exceed the difference between the purchase or sale price paid or received, as appropriate, by the plaintiff for the subject security and the mean trading price of that security during the 90-day period beginning on the date on which the information correcting the misstatement or omission that is the basis for the action is disseminated to the market." Consistent with the requirements of the statute, Recognized Loss Amounts are reduced to an appropriate extent by taking into account the closing prices of SQM ADSs during the 90-day look-back period. The mean (average) closing price for SQM ADSs during this 90-day look-back period was \$20.00.

Claims Administrator will determine the difference between (i) the Total Purchase Amount<sup>4</sup> and (ii) the sum of the Total Sales Proceeds<sup>5</sup> and Holding Value.<sup>6</sup> This difference will be deemed an Authorized Claimant's market gain or loss with respect to his, her, or its overall transactions in SQM ADSs during the Class Period.

TABLE 1
Decline in Inflation by Date of Purchase and Date of Sale

	Date of Sale						
Date of Purchase	30 June 2010 through 10 March 2015	11 March 2015	12 March 2015	13 March 2015	16 March 2015	17 March 2015 through 11:20 a.m. on 18 March 2015	After 11:20 a.m. on 18 March 2015 or Retained Beyond 18 March 2015
30 June 2010 through 10 March 2015	\$0.00	\$0.35	\$0.86	\$1.06	\$1.21	\$1.63	\$5.32
11 March 2015		\$0.00	\$0.51	\$0.71	\$0.86	\$1.28	\$4.97
12 March 2015			\$0.00	\$0.20	\$0.35	\$0.77	\$4.46
13 March 2015				\$0.00	\$0.15	\$0.57	\$4.26
16 March 2015					\$0.00	\$0.42	\$4.11
17 March 2015 through 11:20 a.m. on 18 March 2015						\$0.00	\$3.69
After 11:20 a.m. on 18 March 2015							\$0.00

The "Total Purchase Amount" is the total amount the Authorized Claimant paid (excluding commissions and other charges) for SQM ADSs purchased or acquired during the Class Period.

The Claims Administrator will match any sales of SQM ADSs during the Class Period first against the Authorized Claimant's opening position (the proceeds of those sales will not be considered for purposes of calculating market gains or losses). The total amount received (excluding commissions and other charges) for the remaining sales of SQM ADSs sold during the Class Period will be the "Total Sales Proceeds."

The Claims Administrator will ascribe a value of \$20.00 per share for SQM ADSs purchased or acquired during the Class Period and still held as of the close of trading on 15 June 2015 (the "Holding Value").

TABLE 2
SQM ADS Closing Price and Average Closing Price

		Average Closing Price Between
		18 March 2015
Date	Closing Price	and Date Shown
3/18/2015	\$18.65	\$18.65
3/19/2015	\$17.87	\$18.26
3/20/2015	\$18.86	\$18.46
3/23/2015	\$19.30	\$18.67
3/24/2015	\$19.78	\$18.89
3/25/2015	\$19.23	\$18.95
3/26/2015	\$18.67	\$18.91
3/27/2015	\$17.95	\$18.79
3/30/2015	\$18.24	\$18.73
3/31/2015	\$18.25	\$18.68
4/1/2015	\$18.43	\$18.66
4/2/2015	\$18.82	\$18.67
4/6/2015	\$18.89	\$18.69
4/7/2015	\$19.00	\$18.71
4/8/2015	\$19.20	\$18.74
4/9/2015	\$19.15	\$18.77
4/10/2015	\$19.01	\$18.78
4/13/2015	\$19.86	\$18.84
4/14/2015	\$19.20	\$18.86
4/15/2015	\$20.20	\$18.93
4/16/2015	\$21.14	\$19.03
4/17/2015	\$20.56	\$19.10
4/20/2015	\$19.67	\$19.13
4/21/2015	\$19.75	\$19.15
4/22/2015	\$19.90	\$19.18
4/23/2015	\$21.74	\$19.28
4/24/2015	\$21.94	\$19.38
4/27/2015	\$21.59	\$19.46
4/28/2015	\$21.63	\$19.53
4/29/2015	\$21.81	\$19.61
4/30/2015	\$21.84	\$19.68

		Average Closing
		Price Between
		18 March 2015
Date	Closing Price	and Date Shown
5/1/2015	\$22.50	\$19.77
5/4/2015	\$21.71	\$19.83
5/5/2015	\$21.65	\$19.88
5/6/2015	\$21.60	\$19.93
5/7/2015	\$21.38	\$19.97
5/8/2015	\$21.45	\$20.01
5/11/2015	\$21.39	\$20.05
5/12/2015	\$21.27	\$20.08
5/13/2015	\$21.40	\$20.11
5/14/2015	\$21.34	\$20.14
5/15/2015	\$21.49	\$20.17
5/18/2015	\$21.18	\$20.20
5/19/2015	\$21.30	\$20.22
5/20/2015	\$20.47	\$20.23
5/21/2015	\$20.52	\$20.23
5/22/2015	\$20.51	\$20.24
5/26/2015	\$20.11	\$20.24
5/27/2015	\$19.95	\$20.23
5/28/2015	\$19.50	\$20.22
5/29/2015	\$19.53	\$20.20
6/1/2015	\$18.98	\$20.18
6/2/2015	\$19.07	\$20.16
6/3/2015	\$19.26	\$20.14
6/4/2015	\$19.02	\$20.12
6/5/2015	\$19.07	\$20.10
6/8/2015	\$19.00	\$20.08
6/9/2015	\$18.98	\$20.06
6/10/2015	\$19.15	\$20.05
6/11/2015	\$19.05	\$20.03
6/12/2015	\$19.01	\$20.02
6/15/2015	\$18.91	\$20.00

If a Class Member held SQM ADSs at the beginning of the Class Period or made multiple purchases or sales of SQM ADSs during or after the Class Period, the starting point for calculating an Authorized Claimant's Recognized Loss is to match the Authorized Claimant's holdings and purchases to their sales using the FIFO (*i.e.*, first-in-first-out) method. Under the FIFO method, SQM ADSs sold during the Class Period will be matched, in chronological order, first against the respective ADSs held at the beginning of the Class Period. The remaining sales of SQM ADSs during the Class Period will then be matched, in chronological order, against the SQM ADSs or acquired during the Class Period.<sup>7</sup>

Under Section 21(D)(e)(1) of the Exchange Act, "in any private action arising under this Act in which the plaintiff seeks to establish damages by reference to the market price of a security, the award of damages to the plaintiff shall not exceed the difference between the purchase or sale price paid or received, as appropriate, by the plaintiff for the subject security and the mean trading price of that security during the 90-day period beginning on the date on which the information correcting the misstatement or omission that is the basis for the action is disseminated to the market." Consistent

A Class Member will be eligible to receive a distribution from the Net Settlement Fund only if a Class Member had a net overall loss, after all profits from transactions in all SQM ADSs during the Class Period are subtracted from all losses. However, the proceeds from sales of ADSs that have been matched against the SQM ADSs held at the beginning of the Class Period will not be used in the calculation of such net loss.

Purchases and sales of SQM ADSs shall be deemed to have occurred on the "contract" or "trade" date as opposed to the "settlement" or "payment" date. All purchase, acquisition, and sale prices shall exclude any fees and commissions. The receipt or grant by gift, inheritance or operation of law of SQM ADSs during the Class Period shall not be deemed a purchase or sale of SQM ADSs for the calculation of Recognized Loss, unless (i) the donor or decedent purchased such SQM ADSs during the Class Period; (ii) no Proof of Claim was submitted by or on behalf of the donor, on behalf of the decedent, or by anyone else with respect to such SQM ADSs; and (iii) it is specifically so provided in the instrument of gift or assignment.

An Authorized Claimant's Recognized Loss shall be the amount used to calculate the Authorized Claimant's *pro rata* share of the Net Settlement Fund. If the sum total of Recognized Losses of all Authorized Claimants who are entitled to receive payment out of the Net Settlement Fund is greater than the Net Settlement Fund, each Authorized Claimant shall receive his, her, or its *pro rata* share of the Net Settlement Fund. The *pro rata* share shall be the Authorized Claimant's Recognized Loss divided by the total of the Recognized Losses of all Authorized Claimants, multiplied by the total amount in the Net Settlement Fund. Given the costs of distribution, the Net Settlement Fund will be allocated among all Authorized Claimants whose distribution calculates to \$10.00 or greater.

Distributions will be made to Authorized Claimants after all claims have been processed, after the Court has finally approved the Settlement, and after any appeals are resolved. If there is any balance remaining in the Net Settlement Fund after at least six (6) months from the initial date of distribution of the Net Settlement Fund (whether by reason of tax refunds, uncashed checks, or otherwise), the Claims Administrator shall, if feasible, reallocate such balance among Authorized Claimants in an equitable and economic fashion. These redistributions shall be repeated until the balance remaining in the Net Settlement Fund is no longer economically feasible to distribute to Class Members. Thereafter, any balance that still remains in the Net Settlement Fund shall be donated to any appropriate non-sectarian, non-profit charitable organization(s) unaffiliated with any party or their counsel serving the public interest.

Please contact the Claims Administrator or Lead Counsel if you disagree with any determinations made by the Claims Administrator regarding your Proof of Claim. If you are dissatisfied with the determinations, you may ask the Court, which retains jurisdiction over all Class Members and the claims administration process, to decide the issue by submitting a written request.

with the requirements of the statute, a Recognized Loss for SQM ADSs is reduced to an appropriate extent by taking into account the closing prices of SQM ADSs during the 90-day look-back period. The mean (average) closing price for SQM ADSs during this 90-day look-back period was \$20.00 per ADS as shown in Table 1.

The Court has reserved jurisdiction to allow, disallow, or adjust the claim of any Class Member on equitable grounds.

Payment pursuant to the Plan of Allocation set forth above shall be conclusive against all Authorized Claimants. Defendant, its respective counsel, and all other Released Persons will have no responsibility or liability whatsoever for the investment of the Settlement Fund, the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund, the Plan of Allocation, or the payment of any claim. No Person shall have any claim against Lead Plaintiff, Lead Counsel, the Claims Administrator, or other Person designated by Lead Counsel, or any of the Released Defendant Parties based on distributions made substantially in accordance with the Stipulation and the Settlement contained therein, the Plan of Allocation, or further orders of the Court.

#### SPECIAL NOTICE TO SECURITIES BROKERS AND OTHER NOMINEES

If you purchased or acquired SQM ADSs during the Class Period for the beneficial interest of an individual or organization other than yourself, the Court has directed that, WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS OF YOUR RECEIPT OF THIS NOTICE, you either (a) provide to the Claims Administrator the name and last known address of each person or organization for whom or which you purchased such securities during such time period, or (b) request additional copies of this Notice and the Proof of Claim form, which will be provided to you free of charge, and within ten (10) days mail the Notice and Proof of Claim form directly to the beneficial owners of the securities referred to herein. If you choose to follow alternative procedure (b), upon such mailing, you must send a statement to the Claims Administrator confirming that the mailing was made as directed and retain the names and addresses for any future mailings to Class Members. You are entitled to reimbursement from the Settlement Fund of your reasonable expenses actually incurred in connection with the foregoing, including reimbursement of postage expense and the cost of ascertaining the names and addresses of beneficial owners. Your reasonable expenses will be paid upon request and submission of appropriate supporting documentation. All communications concerning the foregoing should be addressed to the Claims Administrator:

SQM Securities Settlement
Claims Administrator
c/o Gilardi & Co. LLC
P.O. Box
Providence, RI 02940-3360
www.SQMSecuritiesSettlement.com

DATED:	
	BY ORDER OF THE COURT
	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
	SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MEGAN VILLELLA, Individually and on Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,

: Civil Action No. 1:15-cv-02106-ER-GWG

: (Consolidated)

Plaintiff,

: CLASS ACTION

VS.

PROOF OF CLAIM AND RELEASE

CHEMICAL AND MINING COMPANY OF CHILE INC., et al.,

Defendants.

EXHIBIT A-2

### I. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. To recover as a Member of the Class based on your claims in the action entitled *Villella v. Chemical and Mining Company of Chile Inc.*, No. 1:15-cv-02106-ER-GWG (S.D.N.Y.) (the "Litigation"), you must complete and, on page \_\_\_\_ hereof, sign this Proof of Claim and Release form ("Proof of Claim"). If you fail to submit a timely and properly addressed (as set forth in paragraph 3 below) Proof of Claim, your claim may be rejected and you may not receive any recovery from the Net Settlement Fund created in connection with the proposed Settlement.
- 2. Submission of this Proof of Claim, however, does not assure that you will share in the proceeds of the Settlement of the Litigation.
- 3. YOU MUST MAIL OR SUBMIT ONLINE YOUR COMPLETED AND SIGNED PROOF OF CLAIM, ACCOMPANIED BY COPIES OF THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED HEREIN, NO LATER THAN \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2021, ADDRESSED AS FOLLOWS:

SQM Securities Settlement Claims Administrator c/o Gilardi & Co. LLC P.O. Box 43360 Providence, RI 02940-3360

Online Submissions: www.SQMSecuritiesSettlement.com

- 4. If you are NOT a Member of the Class, as defined in the Notice of Pendency and Proposed Settlement of Class Action ("Notice"), or if you requested exclusion from the Class, DO NOT submit a Proof of Claim or direct a third party to file one on your behalf.
- 5. If you did not timely request exclusion and are a Class Member, you will be bound by the terms of any judgment entered in the Litigation, including the releases provided therein, WHETHER OR NOT YOU SUBMIT A PROOF OF CLAIM.

#### II. CLAIMANT IDENTIFICATION

If you purchased Chemical and Mining Company Inc., a/k/a Sociedad Química y Minera de Chile S.A. ("SQM") American Depositary Shares ("ADSs") and held the certificate(s) in your name, you are the beneficial purchaser as well as the record purchaser. If, however, you purchased SQM ADSs and the certificate(s) were registered in the name of a third party, such as a nominee or brokerage firm, you are the beneficial purchaser and the third party is the record purchaser.

Use Part I of this form entitled "Claimant Identification" to identify each purchaser of record ("nominee"), if different from the beneficial purchaser of the SQM ADSs, that forms the basis of this claim. THIS CLAIM MUST BE FILED BY THE ACTUAL BENEFICIAL PURCHASER(S) OR THE LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE OF SUCH PURCHASER(S) OF THE SQM ADSs UPON WHICH THIS CLAIM IS BASED.

All joint purchasers must sign this claim. Executors, administrators, guardians, conservators, and trustees or others acting in a representative capacity on behalf of a Class Member must complete and sign this claim on behalf of persons represented by them, and submit evidence of their current authority to act on behalf of that Class Member, including that your titles or capacities must be stated. The Social Security (or taxpayer identification) number and telephone number of the beneficial owner may be used in verifying the claim. Failure to provide the foregoing information could delay verification of your claim or result in rejection of the claim.

### III. CLAIM FORM

Use Part II of this form entitled "Schedule of Transactions in SQM American Depositary Shares" to supply all required details of your transaction(s) in SQM ADSs. If you need more space or additional schedules, attach separate sheets giving all of the required information in substantially the same form. Sign and print or type your name on each additional sheet.

On the schedules, provide all of the requested information with respect to *all* of your purchases and *all* of your sales of SQM ADSs which took place during the period June 30, 2010 through and including June 15, 2015, whether such transactions resulted in a profit or a loss. You must also provide all of the requested information with respect to *all* of the SQM ADSs you held at the close of trading on June 29, 2010, March 18, 2015, and June 15, 2015. Failure to report all such transactions may result in the rejection of your claim.

List each transaction separately and in chronological order, by trade date, beginning with the earliest. You must accurately provide the month, day, and year of each transaction you list.

The date of covering a "short sale" is deemed to be the date of purchase of SQM ADSs. The date of a "short sale" is deemed to be the date of SQM ADSs.

For each transaction, copies of broker confirmations or other documentation of your transactions in SQM ADSs should be attached to your claim. Failure to provide this documentation could delay verification of your claim or result in rejection of your claim.

NOTICE REGARDING ELECTRONIC FILES: Certain claimants with large numbers of transactions may request, or may be requested, to submit information regarding their transactions in electronic files. This is different from the online submission process that is available at www.SQMSecuritiesSettlement.com. All claimants *must* submit a manually signed paper Proof of Claim form whether or not they also submit electronic copies. If you have a large number of transactions and wish to file your claim electronically, you must contact the Claims Administrator at edata@gilardi.com to obtain the required file layout.

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Villella v. Chemical and Mining Company of Chile Inc.

No. 1:15-cv-02106-ER-GWG

#### PROOF OF CLAIM AND RELEASE

#### Must Be Postmarked or Received No Later Than:

		, 2021	
	Plea	se Type or Print	
PART I: CI	AIMANT IDENTIFICA	TION	
Beneficial Owner	's Name (First, Middle, L	Last)	
Street Address			
City		State or Provin	ice
Zip Code or Posta	ıl Code	Country	
Social Security Number or Taxpayer Identification Number			Individual Corporation/Other
Area Code	Telephone Number (work)		
Area Code	Telephone Number	Telephone Number (home)	
Record Owner's 1	Name (if different from be	eneficial owner listed	above)

PART II:	SCHEI	DULE OF TRANSA	ACTIONS IN SQI	M AMERICAN DEPOSITARY
	SHARI	ES		
A.	Numbe	r of SQM ADSs held	at the close of tradi	ng on June 29, 2010:
B.	Purchases of SQM ADSs (June 30, 2010 – June 15, 2015, inclusive):			
		Trade Date Month Day Year	Number of ADSs Purchased	Total Purchase Price
		1	1	1
		2	2	2
		3	3	3
C.		` /	Merger Share	015, inclusive):
		Month Day Year	Sold	Total Sales Price
			1	1
		2	2	2
		3	3	3
D.	Numbe	r of SQM ADSs h	eld at the close o	of trading on March 18, 2015:
Е.	Numbe	r of SQM ADSs 1	held at the close	of trading on June 15, 2015:

If you require additional space, attach extra schedules in the same format as above. Sign and print your name on each additional page.

YOU MUST READ AND SIGN THE RELEASE ON PAGE \_\_. FAILURE TO SIGN THE RELEASE MAY RESULT IN A DELAY IN PROCESSING OR THE REJECTION OF YOUR CLAIM.

## IV. SUBMISSION TO JURISDICTION OF COURT AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

On behalf of myself (ourselves) and each of my (our) heirs, agents, executors, trustees, administrators, predecessors, successors and assigns, I (we) submit this Proof of Claim under the terms of the Stipulation of Settlement described in the Notice. I (We) also submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York with respect to my (our) claim as a Class Member and for purposes of enforcing the release set forth herein. I (We) further acknowledge that I am (we are) bound by and subject to the terms of any judgment that may be entered in the Litigation. I (We) agree to furnish additional information to the Claims Administrator to support this claim (including transactions in other SQM securities) if requested to do so. I (We) have not submitted any other claim covering the same purchases or sales of SQM ADSs during the Class Period and know of no other person having done so on my (our) behalf.

#### V. RELEASE

1. Upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, I (we) acknowledge full and complete satisfaction of, and fully, finally, and forever settle, release, and discharge from the Released Claims each and all of the "Released Defendant Parties," defined as each and all of the Defendant, Defendant's counsel, and any of their Related Parties. "Related Parties" means Defendant's former, present or future parents, subsidiaries, divisions, controlling persons, associates, related entities and affiliates and each and all of their respective present and former employees, members, partners,

principals, officers, directors, controlling shareholders, agents, attorneys, advisors (including financial or investment advisors), accountants, auditors, consultants, underwriters, investment bankers, commercial bankers, entities providing fairness opinions, general or limited partners or partnerships, limited liability companies, members, joint ventures and insurers and reinsurers of each of them; as well as the predecessors, successors, estates, immediate family members, spouses, heirs, executors, trusts, trustees, administrators, agents, legal or personal representatives, assigns, and assignees of each of them, in their capacity as such.

- 2. "Released Claims" means any and all rights, liabilities, suits, debts, obligations, demands, damages, losses, judgment matters, issues, claims (including "Unknown Claims," as defined in ¶V.3. below) and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, in law, equity, or otherwise, whether known or unknown, asserted or unasserted, accrued or unaccrued, fixed or contingent, liquidated or unliquidated, whether arising under federal, state, local, statutory, common or foreign law, or any other law, rule, or regulation, whether class and/or individual in nature, based on, arising out of, or in connection with both: (i) the purchase of SQMs ADSs during the Class Period; and (ii) the allegations, transactions, acts, facts, matters, occurrences, disclosures, filings, representations, statements, omissions, or events that were or could have been alleged or asserted in the Litigation. "Released Claims" does not include claims to enforce the Settlement, or the claims of any person or entity that submits a request for exclusion that is accepted by the Court.
- 3. "Unknown Claims" means (a) any and all Released Claims which any of the Releasing Plaintiff Parties do not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of the Released Defendant Parties, which, if known by him, her, or it, might have affected his, her, or its settlement with and release of the Released Defendant Parties, or might have affected his, her, or its decision(s) with respect to the Settlement, including, but not limited to, whether or not

to object to this Settlement or seek exclusion from the Class; and (b) any and all Released Defendant's Claims that any of the Released Defendant Parties do not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of Lead Plaintiff, the Class and Lead Plaintiff's Counsel, which, if known by him, her, or it, might have affected his, her, or its settlement and release of Lead Plaintiff, the Class and Lead Plaintiff's Counsel. With respect to (a) any and all Released Claims against the Released Defendant Parties, and (b) any and all Released Defendant's Claims against Lead Plaintiff, the Class and Lead Plaintiff's Counsel, the Settling Parties stipulate and agree that, upon the Effective Date, the Settling Parties shall expressly waive, and each Releasing Plaintiff Party and Released Defendant Party shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Judgment shall have expressly waived, the provisions, rights, and benefits of California Civil Code §1542, which provides:

A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release and that, if known by him or her, would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or released party.

The Settling Parties shall expressly waive, and each Releasing Plaintiff Party and Released Defendant Party shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Judgment shall have, expressly waived any and all provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by any law of any state or territory of the United States, or principle of common law, which is similar, comparable, or equivalent to California Civil Code §1542. The Releasing Plaintiff Parties and Released Defendant Parties acknowledge that they may hereafter discover facts, legal theories or authorities in addition to or different from those which he, she, it or their counsel now knows or believes to be true with respect to the subject matter of the Released Claims or Released Defendant's Claims, but (a) the Releasing Plaintiff Parties shall expressly fully, finally, and forever waive, compromise, settle, discharge, extinguish and release, and each Releasing Plaintiff Party shall be deemed to have waived,

compromised, settled, discharged, extinguished, and released, and upon the Effective Date, and by operation of the Judgment shall have waived, compromised, settled, discharged, extinguished, and released, fully, finally, and forever, any and all Released Claims against the Released Defendant Parties, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, contingent or non-contingent, accrued or unaccrued, whether or not concealed or hidden, which now exist, or heretofore have existed, or may hereafter exist, upon any theory of law or equity now existing or coming into existence in the future, including, but not limited to, conduct which is negligent, intentional, with or without malice, or a breach of any duty, law or rule, without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts, legal theories, or authorities, and (b) the Released Defendant Parties shall expressly fully, finally, and forever waive, compromise, settle, discharge, extinguish and release, and upon the Effective Date, and by operation of the Judgment shall have waived, compromised, settled, discharged, extinguished, and released, fully, finally, and forever, any and all Released Defendant's Claims against Lead Plaintiff, the Class and Lead Plaintiff's Counsel, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, contingent or non-contingent, whether or not concealed or hidden, which now exist, or heretofore have existed, upon any theory of law or equity now existing or coming into existence in the future, including, but not limited to, conduct which is negligent, intentional, with or without malice, or a breach of any duty, law or rule, without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts, legal theories, or authorities. The Settling Parties acknowledge, and the Releasing Plaintiff Parties and Released Defendant Parties shall be deemed by operation of the Judgment to have acknowledged, that the foregoing waiver was separately bargained for and is an essential element of the Settlement of which this release is a part.

- 4. I (We) hereby warrant and represent that I (we) have not assigned or transferred or purported to assign or transfer, voluntarily or involuntarily, any matter released pursuant to this release or any other part or portion thereof.
- 5. I (We) hereby warrant and represent that I (we) have included the information requested about all of my (our) transactions in SQM ADSs which are the subject of this claim, which occurred during the Class Period, as well as the opening and closing positions in such ADSs held by me (us) on the dates requested in this claim form.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that all of the foregoing information supplied on this Proof of Claim by the undersigned is true and correct.

Executed this	_ day of	, in (Month/Year)	(City)
(State/Country)		·	
		(Sign your name here)	
		(Type or print your name here	)
		(Capacity of person(s) signing <i>e.g.</i> , Beneficial Purchaser or A	

ACCURATE CLAIMS PROCESSING TAKES A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF TIME. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE.

or Administrator)

#### Reminder Checklist:

- 1. Please sign the above release and acknowledgment.
- 2. If this claim is being made on behalf of Joint Claimants, then both must sign.
- 3. Remember to attach copies of supporting documentation, if available.
- 4. **Do not send** originals of certificates.
- 5. Keep a copy of your claim form and all supporting documentation for your records.

- 6. If you desire an acknowledgment of receipt of your claim form, please send it Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested.
- 7. If you move, please send your new address to the address below.
- 8. **Do not use red pen or highlighter** on the Proof of Claim or supporting documentation.

### THIS PROOF OF CLAIM MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE OR MAILED NO LATER THAN , 2021, ADDRESSED AS FOLLOWS:

SQM Securities Litigation
Claims Administrator
c/o Gilardi & Co. LLC
P.O. Box 43360
Providence, RI 02940-3360
www.SQMSecuritiesSettlement.com

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MEGAN VILLELLA, Individually and on Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,

: Civil Action No. 1:15-cv-02106-ER-GWG: (Consolidated)

Plaintiff,

**CLASS ACTION** 

VS.

SUMMARY NOTICE OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF CLASS ACTION

CHEMICAL AND MINING COMPANY OF CHILE INC., et al.,

EXHIBIT A-3

Defendants.

TO: ALL PERSONS WHO PURCHASED CHEMICAL AND MINING COMPANY OF CHILE INC., A/K/A SOCIEDAD QUÍMICA Y MINERA DE CHILE S.A. ("SQM") AMERICAN DEPOSITARY SHARES ("ADSs") DURING THE PERIOD BETWEEN JUNE 30, 2010 AND MARCH 18, 2015, INCLUSIVE ("CLASS" OR "CLASS MEMBERS")

### THIS NOTICE WAS AUTHORIZED BY THE COURT. IT IS NOT A LAWYER SOLICITATION. PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY AND IN ITS ENTIRETY.

The recent outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a fluid situation that creates the possibility that the Court may decide to conduct the Settlement Hearing by video or telephonic conference, or otherwise allow Class Members to appear at the hearing by phone or videoconference, without further written notice to the Class. In order to determine whether the date and time of the Settlement Hearing have changed, or whether Class Members must or may

The Stipulation can be viewed and/or obtained at www.SQMSecuritiesSettlement.com.

participate by phone or video, it is important that you monitor the Court's docket and the Settlement website, www.SQMSecuritiesSettlement.com, before making any plans to attend the Settlement Hearing. Any updates regarding the Settlement Hearing, including any changes to the date or time of the hearing or updates regarding in-person, telephonic or videoconference appearances at the hearing, will also be posted to the Settlement website, www.SQMSecuritiesSettlement.com. Also, if the Court requires or allows Class Members to participate in the Settlement Hearing by telephone or videoconference, the phone number for accessing the telephonic conference or the website for videoconference will accessing the be posted to the Settlement website, www.SQMSecuritiesSettlement.com.

IF YOU PURCHASED SQM ADSs FROM JUNE 30, 2010 THROUGH MARCH 18, 2015, INCLUSIVE, YOUR RIGHTS ARE AFFECTED BY THE SETTLEMENT OF THIS LITIGATION.

To share in the distribution of the Settlement Fund, you must establish your rights by submitting a Proof of Claim and Release form ("Proof of Claim") by mail (postmarked no later than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2021) or electronically (no later than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2021). Your failure to submit your Proof of Claim by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2021 will subject your claim to rejection and preclude your receiving any of the recovery in connection with the Settlement of this Litigation. If you purchased SQM ADSs from June 30, 2010 through March 18, 2015, inclusive, and do not request exclusion from the Class, you will be bound by the Settlement and any judgment and release entered in the Litigation, including, but not limited to, the Judgment, whether or not you submit a Proof of Claim.

If you have not received a copy of the Notice, which more completely describes the Settlement and your rights thereunder (including your right to object to the Settlement), and a Proof of Claim, you may obtain these documents, as well as a copy of the Stipulation (which, among other

things, contains definitions for the defined terms used in this Summary Notice) and other Settlement documents, online at www.SQMSecuritiesSettlement.com, or by writing to:

SQM Securities Settlement c/o Gilardi & Co. LLC P.O. Box 43360 Providence, RI 02940-3360

Inquiries should NOT be directed to SQM, the Court, or the Clerk of the Court.

Inquiries, other than requests for the Notice or for a Proof of Claim, may be made to Lead Counsel:

ROBBINS GELLER RUDMAN & DOWD LLP Ellen Gusikoff Stewart 655 West Broadway, Suite 1900 San Diego, CA 92101 Telephone: 800/449-4900

### 

DATED:	BY ORDER OF THE COURT
	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
	SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MEGAN VILLELLA, Individually and on Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,

: Civil Action No. 1:15-cv-02106-ER-GWG: (Consolidated)

Plaintiff,

**CLASS ACTION** 

VS.

[PROPOSED] FINAL JUDGMENT AND ORDER OF DISMISSAL WITH PREJUDICE

CHEMICAL AND MINING COMPANY OF CHILE INC., et al.,

EXHIBIT B

Defendants.

On the day of , 2021, a hearing having been held before this Court to determine: (1) whether the proposed Settlement of the Litigation on the terms and conditions provided for in the Stipulation of Settlement dated December 11, 2020 (the "Stipulation") is fair, reasonable, and adequate to the Class and should be approved by the Court; (2) whether a Judgment, as provided in ¶1.11 of the Stipulation, should be entered; (3) whether the Proposed Plan of Allocation should be approved; (4) whether and in what amount to award Lead Counsel fees and costs, charges, and expenses; and (5) whether and in what amount to award Lead Plaintiff its costs and expenses in representing the Class; the Court having considered all matters submitted to it at the hearing and otherwise; it appearing that a notice of the hearing substantially in the form approved by the Court (the "Notice") was provided to all individuals and entities, reasonably identifiable, who purchased or otherwise acquired SQM ADSs between June 30, 2010 and March 18, 2015, inclusive, as shown by the records compiled by the Claims Administrator in connection with its providing of the Notice, at the respective addresses set forth in such records, and that a Summary Notice of the hearing substantially in the form approved by the Court was published pursuant to the Order Preliminarily Approving Settlement and Providing for Notice ("Preliminary Approval Order") as set forth in the Declaration of \_\_\_\_\_\_, and the Supplemental Declaration of \_\_\_\_\_\_; the Court having considered and determined the fairness and reasonableness of the award of attorneys' fees and costs, charges and expenses requested by Lead Counsel and the request for Lead Plaintiff's costs and expenses; and all capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein having the meanings set forth and defined in the Stipulation.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. This Judgment incorporates by reference the definitions in the Stipulation, and all capitalized terms used herein shall have the same meanings as set forth in the Stipulation, unless otherwise set forth herein.
- 2. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Litigation and over all parties to the Litigation, including all Members of the Class.
- 3. Excluded from the Class is any Person who would otherwise be a Member of the Class but who validly and timely requested exclusion in accordance with the requirements set by the Court, as identified in Exhibit A hereto.
- 4. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23, the Court hereby approves the Settlement set forth in the Stipulation and finds that:
- (a) in light of the benefits to the Class and the complexity and expense of further litigation, said Stipulation and the Settlement contained therein, are, in all respects, fair, reasonable, and adequate and in the best interest of the Class;
  - (b) Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel have adequately represented the Class;
  - (c) there was no collusion in connection with the Stipulation;
- (d) the Stipulation was the product of informed, arm's-length negotiations among competent, able counsel;
- (e) the relief provided for the Class is adequate, having taken into account (i) the costs, risks, and delay of trial and appeal; (ii) the effectiveness of any proposed method of distributing relief to the Class, including the method of processing Class Members' Claims, (iii) the terms of any proposed award of attorneys' fees, including timing of payment; and (iv) any agreement required to be identified under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(e)(2);

- (f) the proposed Plan of Allocation treats Class Members equitably relative to each other; and
- (g) the record is sufficiently developed and complete to have enabled Lead Plaintiff and Defendant to have adequately evaluated and considered their positions.
- 5. Accordingly, the Court authorizes and directs implementation and performance of all the terms and provisions of the Stipulation, as well as the terms and provisions hereof. Except as to any individual claim of those Persons (identified in Exhibit A attached hereto) who have validly and timely requested exclusion from the Class, the Court hereby dismisses the Litigation and all Released Claims asserted therein with prejudice. The Settling Parties are to bear their own costs, except as and to the extent provided in the Stipulation and herein.
- 6. The releases as set forth in ¶¶4.1-4.4 of the Stipulation (the "Releases"), together with the definitions contained in ¶¶1.1-1.31 relating thereto, are expressly incorporated herein in all respects. The Releases are effective as of the Effective Date.
- 7. Upon the Effective Date, and as provided in the Stipulation, Lead Plaintiff shall, and each and every Releasing Plaintiff Party shall be deemed to have, and by operation of this Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever waived, released, relinquished, discharged, and dismissed each and every one of the Released Claims (including Unknown Claims) against each and every one of the Released Defendant Parties, and shall forever be barred and enjoined from commencing, instituting, prosecuting, or maintaining any and all of the Released Claims against any and all of the Released Defendant Parties, whether or not such Releasing Plaintiff Parties execute and deliver the Proof of Claim and Release form or shares in the Net Settlement Fund. Lead Plaintiff and each Releasing Plaintiff Party are bound by this Judgment, including, without limitation, the release of claims as set forth in the Stipulation. The Released Claims are hereby compromised, settled,

released, discharged, and dismissed as against the Released Defendant Parties on the merits and with prejudice by virtue of the proceedings herein and this Judgment. Claims to enforce the terms of the Stipulation or any order of the Court in the Litigation are not released.

- 8. Upon the Effective Date, and as provided in the Stipulation, each of the Releasing Plaintiff Parties and anyone claiming through or on behalf of any of them, will be forever barred and enjoined from commencing, instituting, prosecuting, or continuing to prosecute any action or other proceeding in any court of law or equity, arbitration tribunal, or administrative forum, asserting any of the Released Claims against any of the Released Defendant Parties. Claims to enforce the terms of the Stipulation are not released.
- 9. Upon the Effective Date, and as provided in the Stipulation, each of the Released Defendant Parties shall be deemed to have, and by operation of this Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished, and discharged all Released Defendant's Claims (including Unknown Claims) against the Lead Plaintiff, each and all of the Class Members, and Lead Plaintiff's Counsel. Claims to enforce the terms of the Stipulation or any order of the Court in the Litigation are not released.
- 10. The Notice of Pendency and Proposed Settlement of Class Action given to the Class was the best notice practicable under the circumstances, including the individual Notice to all Members of the Class who could be identified through reasonable effort. Said Notice provided the best notice practicable under the circumstances of those proceedings and of the matters set forth therein, including the proposed Settlement set forth in the Stipulation, to all Persons entitled to such notice, and said Notice fully satisfied the requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23, the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (the "PSLRA"), the requirements of due process, and any other applicable law. No Class Member is relieved from the terms of the Settlement,

including the Releases provided for therein, based upon the contention or proof that such Class Member failed to receive actual or adequate notice. A full opportunity has been offered to the Class Members to object to the proposed Settlement and to participate in the hearing thereon. The Court further finds that the notice provisions of the Class Action Fairness Act, 28 U.S.C. §1715, were fully discharged and that the statutory waiting period has elapsed. Thus, the Court hereby determines that all Members of the Class are bound by this Judgment.

- 11. Any Plan of Allocation submitted by Lead Counsel or any order entered regarding any attorneys' fee and expense application shall in no way disturb or affect this Judgment and shall be considered separate from this Judgment. Separate orders shall be entered regarding approval of the Plan of Allocation and Lead Counsel's application for an award of attorneys' fees and expenses, and an award of costs and expenses to Lead Plaintiff.
- 12. Any appeal or any challenge affecting the approval of (a) the Plan of Allocation submitted by Lead Counsel and/or (b) this Court's approval regarding any attorneys' fee and expense applications, including any award to Lead Plaintiff, shall in no way disturb or affect the finality of the other provisions of this Judgment nor the Effective Date of the Settlement.
- 13. Neither this Judgment, the Stipulation nor the Settlement contained therein, nor any act performed or document executed pursuant to or in furtherance of the Stipulation or the Settlement: (a) is, or may be deemed to be, or may be used as an admission of, or evidence of, the validity of any Released Claim, or of any liability, negligence, fault, or other wrongdoing of the Defendant or its Related Parties, or (b) is, or may be deemed to be, or may be used as an admission of, or evidence of, any fault or omission of Defendant or its Related Parties in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding in any court, administrative agency, or other tribunal. Defendant and/or its Related Parties may file the Stipulation and/or this Judgment from this Litigation in any other

action in order to support a defense or counterclaim based on principles of *res judicata*, collateral estoppel, release, good faith settlement, judgment bar or reduction, or any theory of claim preclusion or issue preclusion or similar defense or counterclaim.

- 14. The Court finds that Defendant has satisfied its financial obligations under the Stipulation by paying or causing to be paid \$62,500,000.00 to the Settlement Fund, in accordance with ¶2.2 of the Stipulation.
- 15. Without affecting the finality of this Judgment in any way, this Court hereby retains continuing jurisdiction over Defendant, Lead Plaintiff, and Class Members for all matters relating to the administration, interpretation, effectuation, or enforcement of the Stipulation and this Judgment, including administering and distributing Settlement proceeds to the Members of the Class.
- 16. The Court finds that during the course of the Litigation, the Settling Parties and their respective counsel at all times complied with the requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11 as to any complaint, responsive pleading, dispositive motion, or other filing.
- 17. In the event that the Settlement does not become effective in accordance with the terms of the Stipulation, or the Effective Date does not occur, or in the event that the Settlement Fund, or any portion thereof, is returned to the Defendant, then this Judgment shall be rendered null and void to the extent provided by and in accordance with the Stipulation and shall be vacated and may not be introduced as evidence or reflected in any action or proceeding by any person or entity. In such event, all orders entered and releases delivered in connection herewith shall be null and void to the extent provided by and in accordance with the Stipulation, and the Settling Parties shall revert to their respective positions in the Litigation as of November 11, 2020, as provided in the Stipulation.

18. The Settling Parties are hereby authorized, without further approval of the Court, to

unanimously agree to and adopt in writing amendments, modifications, and expansions of the

Stipulation, provided that such amendments, modifications, and expansions of the Stipulation are not

materially inconsistent with this Judgment, and do not materially limit the rights of the Members of

the Class under the Stipulation.

19. Without further order of the Court, the Settling Parties may agree to reasonable

extensions of time to carry out any of the provisions of the Stipulation.

20. This Litigation and all Released Claims are dismissed with prejudice. The parties are

to bear their own costs, except as otherwise agreed to in writing by the Settling Parties or as

otherwise provided in the Stipulation or this Judgment.

21. There is no reason for delay in the entry of this Judgment and the Court expressly

directs immediate entry of this Judgment by the Clerk of the Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED:	
	THE HONORABLE EDGARDO RAMOS
	UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE