

1 STEPHANIE S. CHRISTENSEN
 Acting United States Attorney
 2 SCOTT M. GARRINGER
 Assistant United States Attorney
 3 Chief, Criminal Division
 MATTHEW O'BRIEN (Cal. Bar No. 261568)
 4 BRIAN FAERSTEIN (Cal. Bar No. 274850)
 Assistant United States Attorneys
 5 Environmental and Community Safety Crimes Section
 1300 United States Courthouse
 6 312 North Spring Street
 Los Angeles, California 90012
 7 Telephone: (213) 894-8644/3819
 Facsimile: (213) 894-0141
 8 E-mail: Matthew.O'Brien@usdoj.gov
 Brian.Faerstein@usdoj.gov

9
 Attorneys for Plaintiff
 10 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

11 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

12 FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

13 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

14 Plaintiff,

15 v.

16 AMPLIFY ENERGY CORP.,
 BETA OPERATING COMPANY, LLC,
 17 d/b/a "Beta Offshore," and
 SAN PEDRO BAY PIPELINE COMPANY,

18 Defendants.
 19

No. CR 21-226-DOC

PLEA AGREEMENT FOR DEFENDANT
 AMPLIFY ENERGY CORP.

20
 21 1. This constitutes the binding plea agreement between
 22 defendant AMPLIFY ENERGY CORP. ("defendant") and the United States
 23 Attorney's Office for the Central District of California (the "USAO")
 24 in the above-captioned case. This agreement is limited to the USAO
 25 and cannot bind any other federal, state, local, or foreign
 26 prosecuting, enforcement, administrative, or regulatory authorities.

27 //

28 //

RULE 11(c) (1) (C) AGREEMENT

1
2 2. Defendant understands that this agreement is entered into
3 pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11(c) (1) (C).
4 Accordingly, defendant understands that, if the Court determines that
5 it will not accept this agreement, absent a breach of this agreement
6 by defendant prior to that determination and whether or not defendant
7 elects to withdraw any guilty plea entered pursuant to this
8 agreement, this agreement will, with the exception of paragraph 20
9 below, be rendered null and void and both defendant and the USAO will
10 be relieved of their obligations under this agreement. Defendant
11 agrees, however, that if defendant breaches this agreement prior to
12 the Court's determination whether or not to accept this agreement,
13 the breach provisions of this agreement, paragraphs 22 and 23 below,
14 will control, with the result that defendant will not be able to
15 withdraw any guilty plea entered pursuant to this agreement, the USAO
16 will be relieved of all of its obligations under this agreement, and
17 the Court's failure to follow any recommendation or request regarding
18 sentence set forth in this agreement will not provide a basis for
19 defendant to withdraw defendant's guilty plea.

DEFENDANT'S OBLIGATIONS

20
21 3. Defendant agrees to:
22 a. At the earliest opportunity requested by the USAO and
23 provided by the Court, appear and plead guilty to the single-count
24 indictment in United States v. AMPLIFY ENERGY CORP. et al., CR No.
25 21-226-DOC, which charges defendant with negligent discharge of oil
26 into the contiguous zone of the United States, in violation of 33
27 U.S.C. §§ 1321(b) (3), 1319(c) (1) (A).
28 b. Not contest facts agreed to in this agreement.

1 c. Abide by all agreements regarding sentencing contained
2 in this agreement and affirmatively recommend to the Court that it
3 impose sentence in accordance with paragraph 15 of this agreement.

4 d. Appear for all court appearances, and obey any other
5 ongoing court order in this matter.

6 e. Not commit any crime; however, offenses that would be
7 excluded for sentencing purposes under United States Sentencing
8 Guidelines ("U.S.S.G." or "Sentencing Guidelines") § 4A1.2(c) are not
9 within the scope of this agreement.

10 f. Be truthful at all times with the United States
11 Probation and Pretrial Services Office and the Court.

12 g. Pay the applicable special assessment at or before the
13 time of sentencing unless defendant has demonstrated a lack of
14 ability to pay such assessments.

15 h. Pay the criminal fine that the Court imposes
16 consistent with the terms of paragraph 15.b of this agreement.

17 i. Agree to, and not oppose the imposition of, the
18 conditions of probation set forth in Exhibit 1, attached hereto and
19 incorporated herein by reference.

20 THE USAO'S OBLIGATIONS

21 4. The USAO agrees to:

22 a. Not contest facts agreed to in this agreement.

23 b. Abide by all agreements regarding sentencing contained
24 in this agreement and affirmatively recommend to the Court that it
25 impose a sentence in accordance with paragraph 15 of this agreement.

26 c. Except for criminal tax violations (including
27 conspiracy to commit such violations chargeable under 18 U.S.C.
28 § 371), not further criminally prosecute defendant for violations

1 arising out of defendant's conduct described in the agreed-to factual
2 basis attached to this agreement as Exhibit 2. Defendant understands
3 that the USAO is free to criminally prosecute defendant for any other
4 unlawful past conduct or any unlawful conduct that occurs after the
5 date of this agreement. Defendant agrees that at the time of
6 sentencing the Court may consider the uncharged conduct in
7 determining the applicable Sentencing Guidelines range, the propriety
8 and extent of any departure from that range, and the sentence to be
9 imposed after consideration of the Sentencing Guidelines and all
10 other relevant factors under 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a).

11 COMPANY AUTHORIZATION

12 5. Defendant represents that it is authorized to enter into
13 this agreement. On or before the change of plea hearing pursuant to
14 this agreement, defendant shall provide the USAO and the Court with a
15 notarized legal document certifying that defendant is authorized to
16 enter into and comply with all of the provisions of this agreement.
17 Such resolution shall designate the company representative who is
18 authorized to take the actions specified in this agreement, including
19 pleading guilty on behalf of the company, and shall also state that
20 all legal formalities for such authorizations have been observed.

21 ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES AND APPLICABILITY

22 6. This agreement shall bind defendant, its successor
23 corporation(s), if any, and any other person or entity that assumes
24 the liabilities contained herein ("successor-in-interest"). No
25 change in name, change in corporate or individual control, business
26 reorganization, change in ownership, merger, change of legal status,
27 sale or purchase of assets, or similar action shall alter defendant's
28 responsibilities under this agreement. Defendant shall not engage in

1 any action to seek to avoid the obligations and conditions set forth
2 in this agreement.

3 RESPONDEAT SUPERIOR

4 7. The parties stipulate and agree that under principles of
5 corporate liability and respondeat superior, as these principles
6 apply in this case, defendant is liable for the actions of its agents
7 and employees. New York Central and Hudson River R.R. v. United
8 States, 212 U.S. 481, 495 (1909); United States v. Beusch, 596 F.2d
9 871, 877-878 (9th Cir. 1979); United States v. Hilton Hotels
10 Corporation, 467 F.2d 1000, 1004-1007 (9th Cir. 1972).

11 NATURE OF THE OFFENSE

12 8. Defendant understands that for defendant to be guilty of
13 the crime charged in the indictment, that is, negligent discharge of
14 oil into the contiguous zone of the United States, in violation of
15 Title 33, United States Code, Sections 1321(b)(3), 1319(c)(1)(A), the
16 following must be true: (1) a person; (2) discharged oil; (3) into
17 waters of the United States . . . or into the contiguous zone; (4) in
18 a quantity that may be harmful; and (5) acted negligently.

19 PENALTIES AND RESTITUTION

20 9. Defendant understands that the statutory maximum sentence
21 that the Court can impose for a violation of Title 33, United States
22 Code, Sections 1321(b)(3), 1319(c)(1)(A), is: 5 years of probation; a
23 fine of \$25,000 per day of violation, or \$200,000 per offense, or
24 twice the gross gain or gross loss resulting from the offense,
25 whichever is greatest; and a mandatory special assessment of \$125.

26 10. Regarding restitution, the parties agree as follows:
27
28

1 concerning suspension or debarment of defendant from contracting with
2 the United States or with any office, agency, or department thereof.
3 Suspension and debarment of organizations convicted under various
4 federal regulatory protection and criminal statutes is a
5 discretionary administrative action solely within the authority of
6 the federal contracting agencies.

7 12. Defendant understands that unanticipated collateral
8 consequences will not serve as grounds to withdraw defendant's guilty
9 plea.

10 FACTUAL BASIS

11 13. Defendant admits that defendant is, in fact, guilty of the
12 offense to which defendant is agreeing to plead guilty. Defendant
13 and the USAO agree to the statement of facts attached hereto as
14 Exhibit 2, and incorporated herein by reference, and agree that this
15 statement of facts is sufficient to support a plea of guilty to the
16 charge described in this agreement but is not meant to be a complete
17 recitation of all facts relevant to the underlying criminal conduct
18 or all facts known to either party that relate to that conduct.

19 SENTENCING FACTORS AND AGREED-UPON SENTENCE

20 14. Defendant and the USAO agree and stipulate that, pursuant
21 to United States Sentencing Guidelines ("U.S.S.G.") §§ 8C2.1 and
22 8C2.10, the sentencing guidelines are not applicable in determining
23 the fine for an organization violating 33 U.S.C. §§ 1321(b)(3),
24 1319(c)(1)(A), but all other sections of Chapter 8 of the U.S.S.G.
25 are applicable in this case, including the provisions regarding
26 probation. Defendant understands that in determining defendant's
27 sentence, the Court is also required to consider the factors set
28 forth in Title 18, United States Code, Sections 3553(a) and 3572,

1 including the kinds of sentences and sentencing ranges established
2 under the Sentencing Guidelines.

3 15. Pursuant to Chapter 8 of the Sentencing Guidelines and the
4 factors set forth in Title 18, United States Code, Sections 3553(a)
5 and 3572, including the nature and circumstances of the offense and
6 the history and characteristics of the defendant, the need for the
7 sentence imposed to reflect the seriousness of the offense, to
8 promote respect for the law, to provide just punishment for the
9 offense, to afford adequate deterrence to criminal conduct, and to
10 protect the public from further crimes of the defendant, the parties
11 agree to advocate and affirmatively recommend that the Court sentence
12 defendant as follows:

13 a. Probation: Defendant should be sentenced to probation
14 for a term of four years with conditions to be fixed by the Court.
15 The probationary terms shall include those terms set forth in Exhibit
16 1 to this agreement, which is incorporated herein by reference.

17 b. Criminal Fine: Defendant should pay a total federal
18 criminal fine of \$7,100,000. Defendant's federal criminal fine shall
19 be paid by certified checks or wire transfers to the Clerk of the
20 United States District Court for the Central District of California.
21 Confirmation of the completed payments shall be provided to the USAO.
22 The federal criminal fine is separate from, and in addition to, the
23 other payments that defendant is obligated to make to governmental
24 agencies and entities as part of the terms of its probationary
25 period, as described in Exhibit 1. The federal criminal fine shall
26 be paid according to the following schedule:

27 i. \$2 million within two weeks of the entry of
28 judgment;

1 ii. \$2 million within one year of the entry of
2 judgment;

3 iii. \$2 million within two years of the entry of
4 judgment; and

5 iv. \$1.1 million within three years of the entry of
6 judgment.

7 c. Special Assessment: Defendant shall pay a total
8 special assessment of \$125.

9 WAIVER OF CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

10 16. Defendant understands that by pleading guilty, defendant
11 gives up the following rights:

12 a. The right to persist in a plea of not guilty.

13 b. The right to a speedy and public trial by jury.

14 c. The right to be represented by counsel at trial.

15 Defendant understands, however, that, defendant retains the right to
16 be represented by counsel at every other stage of the proceeding.

17 d. The right to be presumed innocent and to have the
18 burden of proof placed on the government to prove defendant guilty
19 beyond a reasonable doubt.

20 e. The right to confront and cross-examine witnesses
21 against defendant.

22 f. The right to testify and to present evidence in
23 opposition to the charges, including the right to compel the
24 attendance of witnesses to testify.

25 g. Any and all rights to pursue any affirmative defenses,
26 Fourth Amendment or Fifth Amendment claims, and other pretrial
27 motions that have been filed or could be filed.

28

1 pursue any charge or any civil, administrative, or regulatory action
2 that was either dismissed or not filed as a result of this agreement,
3 then (i) any applicable statute of limitations will be tolled between
4 the date of defendant's signing of this agreement and the filing
5 commencing any such action; and (ii) defendant waives and gives up
6 all defenses based on the statute of limitations, any claim of pre-
7 indictment delay, or any speedy trial claim with respect to any such
8 action, except to the extent that such defenses existed as of the
9 date of defendant's signing this agreement.

10 EFFECTIVE DATE OF AGREEMENT

11 21. This agreement is effective upon signature and execution of
12 all required certifications by defendant, defendant's counsel, and an
13 Assistant United States Attorney.

14 BREACH OF AGREEMENT

15 22. Defendant agrees that if defendant, at any time after the
16 signature of this agreement and execution of all required
17 certifications by defendant, defendant's counsel, and an Assistant
18 United States Attorney, knowingly violates or fails to perform any of
19 defendant's obligations under this agreement ("a breach"), the USAO
20 may declare this agreement breached. All of defendant's obligations
21 are material, a single breach of this agreement is sufficient for the
22 USAO to declare a breach, and defendant shall not be deemed to have
23 cured a breach without the express agreement of the USAO in writing.
24 If the USAO declares this agreement breached, and the Court finds
25 such a breach to have occurred, then: (a) if defendant has previously
26 entered a guilty plea pursuant to this agreement, defendant will not
27 be able to withdraw the guilty plea, (b) the USAO will be relieved of
28 all its obligations under this agreement, and (c) the Court's failure

1 to follow any recommendation or request regarding sentence set forth
2 in this agreement will not provide a basis for defendant to withdraw
3 defendant's guilty plea.

4 23. Following the Court's finding of a knowing breach of this
5 agreement by defendant, should the USAO choose to pursue any charge
6 or any civil, administrative, or regulatory action that was either
7 dismissed or not filed as a result of this agreement, then:

8 a. Defendant agrees that any applicable statute of
9 limitations is tolled between the date of defendant's signing of this
10 agreement and the filing commencing any such action.

11 b. Defendant waives and gives up all defenses based on
12 the statute of limitations, any claim of pre-indictment delay, or any
13 speedy trial claim with respect to any such action, except to the
14 extent that such defenses existed as of the date of defendant's
15 signing this agreement.

16 c. Defendant agrees that: (i) any statements made by
17 defendant, under oath, at the guilty plea hearing (if such a hearing
18 occurred prior to the breach); (ii) the agreed to factual basis
19 statement in this agreement; and (iii) any evidence derived from such
20 statements, shall be admissible against defendant in any such action
21 against defendant, and defendant waives and gives up any claim under
22 the United States Constitution, any statute, Rule 410 of the Federal
23 Rules of Evidence, Rule 11(f) of the Federal Rules of Criminal
24 Procedure, or any other federal rule, that the statements or any
25 evidence derived from the statements should be suppressed or are
26 inadmissible.

1 COURT AND UNITED STATES PROBATION AND PRETRIAL SERVICES

2 OFFICE NOT PARTIES

3 24. Defendant understands that the Court and the United States
4 Probation and Pretrial Services Office are not parties to this
5 agreement and need not accept any of the USAO's sentencing
6 recommendations or the parties' agreements to facts, sentencing
7 factors, or sentencing. Defendant understands that the Court will
8 determine the facts, sentencing factors, and other considerations
9 relevant to sentencing and will decide for itself whether to accept
10 and agree to be bound by this agreement.

11 25. Defendant understands that both defendant and the USAO are
12 free to: (a) supplement the facts by supplying relevant information
13 to the United States Probation and Pretrial Services Office and the
14 Court, (b) correct any and all factual misstatements relating to the
15 Court's Sentencing Guidelines calculations and determination of
16 sentence, and (c) argue on appeal and collateral review that the
17 Court's Sentencing Guidelines calculations and the sentence it
18 chooses to impose are not error, although each party agrees to
19 maintain its view that the sentence referenced in paragraph 15 is
20 consistent with the facts of this case. While this paragraph permits
21 both the USAO and defendant to submit full and complete factual
22 information to the United States Probation and Pretrial Services
23 Office and the Court, even if that factual information may be viewed
24 as inconsistent with the facts agreed to in this agreement, this
25 paragraph does not affect defendant's and the USAO's obligations not
26 to contest the facts agreed to in this agreement.

NO ADDITIONAL AGREEMENTS

26. Defendant understands that, except as set forth herein, there are no promises, understandings, or agreements between the USAO and defendant or defendant's attorney, and that no additional promise, understanding, or agreement may be entered into unless in a writing signed by all parties or on the record in court.

PLEA AGREEMENT PART OF THE GUILTY PLEA HEARING

27. The parties agree that this agreement will be considered part of the record of defendant's guilty plea hearing as if the entire agreement had been read into the record of the proceeding.

AGREED AND ACCEPTED

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

STEPHANIE S. CHRISTENSEN
Acting United States Attorney



MATTHEW O'BRIEN
BRIAN FAERSTEIN
Assistant United States Attorneys

August 26, 2022

Date

Date

Authorized Representative of
Defendant AMPLIFY ENERGY CORP.



BRIAN A. BENCZKOWSKI
MARK C. HOLSCHER
Kirkland & Ellis LLP
Attorneys for Defendant AMPLIFY
ENERGY CORP.

August 26, 2022

Date

NO ADDITIONAL AGREEMENTS

26. Defendant understands that, except as set forth herein, there are no promises, understandings, or agreements between the USAO and defendant or defendant's attorney, and that no additional promise, understanding, or agreement may be entered into unless in a writing signed by all parties or on the record in court.

PLEA AGREEMENT PART OF THE GUILTY PLEA HEARING

27. The parties agree that this agreement will be considered part of the record of defendant's guilty plea hearing as if the entire agreement had been read into the record of the proceeding.

AGREED AND ACCEPTED

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

STEPHANIE S. CHRISTENSEN
Acting United States Attorney

MATTHEW O'BRIEN
BRIAN FAERSTEIN
Assistant United States Attorneys

Date

M. J. Well

Authorized Representative of
Defendant AMPLIFY ENERGY CORP.

8/26/2022

Date

BRIAN A. BENCZKOWSKI
MARK C. HOLSCHER
Kirkland & Ellis LLP
Attorneys for Defendant AMPLIFY
ENERGY CORP.

Date

CERTIFICATION OF DEFENDANT

I have read this agreement in its entirety. I have had enough time to review and consider this agreement, and I have carefully and thoroughly discussed every part of it with defendant's attorney. I understand the terms of this agreement, and I voluntarily agree to those terms. I have discussed the evidence with defendant's attorney, and defendant's attorney has advised me of defendant's rights, of possible pretrial motions that might be filed, of possible defenses that might be asserted either prior to or at trial, of the sentencing factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a), of relevant Sentencing Guidelines provisions, and of the consequences of entering into this agreement. No promises, inducements, or representations of any kind have been made to me or defendant other than those contained in this agreement. No one has threatened or forced me or defendant in any way to enter into this agreement. I am satisfied with the representation of defendant's attorney in this matter, and defendant is pleading guilty because defendant is guilty of the charge and wishes to take advantage of the promises set forth in this agreement, and not for any other reason.

Mark Will

8/26/2022

Authorized Representative of
Defendant AMPLIFY ENERGY CORP.

Date

CERTIFICATION OF DEFENDANT'S ATTORNEY

I am defendant's attorney. I have carefully and thoroughly discussed every part of this agreement with my client. Further, I have fully advised my client of its rights, of possible pretrial

1 motions that might be filed, of possible defenses that might be
2 asserted either prior to or at trial, of the sentencing factors set
3 forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a), of relevant Sentencing Guidelines
4 provisions, and of the consequences of entering into this agreement.
5 To my knowledge: no promises, inducements, or representations of any
6 kind have been made to my client other than those contained in this
7 agreement; no one has threatened or forced my client in any way to
8 enter into this agreement; my client's decision to enter into this
9 agreement is an informed and voluntary one; and the factual basis set
10 forth in this agreement is sufficient to support my client's entry of
11 a guilty plea pursuant to this agreement.



August 26, 2022

BRIAN A. BENCZKOWSKI
MARK C. HOLSCHER
Kirkland & Ellis LLP
Attorneys for Defendant AMPLIFY
ENERGY CORP.

Date

1 **Exhibit 1**

2 Additional Terms of Probation

3 The following terms of probation shall apply to defendants
4 AMPLIFY ENERGY CORP., BETA OPERATING COMPANY, LLC, doing business as
5 "Beta Offshore," and SAN PEDRO BAY PIPELINE COMPANY (collectively,
6 "defendants"), in addition to the standard conditions of probation,
7 as applicable, to be set by the Court pursuant to the Second Amended
8 General Order No. 20-04.

9 1. Defendants shall make whole governmental agencies and
10 entities, including the United States Coast Guard and the Oil Spill
11 Liability Trust Fund administered by the Coast Guard, for direct and
12 indirect expenses incurred as the result of the governmental response
13 in the aftermath of the spill from the 17-mile San Pedro Bay Pipeline
14 (the "Pipeline"), in accordance with submissions for payment received
15 by those agencies and where such expenses have not yet been
16 reimbursed by defendants at the time of entry of defendants' guilty
17 pleas. To date, the Coast Guard has incurred approximately
18 \$5,844,700 in direct and indirect expenses in responding to the
19 spill, including funds expended out of the Oil Spill Liability Trust
20 Fund. Defendants have begun to make repayment toward those expenses.

21 2. Within 60 days of defendants' entry of their guilty pleas,
22 defendants shall ensure all operational employees and related
23 management personnel are trained and instructed, in compliance with
24 California Government Code Section 8670.25.5, to immediately notify
25 and update all appropriate response agencies, including the
26 California State Office of Emergency Services ("Cal-OES"), and any
27 local unified environmental program or agency, of any release or
28 threatened release of a hazardous material or pollutant substance

1 from any pipeline, conveyance system, or any other operation of
2 defendants in the State of California, as required by law.

3 3. At the time they are authorized to restart production
4 through the Pipeline, defendants shall ensure they are using a leak
5 detection system on the Pipeline that provides the Best Achievable
6 Protection using the Best Achievable Technology, as those terms are
7 defined in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, Section
8 790, subdivision (b)(5), and Section 790, subdivision (b)(6). The
9 new leak detection system will run concurrently with the previous
10 leak detection system for up to 180 days after production is
11 authorized to restart to ensure that the new leak detection system is
12 appropriately calibrated to the Pipeline.

13 4. The operator of the Pipeline shall report any indication of
14 lateral or elevation movement as identified by the GPS tracking from
15 remotely operated vehicle ("ROV") visual inspections and report any
16 indication of damages identified from the visual inspections, such as
17 the concrete casing being damaged or displaced. Data indicating
18 deviation from the permitted location of the Pipeline shall be
19 provided to the United States Department of Transportation Pipeline
20 and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration ("PHMSA"), the State
21 Lands Commission, and the State Fire Marshal within seven (7) days
22 after the ROV videos are processed and provided to defendants.

23 5. After each leak detection alarm, defendants shall notify
24 the Cal-OES State Warning Center of the leak detection alarm.

25 6. Defendants shall establish and maintain a contract with an
26 oil spill response organization, vessel service company, or other
27 entity that will promptly deploy upon request, and that has the
28

1 capability to detect oil on the surface of the water at night or in
2 low-light conditions.

3 7. Defendants must conduct actual visual inspections of the
4 Pipeline semiannually (e.g., an ROV). Driving a boat on the surface
5 of the water over the route of the Pipeline is not sufficient.
6 Anomalies found on the Pipeline shall be reported to PHMSA, the
7 United States Department of Interior Bureau of Safety and
8 Environmental Enforcement ("BSEE"), and the California State Fire
9 Marshal.

10 8. Defendants shall revise the Risk & Hazard Analysis in their
11 oil spill contingency plan that has been approved by the California
12 Department of Fish and Wildlife, Office of Spill Prevention and
13 Response ("OSPR") [Plan # M5-24-3231] to expressly account for the
14 risk to pipelines from anchors, vessels, or fishing operations.

15 9. Defendants shall resubmit its oil spill contingency plan to
16 OSPR [Plan # M5-24-3231], with updates reflecting the changes
17 required by these probationary terms, and notify the United States
18 Probation and Pretrial Services Office ("Probation") and the Chief of
19 the Environmental and Community Safety Crimes Section ("ECSCS") at
20 the United States Attorney's Office for the Central District of
21 California ("USAO") that they have done so.

22 10. Defendants shall review and ensure adequacy of the existing
23 O & M Manual and sections related to Leak Detection (Section 5.02),
24 Abnormal Operating Conditions (PSOM section 17.08), and Emergency
25 Response Procedures (PSOM Section 17.09). Once the review and
26 changes are completed, defendants shall submit updated documents to
27 OSPR and notify Probation and the Chief of ECSCS at the USAO that
28 they have done so.

1 11. Defendants shall review and update the SPBPL 16" Manual
2 Leak Detection Procedure (SPBPL-001.00 rev: REA 7/11) to reflect
3 current practices and compliance with probation terms. Once the
4 review and updates are completed, defendants shall submit updated
5 documents to OSPR and notify Probation and the Chief of ECSCS at the
6 USAO that they have done so.

7 12. Defendants shall review and update all of the spill
8 notification procedures found in their plan submitted to OSPR [Plan
9 # M5-24-3231] to ensure compliance with requirements for immediate
10 notification pursuant to California Government Code Section
11 8670.25.5. Once completed, defendants shall submit the updated
12 procedures to OSPR and notify Probation and the Chief of ECSCS at the
13 USAO that they have done so.

14 13. Defendants shall provide training to operational employees
15 and related management personnel on all requirements and updated
16 spill notification procedures for immediate notification, in
17 compliance with California Government Code Section 8670.25.5, to
18 appropriate federal, state and local authorities, including the
19 United States Coast Guard National Response Center and the Cal-OES
20 State Warning Center.

21 14. Defendants shall make modifications to their existing
22 pipeline related procedures. These modifications will require
23 financial investment of at least \$250,000 and defendants will use
24 best efforts to implement any procedural improvements that their
25 third-party consultant Eagle Energy Services LLC concludes to be
26 necessary before the Pipeline is restarted with the pumping of oil,
27 to the extent such proposed procedural improvements are not in
28

1 conflict with any requirements from PHMSA and BSEE, the agencies
2 responsible for approving the restart of operations on the Pipeline.

3 15. Defendants shall provide mandatory training to operational
4 employees and related management personnel on these updated
5 operational policies and procedures, and engage a qualified third-
6 party provider to provide updated training on shipping, shut-down,
7 and restart before restarting Pipeline operations.

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

Exhibit 2

Statement of Facts in Support of AMPLIFY ENERGY CORP.'s
Guilty Plea and Plea Agreement

At all times relevant herein, defendant AMPLIFY ENERGY CORP. ("AMPLIFY"), along with its co-defendants and subsidiaries BETA OPERATING COMPANY, LLC, doing business as "Beta Offshore," and SAN PEDRO BAY PIPELINE COMPANY (collectively, "defendants"), owned and operated the 17-mile San Pedro Bay Pipeline (the "Pipeline"), which shipped crude oil from defendants' Platform Elly in San Pedro Bay to defendants' onshore terminal station in Long Beach, California. All portions of Platform Elly and the Pipeline were located in the waters of the contiguous zone of the United States and/or in the Central District of California.

A. The Anchor Drags

Defendants maintain that: 1) during a storm on January 25, 2021, one or more ships' anchors crossed over and struck an offshore and underwater section of the Pipeline, and dragged a 4,000-foot portion of the Pipeline approximately 105 feet from its original location; 2) the first anchor struck the Pipeline multiple times on the morning of January 25, 2021, damaging and displacing the Pipeline; 3) the second anchor struck the Pipeline on the morning of January 25, 2021, also damaging and displacing the Pipeline; 4) as it was displacing the Pipeline, the second anchor slid along the length of the Pipeline until it reached the location where the Pipeline ultimately leaked; and 5) the anchor drags likely were the primary cause of the oil spill on October 1 and 2, 2021 described below. The government acknowledges that these anchor drags appear to have occurred, that the anchor drags may have weakened the Pipeline, and that the anchor

1 drags may have been one cause of the oil spill on October 1 and 2,
2 2021.

3 Defendants maintain that they did not learn of the January 2021
4 anchor drags until after the oil spill on October 1 and 2, 2021. In
5 an ongoing civil action, captioned Peter Moses Gutierrez et al. v.
6 Amplify Energy Corporation et al. (C.D. Cal. Case No. 8:21-CV-01628-
7 DOC), defendants claim, among other things, that the ships allegedly
8 involved in the anchor drags negligently failed to notify defendants
9 of the anchor drags and therefore those ships also are responsible
10 for the oil spill described below.

11 **B. The Pipeline Rupture**

12 At approximately 4:05 p.m. on October 1, 2021, the Pipeline
13 ruptured approximately 4.7 miles from shore, in the contiguous zone
14 of the United States, at the approximate location of the apparent
15 anchor drags on January 25, 2021.

16 Earlier in the day on October 1, 2021, defendants' crewmembers
17 had been dealing with an "upset" on Platform Elly, which involved the
18 inversion of crude oil and produced water in a "knockout vessel" on
19 Platform Elly. Such upsets had happened in the past on Platform
20 Elly, but the upset on October 1 was more severe and took longer to
21 fix than previous upsets. As a result of the upset, defendants'
22 crewmembers pumped crude oil containing a higher-than-normal
23 concentration of produced water past the flow and pressure meters and
24 into the Pipeline.

25 **C. Defendants' Leak Detection System**

26 At all times relevant herein, defendants used a leak detection
27 system ("LDS") for the Pipeline. Essentially, the LDS was an
28 automated system that was intended to monitor and compare, among

1 other things, the amount of oil being pumped into the Pipeline at
2 Platform Elly with the amount of oil coming out of the Pipeline
3 onshore at defendants' terminal station, and monitor the pressure at
4 both ends of the Pipeline. When the data indicated a potential leak,
5 the LDS issued visual and audio alarms to alert defendants' control-
6 room operators at Platform Elly and onshore about a potential leak.
7 The LDS is designed to indicate the estimated size and rate of a
8 potential leak, as well as the suspected location of a potential
9 leak.

10 On October 1 and 2, 2021, defendants' crewmembers believed,
11 incorrectly, that the LDS alarms (as described below) were caused by
12 the higher-than-normal quantity of produced water being pumped
13 through the Pipeline as a result of the upset described above. In
14 addition, all of the LDS alarms on October 1 and 2, 2021, indicated
15 that the likely location of the suspected leak was "Mile 0," which
16 corresponded to Platform Elly, rather than the undersea Pipeline
17 itself. In response to the alarms described below and in reliance on
18 the "Mile 0" indication, defendants' crewmembers searched multiple
19 times for a leak on Platform Elly but found nothing.

20 The company that provided the LDS to defendants (the "LDS
21 Provider") offered daily technical support to its clients, including
22 defendants. The LDS Provider had a phone number (staffed 24 hours a
23 day) through which its clients could ask for help regarding LDS
24 alarms and how to respond, including for an additional fee after
25 regular business hours. On October 1 and 2, 2021, defendants never
26 contacted the LDS Provider to ask for assistance regarding the eight
27 LDS alarms described below.

28

1 **D. Defendants' Response to the Spill**

2 At approximately 4:10 p.m. on October 1, 2021, defendants' LDS
3 issued an alarm for the first time that day, indicating a potential
4 leak in the Pipeline. In response to this alarm, defendants shut
5 down the Pipeline at approximately 5:10 p.m. on October 1, 2021. At
6 approximately 5:40 p.m., defendants' crewmembers, due in part to
7 issues relating to the earlier upset, incorrectly assessed there was
8 no leak, and started pumping crude oil through the Pipeline again.

9 At approximately 5:52 p.m. on October 1, 2021, defendants' LDS
10 issued another alarm. In response, at approximately 5:53 p.m. on
11 October 1, 2021, defendants shut down the Pipeline for the second
12 time that day. At approximately 7:03 p.m. on October 1, 2021,
13 defendants' crewmembers, incorrectly assessing there was no leak,
14 started pumping crude oil through the Pipeline again.

15 At approximately 7:15 p.m. on October 1, 2021, defendants' LDS
16 issued another alarm. In response, at approximately 7:42 p.m. on
17 October 1, 2021, defendants shut down the Pipeline for the third time
18 that day. At approximately 8:29 p.m. on October 1, 2021, defendants'
19 crewmembers, incorrectly assessing there was no leak, started pumping
20 crude oil through the Pipeline again.

21 At approximately 8:39 p.m. on October 1, 2021, defendants' LDS
22 issued another alarm. In response, at approximately 8:43 p.m. on
23 October 1, 2021, defendants shut down the Pipeline for the fourth
24 time that day. At approximately 9:12 p.m. on October 1, 2021,
25 defendants' crewmembers, incorrectly assessing there was no leak,
26 started pumping crude oil through the Pipeline again.

27 At approximately 9:23 p.m. on October 1, 2021, defendants' LDS
28 issued another alarm. In response, at approximately 9:24 p.m. on

1 October 1, 2021, defendants shut down the Pipeline for the fifth time
2 that day. At approximately 9:44 p.m. on October 1, 2021, defendants'
3 crewmembers, incorrectly assessing there was no leak, started pumping
4 crude oil through the Pipeline again.

5 At approximately 10:01 p.m. on October 1, 2021, defendants' LDS
6 issued another alarm. In response, at approximately 10:33 p.m. on
7 October 1, 2021, defendants shut down the Pipeline for the sixth time
8 that day. At approximately 11:15 p.m. on October 1, 2021,
9 defendants' crewmembers, incorrectly assessing there was no leak,
10 started pumping crude oil through the Pipeline again.

11 At approximately 11:30 p.m. on October 1, 2021, defendants' LDS
12 issued another alarm. Defendants' crewmembers, incorrectly assessing
13 there was no leak, continued pumping crude oil through the Pipeline
14 until approximately 2:27 a.m. on October 2, 2021, when they shut it
15 down for the seventh time.

16 The main reason why defendants' crewmembers continued pumping
17 crude oil through the Pipeline from approximately 11:15 p.m. on
18 October 1 to approximately 2:27 a.m. on October 2 was so that they
19 could conduct a "manual leak detection test" to further investigate
20 whether there was an actual leak. In a manual leak detection test,
21 crewmembers track flow meter data at each end of the Pipeline to
22 monitor the quantities of crude oil being pumped into the Pipeline at
23 Platform Elly and the quantities of oil arriving onshore at the end
24 of the Pipeline, at specific intervals every thirty minutes, to
25 determine if there is an imbalance suggesting a leak. Defendants'
26 crewmembers conducted a manual leak detection test, taking readings
27 from flow meters at the respective ends of the Pipeline every thirty
28 minutes from approximately 12:20 a.m. to 2:20 a.m. on October 2,

1 2021. The flow meter readings taken at approximately 12:50 a.m. and
2 1:20 a.m. each revealed that approximately ten barrels more was being
3 pumped into the Pipeline at Platform Elly than was arriving onshore,
4 further indicating a potential leak. Defendants' crewmembers
5 incorrectly believed that the ten-barrel difference was the result of
6 the higher quantity of produced water pumped into the Pipeline
7 earlier in the day. By continuing to pump oil through the Pipeline
8 for approximately one hour after the crewmembers had received the
9 results of two consecutive flow meter readings that revealed a ten-
10 barrel difference and after the LDS already had issued seven alarms,
11 defendants negligently discharged oil in harmful quantities into San
12 Pedro Bay, in the contiguous zone of the United States, in violation
13 of 33 U.S.C. §§ 1321(b)(3), 1319(c)(1)(A).

14 At approximately 2:30 a.m. on October 2, 2021, after the manual
15 leak detection tests, defendants decided to request that a third
16 party conduct a "line ride," in which a boat travels above the course
17 of the underwater Pipeline, from shore to Platform Elly, in order to
18 determine if there is any indication of an oil spill or other
19 problems. This was the first time defendants ever had requested a
20 line ride for the Pipeline in response to LDS alarms, and the first
21 time that defendants ever had requested a nighttime line ride for the
22 Pipeline. The line ride was conducted from approximately 3:30 a.m.
23 to 4:30 a.m. on October 2, 2021, in the dark of night using
24 flashlights on a boat. Defendants' personnel understood that it
25 would be difficult for a line ride to identify an oil spill in the
26 middle of the night by means of a flashlight. The third party
27 conducting the line ride did not identify any sign of a leak during
28 the line ride and reported that to defendants' personnel.

1 As a result of defendants' continued erroneous belief that there
2 was no leak, defendants started pumping oil through the Pipeline at
3 approximately 5:11 a.m. on October 2, 2021.

4 At approximately 5:28 a.m. on October 2, 2021, defendants' LDS
5 issued another alarm. Nonetheless, defendants did not shut the
6 Pipeline down for the eighth and final time until 6:04 a.m., when it
7 decided - according to its control-room logbook - to "wait for
8 daylight" (sunrise was at approximately 6:47 a.m. that day). By
9 pumping crude oil through the Pipeline from approximately 5:11 a.m.
10 to 6:04 a.m. on October 2, 2021, defendants negligently discharged
11 oil in harmful quantities into San Pedro Bay, in the contiguous zone
12 of the United States, in violation of 33 U.S.C. §§ 1321(b)(3),
13 1319(c)(1)(A).

14 At approximately 7:00 a.m. on October 2, 2021, at defendants'
15 request, a third party began conducting a second line ride. With the
16 benefit of daylight, the second line ride identified the spill at
17 approximately 8:00 a.m. and notified defendants. Defendants
18 thereafter initiated their oil spill response plan, including, at
19 approximately 8:30 a.m., contacting their disaster response firm.

20 **E. The Quantity of Discharged Oil**

21 The leak from the Pipeline, beginning at approximately 4:05 p.m.
22 October 1, 2021, and ending at approximately 6:04 a.m. on October 2,
23 2021, caused approximately 588 barrels of crude oil to spill into the
24 San Pedro Bay. This was a quantity that was harmful to the public
25 health, welfare, and environment of the United States.

26 **F. The Impact of the Spill**

27 The oil spill impacted to varying degrees a diverse group of
28 stakeholders, ranging, for example, from local surfers and

1 beachgoers, to recreational and commercial fishermen, to tourism
2 businesses, to individuals and businesses involved in the Great
3 Pacific Airshow that was scheduled for its final day on October 3,
4 2021 but was cancelled, to nonprofits involved in the clean-up of the
5 oil spill, as well as local, state, and federal governmental
6 agencies. For example, after the spill, an area of approximately 650
7 square miles was closed to fishing, including approximately 45 miles
8 of shoreline. Two days after the spill, Governor Newsom declared a
9 state of emergency due to the far-reaching impacts of the spill and
10 the related response efforts.

11 Defendants have paid the vast majority of expenses related to
12 the clean-up of the spill. However, the Coast Guard has incurred
13 approximately \$5,844,700 to date in direct and indirect expenses in
14 responding to the spill, including funds expended out of the Oil
15 Spill Liability Trust Fund administered by the Coast Guard. On July
16 15, 2022, the Coast Guard submitted approximately \$656,500 of those
17 expenses to defendants for payment, which invoice was paid on August
18 17, 2022. Defendants intend to promptly pay any and all remaining
19 amounts once invoices are received from the Coast Guard.

20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28