

WHEN RECORDED RETURN TO:

Transamerica Title Insurance Company
 Attn: Dorrie Johnson
 1200 Sixth Avenue
 Park Place Building
 Seattle, WA 98101

WI-1005

Statutory Quit Claim Deed

(WASHINGTON)

Grantor, BURLINGTON NORTHERN RAILROAD COMPANY, a Delaware corporation, (formerly named Burlington Northern Inc.), whose address is 3800 Continental Plaza, 777 Main Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102, for and in consideration of One Dollar and other good and valuable consideration, conveys and quit claims to Grantee, MERIDIAN MINERALS COMPANY, a Montana corporation, whose address is 5613 DTC Parkway, Englewood, Colorado 80111, all of Grantor's right, title and interest in and to that certain real estate described in Exhibit A attached hereto and by this reference incorporated herein, which real estate is situated in the County of Skamania, State of Washington, together with all after acquired title of the Grantor therein.

Dated: May 26, 1988.

BURLINGTON NORTHERN RAILROAD
 COMPANY, a Delaware corporation

By D. W. Scott
 D. W. Scott, Vice President

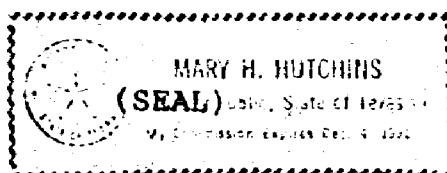
(SEAL)

Attest By Shirley B. O'Connor
 Shirley B. O'Connor,
 Assistant Secretary

STATE OF TEXAS)
) ss.
 COUNTY OF TARRANT)

Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State of Texas, duly commissioned and sworn, this day personally appeared D. W. Scott and Shirley B. O'Connor, known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed on the foregoing instrument, and known to me to be the Vice President and Assistant Secretary, respectively, of BURLINGTON NORTHERN RAILROAD COMPANY, a Delaware corporation, and acknowledged to me that they executed said instrument for the purposes and consideration therein expressed and as the free and voluntary act of said corporation, and that the seal affixed, if any, is the corporate seal of said corporation.

GIVEN under my hand and seal of office this 26 day of May, 1988, A.D.



Mary H. Hutchins
 NOTARY PUBLIC in and for the State
 of Texas
 Name MARY H. HUTCHINS
 My appointment expires: 12-4-91



12087
 REAL ESTATE EXCISE TAX

PAID

051588/0919N/60

Document Number 35998

EXHIBIT A

To Quit Claim Deed from
Burlington Northern Railroad Company to
Meridian Minerals Company

PREAMBLE

By way of example only, and not by way of limitation, the interest in real estate conveyed by said Quit Claim Deed is inclusive of the following:

All ores and minerals of any nature whatsoever, including, but not limited to, coal, iron, gas occurring in coal formations to the extent the same is vented as a non-commercial substance in conjunction with coal development and extraction operations, industrial minerals, precious metals, metallic minerals, aggregates, sand and gravel, clay, uranium, rock including but not limited to rock of a unique character, and geothermal heat and waters, and all of the constituent products of all or any of the foregoing and all other substances associated or commingled therewith (excepting oil, gas and other hydrocarbons which were conveyed by Grantor to Milestone Petroleum, Inc. by Confirmation Special Warranty Deed or to Meridian Oil, Inc. by Quit Claim Deed of even date herewith), (collectively "minerals"), whether surface of subsurface in, upon, under or which may be produced from the real property described in this Exhibit "A" (collectively called "premises"), together with the right to enter upon the premises for the purposes of prospecting and exploring for said minerals by geophysical, geochemical or other means, and for the purpose of drilling, extracting, opening, mining, developing and processing said minerals by any and all methods now known or hereafter discovered (expressly including mining by strip, open pit and underground methods), the right to erect, operate and work any mining, extraction and processing facilities by any procedures whatsoever, whether the same be now known or hereafter discovered, and the right to take out, store, remove, carry away, transport and market all such minerals, and to enter upon, occupy, make use of and consume and the right to control the entry upon, occupation, use and consumption of, so much of the surface of said premises as may be necessary or useful for all such purposes, together with the right to commingle minerals or any other material produced from the premises with minerals or any other material produced from any other property, and the right to use all or any part of the premises to explore, develop, produce, remove, extract, mine, stockpile, store, market and transport minerals and any other material from the premises or from any other properties, whether contiguous or not, now or hereafter owned or controlled by Grantee and for all other purposes, and together with any and all other right and interest of Grantor, together with the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereto.

DOCUMENT NO. 35998
MERIDIAN MINERALS COMPANY

PAGE NO 1

EXHIBIT A

SKAMANIA COUNTY WA

SECTION	TWP	RGE	DESCRIPTION	ACRES
<u>ALL MINERALS LESS OIL, GAS, AND OTHER HYDROCARBONS</u>				
25	7 N	5 E	LOTS 2, 7, 8	64.70
27	7 N	5 E	LOTS 4, 5	36.35
29	7 N	5 E	LOTS 1, 2, PART OF LOT 9	73.72
21	8 N	5 E	ALL	640.00
23	8 N	5 E	ALL	640.00
25	8 N	5 E	ALL	640.00
27	8 N	5 E	ALL	640.00
29	8 N	5 E	ALL	640.00
31	8 N	5 E	ALL FRL	623.52
33	8 N	5 E	ALL	640.00
35	8 N	5 E	ALL	640.00
25	9 N	5 E	ALL	640.00
35	10 N	5 E	E 1/2	320.00
01	7 N	6 E	LOTS 1, 2, 3, S1/2NE1/4, N1/2SE1/4	310.11
27	7 N	6 E	PART E1/2SE1/4	6.69
29	7 N	6 E	THAT PART OF SW1/4NW1/4, S1/2 LYING BELOW 1000 FT ELEVATION, U.S.G.S. DATUM PLANE.	272.24
31	7 N	6 E	LOTS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, THAT PART OF LOTS 7 & 8 LYING BELOW THE 1000 FT ELEVATION, U.S.G.S. DATUM PLANE.	239.27
33	7 N	6 E	LOTS 3, 4, 5, 6, SE1/4NE1/4, NW1/4SW1/4, THAT PART OF LOTS 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, N1/2NE1/4, S1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4 LYING BELOW 1000 FT ELEVATION, U.S.G.S. DATUM PLANE.	404.70
35	7 N	6 E	LOTS 2, 3, 4, PART OF LOTS 1, 5, 6, 7 AND SW1/4SW1/4 LYING BELOW 1000 FT ELEVATION U.S.G.S. DATUM PLANE.	142.00

DOCUMENT NO. 35998
MERIDIAN MINERALS COMPANY

PAGE NO. 2

EXHIBIT A

SKAMANIA COUNTY WA

SECTION	TWP	RSE	DESCRIPTION	ACRES
05	8 N	6 E	ALL FRL	480.84
07	8 N	6 E	ALL FRL	637.58
09	8 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
15	8 N	6 E	N1/2	320.00
17	8 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
19	8 N	6 E	ALL FRL	631.76
21	8 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
27	8 N	6 E	N1/2	320.00
29	8 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
31	8 N	6 E	ALL FRL	636.48
33	8 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
05	9 N	6 E	FRL E1/2NE1/4, SE1/4	240.81
09	9 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
17	9 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
21	9 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
29	9 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
31	9 N	6 E	ALL FRL	639.52
33	9 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
05	10 N	6 E	ALL FRL	769.08
09	10 N	6 E	NW1/4, E1/2SW1/4	240.00

WHEN RECORDED RETURN TO:

Transamerica Title Insurance Company
 Attn: Dorrie Johnson
 1200 Sixth Avenue
 Park Place Building
 Seattle, WA 98101

WI-1005

Statutory Quit Claim Deed

[WASHINGTON]

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Dated: May 26, 1988.

BURLINGTON NORTHERN RAILROAD
 COMPANY, a Delaware corporation

By D. W. Scott
 D. W. Scott, Vice President

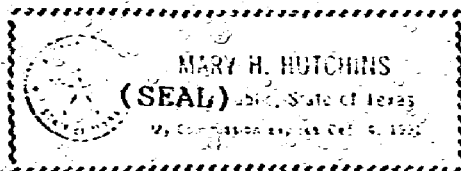
(SEAL)

Attest By Shirley B. O'Connor
 Shirley B. O'Connor,
 Assistant Secretary

STATE OF TEXAS)
) ss.
 COUNTY OF TARRANT)

Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State of Texas, duly commissioned and sworn, this day personally appeared D. W. Scott and Shirley B. O'Connor, known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed on the foregoing instrument, and known to me to be the Vice President and Assistant Secretary, respectively, of BURLINGTON NORTHERN RAILROAD COMPANY, a Delaware corporation, and acknowledged to me that they executed said instrument for the purposes and consideration therein expressed and as the free and voluntary act of said corporation, and that the seal affixed, if any, is the corporate seal of said corporation.

GIVEN under my hand and seal of office this 26 day of May, 1988, A.D.



Mary H. Hutchins
 NOTARY PUBLIC in and for the State
 of Texas
 Name: MARY H. HUTCHINS
 My appointment expires: 12-5-91



12097

REAL ESTATE EXCISE TAX

PAID

051588/0919N/60

Document Number 35998

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Burlington Northern Railroad Company to
Meridian Minerals Company

PREAMBLE

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All ores and minerals of any nature whatsoever, including, but not limited to, coal, iron, gas occurring in coal formations to the extent the same is vented as a non-commercial substance in conjunction with coal development and extraction operations, industrial minerals, precious metals, metallic minerals, aggregates, sand and gravel, clay, uranium, rock including but not limited to rock of a unique character, and geothermal heat and waters, and all of the constituent products of all or any of the foregoing and all other substances associated or commingled therewith (excepting oil, gas and other hydrocarbons which were conveyed by Grantor to Milestone Petroleum, Inc. by Confirmation Special Warranty Deed or to Meridian Oil, Inc. by Quit Claim Deed of even date herewith), (collectively "minerals"), whether surface of subsurface in, upon, under or which may be produced from the real property described in this Exhibit "A" (collectively called "premises"), together with the right to enter upon the premises for the purposes of prospecting and exploring for said minerals by geophysical, geochemical or other means, and for the purpose of drilling, extracting, opening, mining, developing and processing said minerals by any and all methods now known or hereafter discovered (expressly including mining by strip, open pit and underground methods), the right to erect, operate and work any mining, extraction and processing facilities by any procedures whatsoever, whether the same be now known or hereafter discovered, and the right to take out, store, remove, carry away, transport and market all such minerals, and to enter upon, occupy, make use of and consume and the right to control the entry upon, occupation, use and consumption of, so much of the surface of said premises as may be necessary or useful for all such purposes, together with the right to commingle minerals or any other material produced from the premises with minerals or any other material produced from any other property, and the right to use all or any part of the premises to explore, develop, produce, remove, extract, mine, stockpile, store, market and transport minerals and any other material from the premises or from any other properties, whether contiguous or not, now or hereafter owned or controlled by Grantee and for all other purposes, and together with any and all other right and interest of Grantor, together with the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereto.

DOCUMENT NO. 35953
MERIDIAN MINERALS COMPANY

PAGE NO. 1

EXHIBIT A

SKAMANIA COUNTY WA

SECTION	TWP	RGE	DESCRIPTION	ACRES
<u>ALL MINERALS LESS OIL, GAS, AND OTHER HYDROCARBONS</u>				
25	7 N	5 E	LOTS 2, 7, 8	64.73
27	7 N	5 E	LOTS 4, 5	36.19
27	7 N	5 E	LOTS 1, 2, PART OF LOT 9	73.72
21	8 N	5 E	ALL	640.00
23	8 N	5 E	ALL	640.00
25	8 N	5 E	ALL	640.00
27	8 N	5 E	ALL	640.00
29	8 N	5 E	ALL	640.00
31	8 N	5 E	ALL FRL	623.52
33	8 N	5 E	ALL	640.00
35	8 N	5 E	ALL	640.00
25	9 N	5 E	ALL	640.00
35	10 N	5 E	E 1/2	320.00
01	7 N	6 E	LOTS 1, 2, 3, S 1/2 NE 1/4, N 1/2 SE 1/4	310.11
27	7 N	6 E	PART E 1/2 SE 1/4	6.69
29	7 N	6 E	THAT PART OF S 1/2 NE 1/4, S 1/2 LYING BELOW 1000 FT ELEVATION, U.S.G.S. DATUM PLANE.	272.24
31	7 N	6 E	LOTS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, THAT PART OF LOTS 7 & 8 LYING BELOW THE 1000 FT ELEVATION, U.S.G.S. DATUM PLANE.	239.27
33	7 N	6 E	LOTS 3, 4, 5, 6, S 1/2 NE 1/4, N 1/2 SE 1/4, THAT PART OF LOTS 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, N 1/2 NE 1/4, S 1/2 SE 1/4, S 1/2 SE 1/4 LYING BELOW 1000 FT ELEVATION, U.S.G.S. DATUM PLANE.	404.70
35	7 N	6 E	LOTS 2, 3, 4, PART OF LOTS 1, 5, 6, 7 AND S 1/2 SE 1/4 LYING BELOW 1000 FT ELEVATION U.S.G.S. DATUM PLANE.	142.00

DOCUMENT NO. 35998
MERIDIAN MINERALS COMPANY

PAGE NO. 2

EXHIBIT A

SWANANIA COUNTY WA

SECTION	TWP	RSE	DESCRIPTION	ACRES
05	8 N	6 E	ALL FRL	420.44
07	8 N	6 E	ALL FRL	637.53
09	8 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
15	8 N	6 E	N1/2	320.00
17	8 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
19	8 N	6 E	ALL FRL	641.76
21	8 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
23	8 N	6 E	N1/2	320.00
29	8 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
31	8 N	6 E	ALL FRL	639.44
33	8 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
35	9 N	6 E	FRL E1/2NE1/4, SE1/4	240.41
37	9 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
41	9 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
43	9 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
45	9 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
47	9 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
49	9 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
51	9 N	6 E	ALL FRL	639.52
53	9 N	6 E	ALL	640.00
55	10 N	6 E	ALL FRL	769.08
57	10 N	6 E	NW1/4, E1/2SW1/4	240.00