Case 19-10702-MFW Doc 1 5104 04/02/10 Docket #0054 Date Filed: 04/02/2019

## IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:

SOUTHCROSS ENERGY PARTNERS, L.P., *et al.*,

Debtors.<sup>1</sup>

Chapter 11

Case No. 19-10702 (MFW)

Jointly Administered

**RE: D.I. 9** 

# INTERIM ORDER AUTHORIZING (I) DEBTORS TO (A) PAY PREPETITION EMPLOYEE OBLIGATIONS AND (B) MAINTAIN EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAMS AND PAY RELATED ADMINISTRATIVE OBLIGATIONS, (II) CURRENT AND FORMER EMPLOYEES TO PROCEED WITH OUTSTANDING WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMS, AND (III) FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TO HONOR AND PROCESS RELATED CHECKS AND TRANSFERS

Upon the motion (the "Motion")<sup>2</sup> of Southcross Energy Partners, L.P. ("Southcross"),

Southcross Energy Partners GP, LLC, and Southcross's wholly owned direct and indirect

subsidiaries, each of which is a debtor and debtor in possession in the Chapter 11 Cases

(collectively, the "Debtors"), for entry of interim and final orders pursuant to sections 105(a),

362(d), 363(b), 363(c), 507(a)(4), 507(a)(5), and 541 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$  Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The debtors and debtors in possession in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of their respective Employer Identification Numbers, are as follows: Southcross Energy Partners, L.P. (5230); Southcross Energy Partners GP, LLC (5141); Southcross Energy Finance Corp. (2225); Southcross Energy Operating, LLC (9605); Southcross Energy GP LLC (4246); Southcross Energy LP LLC (4304); Southcross Gathering Ltd. (7233); Southcross CCNG Gathering Ltd. (9553); Southcross CCNG Transmission Ltd. (4531); Southcross Marketing Company Ltd. (3313); Southcross NGL Pipeline Ltd. (3214); Southcross Midstream Services, L.P. (5932); Southcross Mississippi Industrial Gas Sales, L.P. (7519); Southcross Mississippi Pipeline, L.P. (7499); Southcross Gulf Coast Transmission Ltd. (0546); Southcross Mississippi Gathering, L.P. (2994); Southcross Delta Pipeline LLC (6804); Southcross Alabama Pipeline LLC (7180); Southcross Nueces Pipelines LLC (7034); Southcross Processing LLC (0672); FL Rich Gas Services GP, LLC (5172); FL Rich Gas Services, LP (0219); FL Rich Gas Utility GP, LLC (3280); FL Rich Gas Utility, LP (3644); Southcross Transmission, LP (6432); T2 EF Cogeneration Holdings, LLC (0613); and T2 EF Cogeneration LLC (4976). The debtors' mailing address is 1717 Main Street, Suite 5300, Dallas, TX 75201.

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Rule 6003, (a) authorizing, but not requiring, the Debtors to (i) pay or cause to be paid, in their sole discretion, all or a portion of the Prepetition Employee Obligations and (ii) unless otherwise set forth herein, continue, in their sole discretion, the Employee Programs, as applicable, as those Employee Programs were in effect as of the Petition Date and as may be modified, terminated, amended, or supplemented from time to time by the Debtors in their sole discretion, and to make payments pursuant to the Employee Programs in the ordinary course of business, as well as to pay related administrative obligations, (b) permitting current and former Employees holding claims under the Workers' Compensation Program to proceed with such claims in the appropriate judicial or administrative fora, and (c) authorizing the Debtors' financial institutions to receive, process, honor, and pay all checks or wire transfers used by Debtors to pay the foregoing, as more fully described in the Motion; and the Court having jurisdiction to consider the matters raised in the Motion pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334 and the Amended Standing Order of Reference from the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, dated February 29, 2012; and the Court having authority to hear the matters raised in the Motion pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157; and venue being proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and consideration of the Motion and the requested relief being a core proceeding that the Court can determine pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2); and due and proper notice of the Motion and opportunity for a hearing on the Motion having been given to the parties listed therein, and it appearing that no other or further notice need be provided; and the Court having reviewed and considered the Motion and the Howe Declaration; and the Court having held a hearing on the Motion (the "Hearing"); and the Court having found that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion and at the Hearing establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and the Court having determined that the relief requested in the Motion being in

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the best interests of the Debtors, their creditors, their estates, and all other parties in interest; and the Court having determined that the relief requested in the Motion is necessary to avoid immediate and irreparable harm to the Debtors and their estates as contemplated by Bankruptcy Rule 6003; and upon all of the proceedings had before the Court; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor,

## IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The relief requested in the Motion is hereby granted on an interim basis as set forth herein.

2. Except as provided otherwise in this interim Order, the Debtors are authorized, but not directed, to (a) pay or cause to be paid, in their sole discretion, all amounts required under or related to the Prepetition Employee Obligations in the ordinary course of business and in accordance with the same practices and procedures as were in effect prior to the Petition Date and (b) continue, in their sole discretion, to pay and honor their obligations arising under or related to the Employee Programs, including the Severance Program on an interim basis, in the ordinary course of business and in accordance with the same practices and procedures as were in effect prior to the Petition Date, as those Employee Programs were in effect as of the Petition Date and as such Employee Programs may be modified, terminated, amended, or supplemented from time to time, in the ordinary course of the Debtors' businesses; *provided, however*, that approval of the Non-Insider Retention Program and the STIP shall be subject to the entry of a final Order; *provided further*, however, that payments made on account of the following Prepetition Employee Obligations shall not exceed the amounts specified below prior to the entry of a final Order:

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| Prepetition Employee Obligations | Interim Cash Payments |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Wages                            | \$451,000             |
| Payroll Fee                      | \$3,000               |
| Reimbursement Obligations        | \$22,500              |
| Retirement Obligations           | \$22,000              |
| Contingent Workers Obligations   | \$450,000             |

3. Notwithstanding any other provision herein, the Debtors shall not pay Wages to any Employee on account of Prepetition Employee Obligations in excess of the statutory cap pursuant to section 507(a)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code prior to the entry of a final Order.

4. Nothing in this Order authorizes any payment subject to section 503(c) of the Bankruptcy Code.

5. The Debtors are authorized, but not required, to (a) continue, in their sole discretion, utilizing third parties for certain services as described in the Motion and to pay or cause to be paid such claims as and when such obligations are due and (b) pay, in their sole discretion, prepetition amounts owing in the ordinary course of business to third parties in connection with administering and maintaining the Employee Programs.

6. (a) The automatic stay is modified solely to the extent necessary to allow current and former Employees to proceed with claims under the Workers' Compensation Program in the appropriate judicial or administrative fora and (b) the notice requirements under Bankruptcy Rule 4001(d) with respect to (a) above are waived.

A final hearing to consider the relief requested in the Motion shall be held on May
2019 at 11:00 a.m. (Prevailing Eastern Time) and any objections or responses to the Motion
shall be filed and served on the Notice Parties so as to be actually received on or prior to April
2019 at 4:00 p.m. (Prevailing Eastern Time).

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8. All applicable banks and other financial institutions are hereby authorized to receive, process, honor, and pay any and all checks, drafts, wires, check transfer requests, or automated clearing house transfers evidencing amounts paid by the Debtors under this Order whether presented prior to, on, or after the Petition Date. Such banks and financial institutions are authorized to rely on the representations of the Debtors as to which checks are issued or authorized to be paid pursuant to this Order without any duty of further inquiry and without liability for following the Debtors' instructions.

9. The Debtors are authorized, but not required, to issue, in their sole discretion, new post-petition checks, or effect new fund transfers, for the Prepetition Employee Obligations to replace any prepetition checks or fund transfer requests that may be dishonored or rejected and to reimburse their Employees or the applicable payee, as the case may be, for any fees or costs incurred by them in connection with a dishonored or voided check or funds transfer.

10. Nothing in this Order or any action taken by the Debtors in furtherance of the implementation hereof shall be deemed to constitute an assumption or rejection of any executory contract or unexpired lease pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code, and all of the Debtors' rights with respect to such matters are expressly reserved.

11. Notwithstanding the relief granted herein and any actions taken hereunder, nothing contained herein shall (a) create, nor is it intended to create, any rights in favor of, or enhance the status of any claim held by, any person or entity or (b) be deemed to convert the priority of any claim from a prepetition claim into an administrative expense claim.

12. Nothing in this Order nor the Debtors' payment of claims pursuant to this Order shall be construed as or deemed to constitute (a) an agreement or admission by the Debtors as to the validity of any claim against the Debtors on any ground, (b) a grant of third party beneficiary

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status or bestowal of any additional rights on any third party, (c) a waiver or impairment of any rights, claims, or defenses of the Debtors' rights to dispute any claim on any grounds, (d) a promise by the Debtors to pay any claim, or (e) an implication or admission by the Debtors that such claim is payable pursuant to this Order.

13. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Order, in the event of any inconsistency between the terms of this Order and the terms of any order of this Court approving the debtor-in-possession financing facility and use of cash collateral (the "**DIP Order**"), including, without limitation, any budget in connection therewith, the terms of the DIP Order shall govern.

14. The requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6003 are satisfied by the contents of the Motion.

15. Any Bankruptcy Rule (including, but not limited to, Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h)) or Local Rule that might otherwise delay the effectiveness of this Order is hereby waived, and the terms and conditions of this Order shall be effective and enforceable immediately upon its entry.

16. The Debtors are authorized to take all such actions as are necessary or appropriate to implement the terms of this Order.

17. The Court shall retain exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of this Order.

MARY F. WALRATH UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

Dated: April 2nd, 2019 Wilmington, Delaware