

**ENTERED**

September 25, 2024

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
HOUSTON DIVISION**

In re:

VERTEX ENERGY, INC., *et al.*,<sup>1</sup>

Debtors.

)  
) Chapter 11  
)  
) Case No. 24-90507(CML)  
)  
) (Jointly Administered)  
)  
) **Re: Docket No. 16****ORDER (I) AUTHORIZING  
THE DEBTORS TO (A) FILE A CONSOLIDATED  
CREDITOR MATRIX AND A CONSOLIDATED LIST OF THE  
30 LARGEST UNSECURED CREDITORS AND (B) REDACT CERTAIN  
PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION OF NATURAL PERSONS,  
(II) WAIVING THE REQUIREMENT TO FILE A LIST OF EQUITY  
SECURITY HOLDERS, (III) APPROVING THE FORM AND MANNER OF  
NOTIFYING CREDITORS OF THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE CHAPTER 11  
CASES AND OTHER INFORMATION, AND (IV) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF**

Upon the emergency motion (the “Motion”)<sup>2</sup> of the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the “Debtors”) for entry of an order (this “Order”), (a) authorizing the Debtors to (i) file a Consolidated Creditor Matrix and a Consolidated Top thirty Creditors List and (ii) redact certain personally identifiable information of natural persons; (b) waiving the requirement to file a list of, and provide notice directly to, certain equity security holders of Debtor Vertex Energy; (c) approving the form and manner of notifying creditors of the commencement of these chapter 11 cases and other information; and (d) granting related relief, all as more fully set forth in the Motion; and upon the First Day Declaration; and this Court having jurisdiction over

<sup>1</sup> A complete list of each of the Debtors in these chapter 11 cases may be obtained on the website of the Debtors’ proposed claims and noticing agent at <https://www.veritaglobal.net/vertex>. The location of Debtor Vertex Energy, Inc.’s corporate headquarters and the Debtors’ service address in these chapter 11 cases is 1331 Gemini Street, Suite 250, Houston, Texas 77058.

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



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this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334; and this Court having found that this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2); and this Court having found that it may enter a final order consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution; and this Court having found that venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1408; and this Court having found that the relief requested in the Motion is in the best interests of the Debtors' estates, their creditors, and other parties in interest; and this Court having found that the Debtors' notice of the Motion and opportunity for a hearing on the Motion were appropriate under the circumstances and no other notice need be provided; and this Court having reviewed the Motion and having heard the statements in support of the relief requested therein at a hearing before this Court (the "Hearing"); and this Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion and at the Hearing establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and upon all of the proceedings had before this Court; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor, it is HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The Debtors are authorized to file a Consolidated Creditor Matrix and a Consolidated Top 30 Creditors List.

2. The Debtors and Verita (as claims and noticing agent) are authorized to redact on the Consolidated Creditor Matrix, the Schedules and Statements, proofs of claim, any related affidavits of service, and any other documents filed with this Court, the names, home addresses, email addresses, and other personally identifiable information of any natural person. The Debtors shall provide unredacted versions of the Consolidated Creditor Matrix, the Schedules and Statements, proofs of claim, any related affidavits of service, and any other filings redacted pursuant to this Order to (a) this Court, (b) the U.S. Trustee, (c) counsel to any official committee appointed in these chapter 11 cases, (d) Verita as the proposed claims and noticing agent, and (e) any party in interest upon a request to the Debtors (email being sufficient) or to this Court that

is reasonably related to these chapter 11 cases, *provided* that any receiving party shall not transfer or otherwise provide such unredacted document to any person or entity not party to the request and shall represent that the unredacted version(s) of the documents will be maintained in confidence. The Debtors shall inform the Court and the U.S. Trustee promptly after denying any request for an unredacted document pursuant to this Order. Nothing herein precludes a party in interest's right to file a motion requesting that this Court unseal the information redacted by this Order.

3. The requirement that Debtor Vertex Energy file a list of equity security holders pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1007(a)(3) is waived, and the Debtors are authorized to serve the notices required under Bankruptcy Rule 2002(d) on the registered holders of Debtor Vertex Energy's equity securities and, to the extent they are known, on beneficial holders through the appropriate broker, or other intermediary, to the extent a beneficial equity holder holds such equity interest through such intermediary.

4. Any requirement that Vertex Energy provide notice directly to equity security holders under Bankruptcy Rule 2002(d) is waived. The Debtors shall also publish the Notice of Commencement on the Debtors' case website located at <https://www.veritaglobal.net/vertex> and file a Form 8-K with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission as soon as practicable after entry of this Order, notifying their investors and other parties of the commencement of these Chapter 11 Cases. The Debtors are further authorized to issue a press release announcing the bankruptcy filing and will as soon as is practicable cause the notices required under Bankruptcy Rule 2002(d) to be served on registered holders of Debtor Vertex Energy's Common Stock to be published in full in *The New York Times (National Edition)* or similar publication in the Debtors' business judgment.

5. The Notice of Commencement, substantially in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, is hereby approved. Service of the Notice of Commencement shall be deemed adequate and sufficient notice of (a) the commencement of these chapter 11 cases and (b) the scheduling of the meeting of creditors under section 341 of the Bankruptcy Code.

6. The Debtors shall cause Verita to post the Notice of Commencement on the case website <https://www.veritaglobal.net/vertex> as soon as practicable.

7. The Debtors, through Verita, are authorized to serve all pleadings and papers, including the Notice of Commencement, on all parties listed on the Consolidated Creditor Matrix.


8. The Debtors, through Verita, are authorized to distribute all pleadings and papers to parties in interest via email.

9. Notice of the Motion as provided therein shall be deemed good and sufficient notice of such Motion, and the requirements of the Bankruptcy Rules and the Bankruptcy Local Rules are satisfied by such notice.

10. The Debtors are authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted in this Order in accordance with the Motion.

11. This Court retains exclusive jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of this Order.

Signed: September 25, 2024

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Lopez  
United States Bankruptcy Judge

**Exhibit A**

**Notice of Commencement**

**Information to identify the case:**Debtor: Vertex Energy, Inc., et al.  
Name

EIN: 94-3439569

United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas

Case Number: 24-90507 (CML)

Date case filed for Chapter 11:  
September 24, 2024

Official Form 309F1 (For Corporations or Partnerships)

**Notice of Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Case****10/20**

**For the debtor listed above, a case has been filed under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. An order for relief has been entered.**

**This notice has important information about the case for creditors and debtors, including information about the meeting of creditors and deadlines. Read both pages carefully.**

The filing of the case imposed an automatic stay against most collection activities. This means that creditors generally may not take action to collect debts from the debtor or the debtor's property. For example, while the stay is in effect, creditors cannot sue, assert a deficiency, repossess property, or otherwise try to collect from the debtor. Creditors cannot demand repayment from the debtor by mail, phone, or otherwise. Creditors who violate the stay can be required to pay actual and punitive damages and attorney's fees.

Confirmation of a chapter 11 plan may result in a discharge of debt. A creditor who wants to have a particular debt excepted from discharge may be required to file a complaint in the bankruptcy clerk's office within the deadline specified in this notice. (See line 11 below for more information.)

To protect your rights, consult an attorney. All documents filed in the case may be inspected at the bankruptcy clerk's office at the address listed below or through PACER (Public Access to Court Electronic Records at <https://pacer.uscourts.gov>).

**The staff of the bankruptcy clerk's office cannot give legal advice.**

**Do not file this notice with any proof of claim or other filing in the case.**

**1. Debtors' full name: See chart below.**

**List of Jointly Administered Cases**

NO.	DEBTOR	ADDRESS	CASE NO.	EIN #
1	Vertex Energy, Inc.	1331 Gemini Street, Suite 250 Houston, TX 77058	24-90507	94-3439569
2	Bango Oil LLC	4601 W. Sahara Avenue, Suite L Las Vegas, NV 89102	24-90508	20-3898855
3	Cedar Marine Terminals, LP	2323 Clear Lake City Blvd. No. 180 - 184 Houston, Texas, 77062	24-90509	33-1119617
4	Crossroad Carriers, L.P.	2323 Clear Lake City Blvd. No. 180 - 184 Houston, Texas, 77062	24-90510	68-0655641
5	Crystal Energy, LLC	2311 Highland South Avenue Birmingham, Alabama 35205	24-90511	81-3789327
6	H&H Oil, L.P.	2323 Clear Lake City Blvd. No. 180 - 184 Houston, Texas, 77062	24-90512	26-0678070
7	HPRM LLC	4001 E. 5th Avenue Columbus, OH 43219	24-90513	83-3670623
8	Tensile-Heartland Acquisition Corporation	1209 Orange Street Wilmington, Delaware 19801	24-90514	84-2360638
9	Tensile-Myrtle Grove Acquisition Corporation	1209 Orange Street Wilmington, Delaware 19801	24-90515	84-2375079

10	Vertex Acquisition Sub, LLC	1331 Gemini Street, Suite 250 Houston, TX 77058	24-90516	46-0848130
11	Vertex Energy Operating, LLC	1331 Gemini Street, Suite 250 Houston, TX 77058	24-90506	46-5235228
12	Vertex II GP, LLC	1331 Gemini Street, Suite 250 Houston, TX 77058	24-90521	46-0867237
13	Vertex Marine Fuel Services LLC	108 W. 13th Street Wilmington, Delaware 19801	24-90518	88-3991565
14	Vertex Merger Sub, LLC	1331 Gemini Street, Suite 250 Houston, TX 77058	24-90519	94-3439569
15	Vertex Recovery Management, LLC	1331 Gemini Street, Suite 250 Houston, TX 77058	24-90520	47-4736381
16	Vertex Recovery, L.P.	2323 Clear Lake City Blvd. No. 180 - 184 Houston, Texas, 77062	24-90517	81-0562942
17	Vertex Refining Alabama LLC	108 W. 13th Street Wilmington, Delaware 19801	24-90522	38-4179507
18	Vertex Refining LA, LLC	5616 Corporate Blvd. Suite 400B Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808	24-90523	46-5101732
19	Vertex Refining Myrtle Grove LLC	1331 Gemini Street, Suite 250 Houston, TX 77058	24-90524	83-3714295
20	Vertex Refining NV, LLC	9107 West Russell Road Suite 100 Las Vegas, NV, 89148	24-90525	46-5117656
21	Vertex Refining Texas LLC	1331 Gemini Street, Suite 250 Houston, TX 77058	24-90526	92-0270847
22	Vertex Renewables Alabama LLC	108 W. 13th Street Wilmington, Delaware 19801	24-90527	88-4363896
23	Vertex Renewables LLC	108 W. 13th Street Wilmington, Delaware 19801	24-90528	92-1258314
24	Vertex Splitter Corporation	108 W. 13th Street Wilmington, Delaware 19801	24-90529	84-2358505

2. All other names used in the last 8 years: See Rider 1.

3. Address: See chart above.

4. Debtors' attorneys:

**BRACEWELL LLP**

Jason G. Cohen (TX Bar No. 24050435)  
Jonathan L. Lozano (TX Bar No. 24121570)  
711 Louisiana Street, Suite 2300  
Houston, Texas 77002  
Telephone: (713) 223-2300  
Facsimile: (800) 404-3970  
Email: jason.cohen@bracewell.com  
Email: jonathan.lozano@bracewell.com

-and-

**BRACEWELL LLP**

Mark E. Dendinger (*pro hac vice* pending)  
31 W. 52nd Street, Suite 1900  
New York, NY 10019  
Telephone: (212) 508-6100  
Facsimile: (800) 404-3970  
Email: mark.dendinger@bracewell.com

-and-

Debtors' notice and claims agent (for court documents and case information inquiries):

**Case Website:**

<https://www.veritaglobal.net/vertex>

**Email:** VertexEnergyInfo@veritaglobal.com

**Telephone:** (877) 709-4747 (Toll-free)  
+1 (424) 236-7228 (International)

**If by First-Class Mail:**

Vertex Energy Claims Processing Center  
c/o KCC dba Verita Global LLC  
222 N. Pacific Coast Highway, Suite 300  
El Segundo, CA 90245

**If by Hand Delivery or Overnight Mail:**

Vertex Energy Claims Processing Center  
c/o KCC dba Verita Global LLC  
222 N. Pacific Coast Highway, Suite 300  
El Segundo, CA 90245

**KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP**  
**KIRKLAND & ELLIS INTERNATIONAL LLP**  
 Brian Schartz, P.C. (TX Bar No. 24099361)  
 601 Lexington Avenue  
 New York, New York 10022  
 Telephone: (212) 446-4800  
 Facsimile: (212) 446-4900  
 Email: brian.schartz@kirkland.com

**KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP**  
**KIRKLAND & ELLIS INTERNATIONAL LLP**  
 John R. Luze (*pro hac vice* pending)  
 Rachael M. Bentley (*pro hac vice* pending)  
 333 West Wolf Point Plaza  
 Chicago, Illinois 60654  
 Telephone: (312) 862-2000  
 Facsimile: (312) 862-2200  
 Email: john.luze@kirkland.com  
 Email: rachael.bentley@kirkland.com

Proposed Co-Counsel to the Debtors  
 and Debtors in Possession

**5. Bankruptcy Clerk's Office**

Documents in this case may be  
 filed at this address.

**United States Courthouse**  
**515 Rusk Avenue**  
**Houston, Texas 77002**

**Hours Open: Monday - Friday**  
**8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CT**  
**Contact phone: 713-250-5500**

You may inspect all records  
 filed in this case at this office or  
 online at [www.pacer.gov](http://www.pacer.gov)

All documents in this case are available  
 free of charge on the website of the  
 Debtors' notice and claims agent at  
<https://www.veritaglobal.net/vertex>

**6. Meeting of Creditors**

**October [●], 2024, at [●] [●].m.**  
**(prevailing Central Time)**

**Location:**  
**Telephone Conference Call**

**Dial: (866) 707-5468**  
**Code: 6166997#**

The debtor's representative  
 must attend the meeting to be  
 questioned under oath.  
 Creditors may attend, but are  
 not required to do so.

The meeting may be continued or  
 adjourned to a later date. If so, the date  
 will be on the court docket.

**7. Proof of Claim Deadline:**

**Deadline for filing proof of claim:**

**General Bar Date: [●]**

**Governmental Bar Date: [●]**

A proof of claim is a signed statement describing a creditor's claim. A proof of  
 claim form may be obtained at [www.uscourts.gov](http://www.uscourts.gov) or any bankruptcy clerk's  
 office.

Your claim will be allowed in the amount scheduled unless:

- Your claim is designated as *disputed*, *contingent*, or *unliquidated*;
- You file a proof of claim in a different amount; or
- You receive another notice.

If your claim is not scheduled or if your claim is designated as *disputed*,  
*contingent*, or *unliquidated*, you must file a proof of claim or you might not be  
 paid on your claim and you might be unable to vote on a plan. You may file a  
 proof of claim even if your claim is scheduled.



	<p>You may review the schedules at the bankruptcy clerk's office or online at <a href="https://pacer.uscourts.gov">https://pacer.uscourts.gov</a>.</p> <p>Secured creditors retain rights in their collateral regardless of whether they file a proof of claim. Filing a proof of claim submits a creditor to the jurisdiction of the bankruptcy court, with consequences a lawyer can explain. For example, a secured creditor who files a proof of claim may surrender important nonmonetary rights, including the right to a jury trial.</p>
<p><b>8. Exception to discharge deadline</b></p> <p>The bankruptcy clerk's office must receive a complaint and any required filing fee by the following deadline.</p>	<p>If § 523(c) applies to your claim and you seek to have it excepted from discharge, you must start a judicial proceeding by filing a complaint by the deadline stated below.</p> <p><b>Deadline for filing the complaint: Not applicable</b></p>
<b>9. Creditors with a foreign address</b>	<p>If you are a creditor receiving notice mailed to a foreign address, you may file a motion asking the court to extend the deadlines in this notice. Consult an attorney familiar with United States bankruptcy law if you have any questions about your rights in this case.</p>
<b>10. Filing a Chapter 11 bankruptcy case</b>	<p>Chapter 11 allows debtors to reorganize or liquidate according to a plan. A plan is not effective unless the court confirms it. You may receive a copy of the plan and a disclosure statement telling you about the plan, and you may have the opportunity to vote on the plan. You will receive notice of the date of the confirmation hearing, and you may object to confirmation of the plan and attend the confirmation hearing. Unless a trustee is serving, the debtor will remain in possession of the property and may continue to operate its business.</p>
<b>11. Discharge of debts</b>	<p>Confirmation of a chapter 11 plan may result in a discharge of debts, which may include all or part of your debt. See 11 U.S.C. § 1141(d). A discharge means that creditors may never try to collect the debt from the debtor except as provided in the plan. If you want to have a particular debt owed to you excepted from the discharge and § 523(c) applies to your claim, you must start a judicial proceeding by filing a complaint and paying the filing fee in the bankruptcy clerk's office by the deadline.</p>

**Rider 1**

**Other Names Used in the Last 8 Years**

<b>Current Entity Name</b>	<b>Former Entity Name</b>
Crystal Energy, LLC	H&H Waste Oil Incorporated, H&H Oil
Vertex Merger Sub, LLC	World Waste Technologies Inc.
Vertex Recovery, L.P.	NickCo Recycling
H & H Oil, L.P.	H&H Oil Recovery Services