

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

NOLEN SCOTT ELY, et al.,	:	Civil No. 3:09-CV-2284
	:	
Plaintiffs	:	(Magistrate Judge Carlson)
	:	
v.	:	
	:	
CABOT OIL & GAS CORPORATION, et al.,	:	
	:	
Defendants	:	

ORDER

The purpose of this Order is to prescribe a course for this litigation following the entry of an Order granting Cabot’s motion in part, vacating the jury’s verdict in favor of the plaintiffs in its entirety, and ordering that a new trial be held if the parties are unable to reach a mutual settlement of the plaintiffs’ remaining claims. The process of litigation having provided all parties with a keener appreciation of the respective litigation risks they face in this lawsuit, IT IS ORDERED that the parties shall proceed to a mandatory settlement conference prior to the rescheduling of this case for trial.

The Court having been advised that Magistrate Judge Mehalchick is available to conduct such a settlement conference, IT IS ORDERED that, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §636, the above-captioned case is assigned to Magistrate Judge

Mehalchick for the purpose of conducting a settlement conference at a time and place that is mutually convenient for Judge Mehalchick and all parties. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the parties shall provide the Court with a Joint Status Report regarding the progress of settlement discussions on or before **June 5, 2017**. Upon receipt of this Joint Status Report, the Court will schedule further proceedings, if and as needed, in this litigation.

/s/ Martin C. Carlson

Martin C. Carlson

United States Magistrate Judge

Dated: April 4, 2017