

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

BAKER HUGHES INCORPORATED and
BAKER HUGHES OILFIELD OPERATIONS, INC.,
Petitioner,

v.

PACKERS PLUS ENERGY SERVICES, INC.,
Patent Owner.

Case IPR2016-00598
Patent 7,861,774 B2

NEIL T. POWELL, *Administrative Patent Judge.*

DECISION

Motion to Withdraw and Substitute New Counsel
37 C.F.R. § 42.10(e)

Rapid Completions LLC, the exclusive licensee of the '774 patent, filed a motion to withdraw counsel and substitute new counsel. Paper 12 ("Mot."). The Motion seeks authorization for withdrawal of Michael B. Ray, Lori A. Gordon, and Kyle Conklin as counsel for Patent Owner. *Id.* at 1. The Motion also seeks to substitute as lead counsel Hamad M. Hamad and as back-up counsel Dr. Gregory J.

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Gonsalves, Bradley W. Caldwell, and Justin T. Nemunaitis. *Id.* Along with the motion, Patent Owner filed a Power of Attorney, which appoints Hamad M. Hamad as lead counsel, and Dr. Gregory J. Gonsalves, Bradley W. Caldwell, and Justin T. Nemunaitis as backup counsel. Paper 13. The Motion notes that Hamad M. Hamad and Mr. Gonsalves meet the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 42.10(c) as registered practitioners. Mot. 1. No opposition has been filed, and Patent Owner indicates that Petitioner does not oppose the Motion. *Id.* at 1.

I am persuaded that withdrawal of Michael B. Ray, Lori A. Gordon, and Kyle Conklin as counsel for Patent Owner is warranted. I am also persuaded that substitution of Hamad M. Hamad as lead counsel and Mr. Gonsalves as back-up counsel is warranted. Additionally, in decisions mailed concurrently, I am granting Rapid Completions' motions (papers 19, 20) for *pro hac vice* admission of Bradley W. Caldwell and Justin T. Nemunaitis.

It is therefore

ORDERED that withdrawal of Michael B. Ray, Lori A. Gordon, and Kyle Conklin as counsel for Patent Owner is authorized; and

FURTHER ORDERED that the appearances of Hamad M. Hamad as lead counsel and of Mr. Gonsalves, Mr. Caldwell, and Mr. Nemunaitis as back-up counsel are acknowledged.

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