Docket #0045 Date Filed: 2/17/2026

So Ordered.

Signed this 17 day of February, 2026.

Wendy A. Kinsella

Wendy A. Kinsella
United States Bankruptcy Judge

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

In re: Vanderbilt Minerals, LLC, Debtor.[1]	Chapter 11 Case No. 26-60110 (WAK) **Re: Docket No. 8**

INTERIM ORDER AUTHORIZING THE DEBTOR AND DEBTOR IN POSSESSION TO PAY CERTAIN PREPETITION TAXES AND FEES

This matter coming before the Court on the *Motion of the Debtor and Debtor in Possession for Interim and Final Orders Authorizing It to Pay Certain Prepetition Taxes and Fees* (the "Motion"),[1] filed by the above-captioned debtor and debtor in possession (the "Debtor"); the Court having reviewed the Motion and the First Day Declaration and having considered the statements of counsel and the evidence adduced with respect to the Motion at a hearing before the Court (the "Hearing"); the Court having found that: (i) the Court has

[1] The Debtor is Vanderbilt Minerals, LLC (EIN 13-1432885). The Debtor's noticing address in this Chapter 11 Case is 33 Winfield Street, Norwalk, Connecticut 06855.

[1] Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein have the meanings given to them in the Motion.

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jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334; (ii) venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; (iii) this matter is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b); (iv) notice of the Motion and the Hearing was sufficient under the circumstances; (v) the relief requested in the Motion is necessary and appropriate to prevent immediate and irreparable harm to the Debtor's business operations and will serve to protect and preserve the Debtor's estate for the benefit of all stakeholders and, thus, cause exists to permit such payments to be made immediately notwithstanding Bankruptcy Rule 6003 and (vi) there is good cause to waive the 14-day stay imposed by Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h) to the extent that it is applicable and the Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion and the First Day Declaration and at the Hearing establish just cause for the relief granted herein;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The Motion is GRANTED as set forth herein on an interim basis.

2. The Debtor is authorized, but not directed, in its sole discretion, to pay the Prepetition Taxes and Fees (without regard to whether the Prepetition Taxes and Fees accrued or arose before, on or after the Petition Date), including but not limited to all of those Prepetition Taxes and Fees subsequently determined, upon audit or otherwise, to be owed; provided, however, that, pending entry of a final order on the Motion, any payments made pursuant to this Interim Order on account of Prepetition Taxes and Fees shall be made solely to the extent they are in compliance with the Approved Budget (as defined in the DIP Financing Motion) and shall not exceed $150,000.00 in the aggregate.

3. The Banks are authorized, when requested by the Debtor, to receive, process, honor and pay all checks presented for payment of, and to honor all funds transfer

requests made by, the Debtor related to the relief granted by this Interim Order, whether such checks were presented, or funds transfer requests were submitted prior to, on or after the Petition Date, provided that sufficient funds are available in the Debtor's accounts to cover such checks and funds transfers. The Banks are authorized to rely on the Debtor's designation of any particular check or funds transfer as approved by this Interim Order.

4. Nothing in the Motion or this Interim Order, nor the Debtor's payment of claims pursuant to this Interim Order, shall be deemed or construed as: (i) an admission as to the validity of any claim against the Debtor; (ii) a waiver of the Debtor's rights to dispute any claim on any grounds; (iii) a promise to pay any claim or (iv) an implication or admission that any particular claim is a claim for Prepetition Taxes and Fees.

5. The requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6003(b) have been satisfied with respect to the payments authorized by this Interim Order.

6. This Interim Order shall be immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry. To the extent that it may be applicable, the 14-day stay imposed by Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h) and any notice requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6004(a) are hereby waived.

7. The Debtor is authorized and empowered to take all actions necessary to implement the relief granted in this Interim Order.

8. The Court shall retain jurisdiction over any and all matters arising from or related to the implementation or interpretation of this Interim Order.

9. A further interim hearing to consider the relief requested in the Motion shall be held on February 25, 2026 at 2 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) and any objections or

responses to the Motion on an interim basis shall be filed and served on or prior to February 24, 2026, at 12 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time).

10. The Debtor may seek further relief related to the obligations discussed in the Motion.

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