UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): June 22, 2020

Uniti Group Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

(Commission File Number)

001-36708

46-5230630 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

10802 Executive Center Drive Benton Building Suite 300 Little Rock, Arkansas (Address of principal executive offices)

72211 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (501) 850-0820

Not Applicable

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock	UNIT	The NASDAQ Global Select Market

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company \Box

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 1.01. Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.

On June 22, 2020, Uniti Group Inc., a Maryland corporation (the "<u>Company</u>"), entered into an ATM Equity Offering Sales Agreement (the "<u>Agreement</u>") with BofA Securities, Inc., Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC, Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC (the "<u>Sales Agents</u>").

Under the terms of the Agreement, the Company may issue and sell, from time to time to or through the Sales Agents, shares of common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share ("<u>Common Stock</u>"), having an aggregate offering price of up to \$250,000,000 (the "<u>Shares</u>"). The Sales Agents will act as the Company's agents in connection with any offerings of the Shares under the Agreement. The sales, if any, of the Shares under the Agreement may be made in sales deemed to be "at-the-market offerings" as defined in Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, including by sales made directly on or through NASDAQ or another market for the Shares, sales made to or through a market maker other than on an exchange or otherwise, in negotiated transactions at market prices prevailing at the time of sale or at negotiated prices, or as otherwise agreed with the applicable Sales Agent. The Company will pay the Sales Agents compensation for sales of the Shares made through the Sales Agents, as sales agents, under the Agreement, in an amount not to exceed 2% of the gross sales price of such Shares.

The offering of the Shares pursuant to the Agreement will terminate upon the earlier of (1) the sale of all shares subject to the Agreement or (2) the termination of the Agreement by the Company or the Sales Agents. The Company may terminate the Agreement for any reason, at any time, upon prior written notice to the Sales Agents, and each Sales Agent may terminate the Agreement as to itself for any reason, at any time, upon prior written notice to the Company and the other Sales Agents. Following termination by a Sales Agent, the Agreement will remain in effect with respect to the Sales Agents that have not terminated their obligations under the Agreement.

The Shares will be issued pursuant to the Company's effective shelf registration statement on Form S-3ASR (Registration No. 333-237139) and a prospectus supplement (the "<u>ATM Supplement</u>") of the Company, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 12, 2020 and June 22, 2020, respectively. The prospectus supplement carries forward approximately 1.83 million shares of Common Stock which remain unsold pursuant to the Company's previous ATM Equity Offering Sales Agreement entered into on September 2, 2016 with the Sales Agreements.

The description of the Agreement does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Agreement filed herewith as Exhibit 1.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

Item 8.01 Other Events.

On June 22, 2020, the Company filed a prospectus supplement (the "<u>Prospectus Supplement</u>") under the Company's effective shelf registration statement on Form S-3ASR (Registration No. 333-237139) to satisfy one of its obligations under the registration rights agreement, dated as of June 28, 2019, entered into by and among the Company, its indirect subsidiary, Uniti Fiber Holdings Inc. ("<u>Uniti Fiber</u>"), and Barclays Capital Inc., on behalf of the initial purchasers, in connection with Uniti Fiber's issuance of \$345,000,000 aggregate principal amount of 4.00% Exchangeable Senior Notes due 2024 (the "<u>Notes</u>") that are exchangeable into shares of the Company's Common Stock. The Prospectus Supplement covers the resale from time to time by certain selling stockholders of 38,249,667 shares of Common Stock (plus an indeterminable number of shares of the Company's Common Stock that may be issued in connection with a stock split, stock dividend, recapitalization or other similar event) issuable upon exchange of the Notes.

Included in this Current Report on Form 8-K are the legal opinions and consents of the Company's counsel, Kutak Rock LLP, regarding the legality of the Shares covered by the ATM Supplement and the Common Stock covered by the Prospectus Supplement, which opinions are attached hereto as Exhibit 5.1 and Exhibit 5.2, respectively, and are incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit	
Number	Description
<u>1.1</u>	ATM Equity Offering Sales Agreement, dated June 22, 2020 by and among the Company, BofA Securites, Inc., Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC, Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC
<u>5.1</u>	Opinion of Kutak Rock LLP
<u>5.2</u>	Opinion of Kutak Rock LLP
<u>23.1</u>	Consent of Kutak Rock LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1)
<u>23.2</u>	<u>Consent of Kutak Rock LLP (included in Exhibit 5.2)</u>
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

UNITI GROUP INC.

By: /s/ Daniel L. Heard

Name: Daniel L. Heard

Title: Executive Vice President – General Counsel and Secretary

June 22, 2020

Common Stock (\$0.0001 par value)

ATM EQUITY OFFERINGSM SALES AGREEMENT

June 22, 2020

BofA Securities, Inc. One Bryant Park New York, New York 10036

Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC 200 West Street New York, New York 10282

Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC 1585 Broadway New York, New York 10036

Wells Fargo Securities, LLC 500 West 33rd Street New York, New York 10001

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Uniti Group Inc., a Maryland corporation (the "<u>Company</u>"), proposes, subject to the terms and conditions stated herein, to issue and sell from time to time to or through BofA Securities, Inc., Goldman, Sachs & Co. LLC, Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, severally as sales agents and/or principals (each, an "<u>Agent</u>" and collectively, the "<u>Agents</u>"), shares (the "<u>Shares</u>") of the Company's common stock, \$0.0001 par value (the "<u>Common Stock</u>"), having an aggregate gross sales price not to exceed \$250,000,000.00, on the terms set forth in this ATM Equity OfferingSM Sales Agreement. The Company agrees that whenever it determines to sell Shares directly to any Agent as principal it will enter into a separate written Terms Agreement (each, a "<u>Terms Agreement</u>"), in form and substance mutually satisfactory to the Company and such Agent, relating to such sale in accordance with Section 2(k) hereof. References herein to "this Agreement" or to matters contained "herein" or "hereunder", or words of similar import, mean this ATM Equity Offering SM Sales Agreement and any applicable Terms Agreement.

The Company has prepared and filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") an "automatic shelf registration statement", as defined under Rule 405 ("Rule 405") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "1933 Act"), on Form S-3 (File No. 333-237139), covering the public offering and sale of certain securities of the Company, including the Shares, under the 1933 Act and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder (the "1933 Act Regulations"), which automatic shelf registration statement became effective under Rule 462(e) of the 1933 Act Regulations ("Rule 462(e)"). The "Registration Statement", as of any time, means such registration statement as amended by any post-effective amendments thereto at such time, including the exhibits and any schedules thereto at such time, the documents incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference therein at such time pursuant to Item 12 of Form S-3 under the 1933 Act and the documents otherwise deemed to be a part thereof as of such time pursuant to Rule 430B of the 1933 Act Regulations ("Rule 430B"); provided, however, that the "Registration Statement" without reference to a time means such registration statement as amended by any post-effective amendments thereto as of the time of the first contract of sale for the Shares, which time shall be considered the "new effective date" of the Registration Statement with respect to the Shares within the meaning of paragraph (f)(2) of Rule 430B ("<u>Rule 430B(f)(2)</u>"), including the exhibits and schedules thereto at such time, the documents incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference therein at such time pursuant to Item 12 of Form S-3 under the 1933 Act and the documents otherwise deemed to be a part thereof as of such time pursuant to Rule 430B. The base prospectus filed as part of such automatic shelf registration statement, as amended in the form in which it has been filed most recently with the Commission in accordance with Section 3(b) or 3(c) hereof, including the documents incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference therein pursuant to Item 12 of Form S-3 under the 1933 Act, is referred to herein as the "Base Prospectus". Promptly after execution and delivery of this Agreement, the Company will prepare and file a prospectus supplement relating to the Shares in accordance with the provisions of Rule 424(b) of the 1933 Act Regulations ("Rule 424(b)"). Such final prospectus supplement, as amended by the prospectus supplement filed most recently with the Commission in accordance with Section 3(b), 3(c) or 3(n) hereof, as the case may be, including the documents incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference therein pursuant to Item 12 of Form S-3 under the 1933 Act, is referred to herein as the "Prospectus Supplement". The Base Prospectus, as amended by the Prospectus Supplement and any applicable pricing supplement thereto, in the form the Base Prospectus, the Prospectus Supplement and any such pricing supplement are first furnished to the Agents for use in connection with the offering and sale of Shares, are collectively referred to herein as the "Prospectus." For purposes of this Agreement, all references to the Registration Statement, any preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus or any amendment or supplement thereto shall be deemed to include the copy filed with the Commission pursuant to its Electronic Data Gathering, Analysis and Retrieval system (or any successor system) ("EDGAR").

As used in this Agreement:

"Applicable Time" means, with respect to any offer and sale of Shares, the time immediately prior to the first contract of sale for such Shares, or such other time as agreed by the Company and the applicable Agent.

"General Disclosure Package" means each Issuer General Use Free Writing Prospectus, if any, issued prior to the Applicable Time, the most recent Prospectus filed with the Commission in accordance with Section 3(b), 3(c) or 3(n) hereof that is distributed to investors prior to the Applicable Time and the number of Shares and the initial offering price per Share, all considered together.

"Issuer Free Writing Prospectus" means any "issuer free writing prospectus," as defined in Rule 433 of the 1933 Act Regulations ("<u>Rule 433</u>"), including, without limitation, any "free writing prospectus" (as defined in Rule 405) relating to the Shares that is a "road show that is a written communication" within the meaning of Rule 433(d)(8)(i), whether or not required to be filed with the Commission, in each case in the form filed or required to be filed with the Commission or, if not required to be filed, in the form retained in the Company's records pursuant to Rule 433(g).

"Issuer General Use Free Writing Prospectus" means any Issuer Free Writing Prospectus approved by the Agents for general distribution to investors, as evidenced by communications between the Company and the Agents.

"Issuer Limited Use Free Writing Prospectus" means any Issuer Free Writing Prospectus that is not an Issuer General Use Free Writing Prospectus.

All references in this Agreement to financial statements and schedules and other information which is "contained," "included," "made," "stated" or "referred to" (or other references of like import) in the Registration Statement, any preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus shall be deemed to include all such financial statements and schedules and other information incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement, any preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus, as the case may be, prior to the Applicable Time relating to the particular Shares; and all references in this Agreement to amendments or supplements to the Registration Statement, any preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus shall be deemed to include the filing of any document under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "<u>1934 Act</u>"), and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder (the "<u>1934 Act Regulations</u>") incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement, such preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus, as the case may be, at or after the Applicable Time relating to the particular Shares.

Section 1. <u>Representations and Warranties</u>. The Company represents and warrants to each Agent at the date of this Agreement, each Registration Statement Amendment Date (as defined in Section 3(o) hereof), each Company Periodic Report Date (as defined in Section 3(n) hereof), each Company Earnings Report Date (as defined in Section 3(o) hereof), each Applicable Time and each Settlement Date (as defined in Section 2(h) hereof) (collectively, a "<u>Representation Date</u>"), and agrees with each Agent, as follows:

(a) *Compliance of the Registration Statement, the Prospectus and Incorporated Documents.* The Company meets the requirements for use of Form S-3 under the 1933 Act. The Registration Statement is an automatic shelf registration statement under Rule 405 and the Shares have been and remain eligible for registration by the Company on such automatic shelf registration statement. Each of the Registration Statement and any post-effective amendment thereto has become effective under the 1933 Act. No stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement or any post-effective amendment thereto pursuant to Rule 401(g)(2) of the 1933 Act Regulations ("<u>Rule 401(g)(2)</u>") has been received by the Company, no order preventing or suspending the use of any preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus or any amendment or supplement thereto has been issued and no proceedings for any of those purposes have been instituted or are pending or, to the Company's knowledge, contemplated. The Company has complied with each request (if any) from the Commission for additional information.

Each of the Registration Statement and any post-effective amendment thereto, at the time of its effectiveness and as of each deemed effective date with respect to the Agents pursuant to Rule 430B(f)(2), complied in all material respects with the requirements of the 1933 Act and the 1933 Act Regulations. Each of any preliminary prospectus and the Prospectus and any amendment or supplement thereto, at the time it was filed with the Commission, complied in all material respects of the 1933 Act and the 1933 Act Regulations and is identical to the electronically transmitted copy thereof filed with the Commission pursuant to EDGAR, except to the extent permitted by Regulation S-T.

The documents incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement, any preliminary prospectus and the Prospectus, when they became effective or at the time they were or hereafter are filed with the Commission, complied and will comply in all material respects with the requirements of the 1934 Act and the 1934 Act Regulations.

Accurate Disclosure. Neither the Registration Statement nor any amendment thereto, at its effective time or at any Settlement Date, contained, contains or will contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted, omits or will omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading. At each Applicable Time, neither (A) the General Disclosure Package nor (B) any individual Issuer Limited Use Free Writing Prospectus, when considered together with the General Disclosure Package, included, includes or will include an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted, omits or will omit to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading. Neither the Prospectus nor any amendment or supplement thereto (including any prospectus wrapper), as of its issue date, at the time of any filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) or at any Settlement Date, included, includes or will include an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted, omits or will omit to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading. The documents incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus, at the time the Registration Statement became effective or when such documents incorporated by reference were or hereafter are filed with the Commission, as the case may be, when read together with the other information in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package or the Prospectus, as the case may be, did not, do not and will not include an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading. The representations and warranties contained in this Section 1(b) shall not apply to statements in or omissions from the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package or the Prospectus made in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the Company by any Agent in writing expressly for use therein.

(c) *Issuer Free Writing Prospectuses.* No Issuer Free Writing Prospectus conflicts or will conflict with the information contained in the Registration Statement, any preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus or any amendment or supplement thereto, including any document incorporated by reference therein, that has not been superseded or modified. Any offer that is a written communication relating to the Shares made prior to the initial filing of the Registration Statement by the Company or any person acting on its behalf (within the meaning, for this paragraph only, of Rule 163(c) of the 1933 Act Regulations) has been filed with the Commission in accordance with the exemption provided by Rule 163 of the 1933 Act Regulations ("<u>Rule 163</u>,") and otherwise complied with the requirements of Rule 163, including, without limitation, the legending requirement, to qualify such offer for the exemption from Section 5(c) of the 1933 Act provided by Rule 163.

(d) *Well-Known Seasoned Issuer.* (A) At the original effectiveness of the Registration Statement, (B) at the time of the most recent amendment thereto for the purposes of complying with Section 10(a)(3) of the 1933 Act (whether such amendment was by post-effective amendment, incorporated report filed pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the 1934 Act or form of prospectus), (C) at the time the Company or any person acting on its behalf (within the meaning, for this clause only, of Rule 163(c)) made any offer relating to the Shares in reliance on the exemption of Rule 163, (D) at the date of this ATM Equity Offering SM Sales Agreement and any Terms Agreement, and (E) at each Applicable Time, the Company was and is a "well-known seasoned issuer," as defined in Rule 405.

(e) *Independent Accountants.* The accountants who certified the financial statements and supporting schedules (if any) of the Company included, incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus are independent public accountants with respect to the Company and its subsidiaries within the meaning of the 1933 Act and the rules of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board.

Financial Statements. The financial statements of the Company included, incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference in (f) the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus, together with the related notes, present fairly in all material respects the financial position of the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries at the dates indicated and the statement of operations, stockholders' equity and cash flows of the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries for the periods specified; said financial statements have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") applied on a consistent basis throughout the periods involved. The supporting schedules, if any, included in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus, present fairly in all material respects in accordance with GAAP the information required to be stated therein. The selected financial data and the summary financial information included in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus present fairly in all material respects the information shown therein and have been compiled on a basis consistent with that of the audited financial statements included therein. Any pro forma financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries and the related notes thereto included in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus present fairly in all material respects the information shown therein on the bases described therein, and the assumptions and adjustments contained therein are reasonable. The pro forma financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries and the related notes thereto included in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus have been prepared in accordance with the Commission's rules and guidelines with respect to pro forma financial statements. The interactive data in eXtensible Business Reporting Language included or incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus present the information called for in all material respects and have been prepared in accordance with the Commission's rules and guidelines applicable thereto.

(g) *No Material Adverse Change in Business.* Since the respective dates as of which information is given in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package or the Prospectus, (A) there has been no material adverse change in the condition, financial or otherwise, or in the earnings, business or properties of the Company and its subsidiaries considered as one enterprise (a "<u>Material Adverse Effect</u>"), (B) there have been no transactions entered into by the Company or any of its subsidiaries, other than those in the ordinary course of business, which are material with respect to the Company and its subsidiaries considered as one enterprise (a "<u>Material Adverse Effect</u>"), (B) there have been no transactions entered into by the Company or any of its subsidiaries, other than those in the ordinary course of business, which are material with respect to the Company and its subsidiaries considered as one enterprise, and (C) except for regular quarterly dividends on the Common Stock in amounts per share that are consistent with past practice, there has been no dividend or distribution of any kind declared, paid or made by the Company on any class of its capital stock.

(h) *Good Standing of the Company.* The Company has been duly organized and is validly existing as a corporation in good standing under the laws of the state of Maryland and has all requisite power and authority to own, lease and operate its properties and to conduct its business as described in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus and to enter into and perform its obligations under, and to consummate the transactions contemplated in, this Agreement. The Company is duly qualified as a foreign corporation to transact business and is in good standing in each other jurisdiction in which such qualification is required, whether by reason of the ownership or leasing of property or the conduct of business, except where the failure so to qualify or to be in good standing would not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

(i) *Significant Subsidiaries*. Each "significant subsidiary" (as such term is defined in Rule 1-02 of Regulation S-X under the 1933 Act) of the Company (each, a "<u>Significant Subsidiary</u>." and, collectively, the "<u>Significant Subsidiaries</u>") has been duly organized and is validly existing as a corporation, limited partnership or limited liability company in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its incorporation or formation, as applicable, has corporate, limited partnership or limited liability company power and authority, as applicable, to own, lease and operate its properties and to conduct its business as described in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus and is duly qualified as a foreign corporation, limited partnership or limited liability company to transact business and is in good standing in each jurisdiction in which such qualification is required, whether by reason of the ownership or leasing of property or the conduct of business, except where the failure so to qualify or to be in good standing would not reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect. Except as described in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus, all of the issued and outstanding capital stock of, or other equity interests in, each Significant Subsidiary has been duly authorized and validly issued, is fully paid and non-assessable and is owned by the Company, directly or through other subsidiaries of the Company, free and clear of any security interest, mortgage, pledge, lien, encumbrance, claim or equity. None of the outstanding shares of capital stock of, or other equity interests in, the Significant Subsidiaries was issued in violation of any preemptive or similar rights of any securityholder of such Significant Subsidiary. The other subsidiaries of the Company other than the Significant Subsidiaries, considered in the aggregate as a single subsidiary, do not constitute a "significant subsidi

(j) *Capitalization; Listing of Common Stock.* The authorized, issued and outstanding capital stock of the Company is as set forth in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus. All the shares of issued and outstanding capital stock of the Company have been duly authorized and validly issued and are fully paid and non-assessable. None of the outstanding shares of capital stock of the Company was issued in violation of the preemptive or other similar rights of any securityholder of the Company or any other person or entity. The Company's Common Stock has been registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the 1934 Act, 12,458,663 shares of Common Stock have been listed, and the Shares have been approved for listing, subject to official notice of issuance, on the Nasdaq Global Select Market Exchange ("<u>Nasdaq</u>"), and the Company has taken no action designed to, or likely to have the effect of, terminating the registration of the Common Stock under the 1934 Act or the listing of the Common Stock (including the Shares) on Nasdaq, nor has the Company received any notification that the Commission or Nasdaq is contemplating terminating such registration or listing.

(k) *Authorization of this Agreement*. This Agreement has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company.

(1) *Authorization and Description of Shares*. The Shares have been duly authorized for issuance and sale by the Company pursuant to this Agreement and, when issued and delivered by the Company pursuant to this Agreement against payment of the consideration set forth in this Agreement, will be validly issued and fully paid and non-assessable. The issuance of the Shares is not subject to the preemptive or other similar rights of any securityholder of the Company or any other person or entity. The Common Stock conforms to all statements relating thereto contained in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus and such statements conform to the rights set forth in the instruments defining the same.

(m) *Registration Rights.* There are no persons with registration rights or other similar rights to have any securities registered for sale pursuant to the Registration Statement or otherwise registered for sale or sold by the Company under the 1933 Act pursuant to this Agreement, other than those rights that have been waived.

Absence of Violations, Defaults and Conflicts. None of the Company or any of its subsidiaries is (i) in violation of its charter or by-(n) laws or similar organizational documents or (ii) in default in the performance or observance of any obligation, agreement, covenant or condition contained in any contract, indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, loan or credit agreement, note, lease or other agreement or instrument to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries is a party or by which any of them may be bound, or to which any of the property or assets of the Company or any of its subsidiaries is subject (collectively, "Agreements and Instruments"), or (iii) in violation of any applicable law, statute, rule, regulation, judgment, order, writ or decree of any government, government instrumentality or court, domestic or foreign, having jurisdiction over the Company or any of its subsidiaries or any of their assets, properties or operations (including the Federal Communications Acts of 1934, as amended (including the Telecommunications Act of 1996, the "Communications Act")), except, in the case of clauses (ii) and (iii), for such violations or defaults that would not reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect; and the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement and any other agreement or instrument entered into or issued or to be entered into or issued by the Company in connection with the transactions contemplated hereby or thereby or in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus and the consummation of the transactions contemplated herein and in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus (including the issuance and sale of Shares and the use of the proceeds from the sale thereof as described therein under the caption "Use of Proceeds") and compliance by the Company with its obligations hereunder have been duly authorized by all necessary corporate action, or other necessary action as required by the Company's formation documents, and do not and will not, whether with or without the giving of notice or passage of time or both, conflict with or constitute a breach of, or default or Repayment Event (as defined below) under, or result in the creation or imposition of any lien, charge or encumbrance upon any property or assets of the Company or any of its subsidiaries pursuant to, the Agreements and Instruments or under any applicable law, statute, rule, regulation, judgment, order, writ or decree of any government, government instrumentality or court, domestic or foreign, having jurisdiction over the Company or any of its subsidiaries or any of its or their assets, properties or operations (including the Communications Act), except as otherwise disclosed in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus and except for such conflicts, breaches or defaults or Repayment Events or liens, charges or encumbrances that, singly or in the aggregate, would not reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect, nor will such action result in any violation of the provisions of the charter or by-laws or similar organizational documents of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or any applicable law, statute, rule, regulation, judgment, order, writ or decree of any government, government instrumentality or court, domestic or foreign, having jurisdiction over the Company or any of its subsidiaries or any of its or their assets, properties or operations. As used herein, a "Repayment Event" means any event or condition which gives the holder of any note, debenture or other evidence of indebtedness (or any person acting on such holder's behalf) the right to require the repurchase, redemption or repayment of all or a portion of such indebtedness by the Company or any of its subsidiaries.

(o) *Absence of Labor Dispute.* Except as stated in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus, no labor dispute with the employees of the Company or any of its subsidiaries exists or, to the knowledge of the Company, is imminent, and the Company is not aware of any existing or imminent labor disturbance by the employees of any of its or any of its subsidiaries' principal suppliers, customers or contractors, which, in either case, would reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect.

(p) *Absence of Proceedings.* Except as stated in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus, there is no action, suit, proceeding, inquiry or investigation before or brought by any court or governmental agency or body, domestic or foreign (including the Federal Communications Commission (the "<u>FCC</u>")), now pending, or, to the knowledge of the Company, threatened, against or affecting the Company or any of its subsidiaries which might reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect, or which might materially and adversely affect the properties or assets of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement or the performance by the Company of its obligations hereunder or thereunder.

(q) *Absence of Further Requirements.* Except as would not reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect, no filing with, or authorization, approval, consent, license, order, registration, qualification or decree of, any court or governmental authority or agency (including the FCC) is necessary or required for the performance by the Company of its obligations hereunder, in connection with the offering, issuance or sale of the Shares hereunder or the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, except such as have been already obtained and except for (1) such consents approvals, authorizations, orders and registrations or qualifications as may be required by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") and under applicable state securities laws in connection with the purchase and distribution of the Shares by the Agents and (2) such other consents, approvals, authorizations, orders, registrations or qualifications that have been or will be obtained or made on or prior to the Settlement Date.

(r) Possession of Licenses and Permits. The Company and its subsidiaries possess such permits, licenses, approvals, consents and other authorizations (collectively, "<u>Governmental Licenses</u>") issued by the appropriate federal, state, local or foreign regulatory agencies or bodies necessary to conduct the business now operated by them, except where the failure so to possess would not, reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect; the Company and its subsidiaries are in compliance with the terms and conditions of all such Governmental Licenses, except where the failure so to comply would not, reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect; all of the Governmental Licenses are valid and in full force and effect, except where the invalidity of such Governmental Licenses or the failure of such Governmental Licenses to be in full force and effect would not, reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect; and none of the Company or its subsidiaries has received any notice of proceedings relating to the revocation or modification of any such Governmental Licenses which, if the subject of an unfavorable decision, ruling or finding, would reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect.

(s) *Title to Property.* The Company and its subsidiaries have good and marketable title to all real property owned by the Company and its subsidiaries and good title to all other properties owned by them, free and clear of all mortgages, pledges, liens, security interests, claims, restrictions or encumbrances of any kind except (a) as is otherwise described in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus or (b) as do not, singly or in the aggregate, materially affect the value of all such properties, taken as a whole, and do not interfere with the use made and proposed to be made of such properties by the Company or any of its subsidiaries. The Master Lease (as defined in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus) is in full force and effect and is the valid and binding obligation of CSL National, LP and the subsidiaries party thereto and, to the knowledge of the Company, each other party thereto, enforceable in accordance with its terms, except as the enforcement thereof may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency (including, without limitation, all laws relating to fraudulent transfers or preferences), reorganization, moratorium or similar laws affecting enforcement of creditors' rights generally and except as enforcement thereof is subject to general principles of equity (regardless of whether enforcement is considered in a proceeding in equity or at law).

(t) Possession of Intellectual Property. The Company and its subsidiaries own or possess, or can acquire on reasonable terms, adequate patents, patent rights, licenses, inventions, copyrights, know-how (including trade secrets and other unpatented and/or unpatentable proprietary or confidential information, systems or procedures), trademarks, service marks, trade names or other intellectual property (collectively, "Intellectual Property") necessary to carry on the business now operated by them in all material respects, and neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has received any notice or is otherwise aware of any infringement of or conflict with asserted rights of others with respect to any Intellectual Property or of any facts or circumstances which would render any Intellectual Property invalid or inadequate to protect the interest of the Company or any of its subsidiaries therein, and which infringement or conflict (if the subject of any unfavorable decision, ruling or finding) or invalidity or inadequacy, singly or in the aggregate, would reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect

Environmental Laws. Except as described in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus and (u) except such matters as would not reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect, (A) none of the Company or its subsidiaries is in violation of any federal, state, local or foreign statute, law, rule, regulation, ordinance, code, policy or rule of common law or any judicial or administrative interpretation thereof, including any judicial or administrative order, consent, decree or judgment, relating to pollution or protection of human health, the environment (including, without limitation, ambient air, surface water, groundwater, land surface or subsurface strata) or wildlife, including, without limitation, laws and regulations relating to the release or threatened release of pollutants, contaminants, wastes, toxic substances, hazardous substances, petroleum or petroleum products or asbestos containing materials (collectively, "Hazardous Materials") or to the manufacture, processing, distribution, use, treatment, storage, disposal, transport or handling of Hazardous Materials (collectively, "Environmental Laws"), (B) the Company and its subsidiaries have all permits, authorizations and approvals required under any applicable Environmental Laws and are each in compliance with their requirements, (C) there are no pending or, to the knowledge of the Company, threatened, administrative, regulatory or judicial actions, suits, demands, demand letters, claims, liens, notices of noncompliance or violation, investigation or proceedings relating to any Environmental Law against the Company or any of its subsidiaries or any of the respective properties (with respect to liens, only with respect to properties owned by the Company or any of its subsidiaries) and (D) there are no events or circumstances that would reasonably be expected to form the basis of an order for cleanup or remediation, or an action, suit or proceeding by any private party or governmental body or agency, against or affecting the Company or any of its subsidiaries relating to Hazardous Materials or Environmental Laws

(v) Accounting Controls and Disclosure Controls. Except as described in the General Disclosure Package and Prospectus (exclusive of any supplement thereto), the Company and each of its subsidiaries maintain effective internal control over financial reporting (as defined under Rule 13-a15 and 15d-15 under the 1934 Act) and a system of internal accounting controls sufficient to provide reasonable assurances that (A) transactions are executed in accordance with management's general or specific authorization; (B) transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP and to maintain accountability for assets; (C) access to assets is permitted only in accordance with management's general or specific authorization; (D) the recorded accountability for assets is compared with the existing assets at reasonable intervals and appropriate action is taken with respect to any differences and (E) the interactive data in eXtensible Business Reporting Language included or incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus fairly presents the required information and is prepared in accordance with the Commission's rules and guidelines applicable thereto. Except as described in the General Disclosure Package and Prospectus (exclusive of any supplement thereto), since the end of the Company's most recent audited fiscal year, there has been (1) no material weakness in the Company's internal control over financial reporting (whether or not remediated) and (2) no change in the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

The Company and its consolidated subsidiaries maintain an effective system of disclosure controls and procedures as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the 1934 Act that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports that it files or submits under the 1934 Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time periods specified in the Commission's rules and forms, and is accumulated and communicated to the Company's management, including its principal executive officer or officers and principal financial officer or officers, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding disclosure. The Company and its subsidiaries have carried out evaluations of the effectiveness of their disclosure controls and procedures as required by Rule 13a-15 under the 1934 Act.

(w) *Compliance with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act*. There is and has been no failure on the part of the Company or any of the Company's directors or officers, in their capacities as such, to comply in all material respects with any applicable provision of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and the rules and regulations promulgated in connection therewith, including Section 402 related to loans and Sections 302 and 906 related to certifications.

(x) Payment of Taxes. All United States federal income tax returns of each of the Company and its subsidiaries required by law to be filed have been filed and all taxes shown by such returns or otherwise assessed, which are due and payable, have been paid, except assessments against which appeals have been or will be promptly taken and as to which adequate reserves have been provided in accordance with GAAP. Each of the Company and its subsidiaries (i) has filed all other tax returns that are required to have been filed by it pursuant to applicable foreign, state, local or other law and (ii) has paid all taxes due pursuant to such returns or pursuant to any assessment received by the Company and its subsidiaries, except for such taxes, if any, as are being contested in good faith and as to which adequate reserves have been provided in accordance with GAAP, except, in the case of each of (i) and (ii), insofar as the failure to file such returns or pay such taxes due would not reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect. The charges, accruals and reserves on the books of each of the Company and its subsidiaries in respect of any income and corporate tax liability for any years not finally determined are adequate to meet any assessments or re-assessments for additional income tax for any years not finally determined, except to the extent of any inadequacy that would not reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect.

(y) Status as a REIT. Commencing with its taxable year ending December 31, 2015, the Company has been organized and has operated in conformity with the requirements for qualification and taxation as a real estate investment trust (a "REIT") under the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") and all applicable regulations under the Code, and its form of organization and proposed method of operation will enable it to continue to meet the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT under the Code and all applicable regulations under the Code, and the Company, after reasonable inquiry and diligence, does not know of any event that would reasonably be expected to cause the Company to fail to qualify as a REIT at any time. All statements regarding the Company's qualification and taxation as a REIT and descriptions of the Company's organization and proposed method of operation Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus are true, complete and correct in all material respects and no material deviation from such proposed method of operation is currently contemplated.

(z) *Insurance*. The Company and its subsidiaries carry or are entitled to the benefits of insurance, with financially sound and reputable insurers, in such amounts and covering such risks as is generally maintained by companies engaged in the same or similar business, and all such insurance is in full force and effect. The Company has no reason to believe that it or any of its subsidiaries will not be able (A) to renew its existing insurance coverage as and when such policies expire or (B) to obtain comparable coverage from similar institutions as may be necessary or appropriate to conduct its respective business as now conducted and at a cost that would not reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect.

(aa) *Investment Company Act.* The Company is not required, and upon the issuance and sale of the Shares as contemplated herein and the application of the net proceeds therefrom as described in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus will not be required, to register as an "investment company" under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended.

(bb) *Absence of Manipulation*. Neither the Company nor any affiliate of the Company has taken, nor will the Company or any affiliate take, directly or indirectly, any action which is designed to or which has constituted or which would be expected to cause or result in stabilization or manipulation of the price of any security of the Company to facilitate the sale or resale of the Shares.

(cc) *Foreign Corrupt Practices Act.* Neither of the Company nor, to the knowledge of the Company, any director, officer, agent, employee or controlled affiliate is aware of or has taken any action, directly or indirectly, that would result in a violation by such persons of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977, as amended, and the rules and regulations thereunder (the "<u>FCPA</u>"), including, without limitation, making use of the mails or any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce corruptly in furtherance of an offer, payment, promise to pay or authorization of the payment of any money, or other property, gift, promise to give, or authorization of the giving of anything of value to any "foreign official" (as such term is defined in the FCPA) or any foreign political party or official thereof or any candidate for foreign political office, in contravention of the FCPA and the Company and, to the knowledge of the Company, its affiliates have conducted their businesses in compliance with the FCPA and have instituted and maintain policies and procedures designed to ensure, and which are reasonably expected to continue to ensure, continued compliance therewith.

(dd) *Money Laundering Laws*. The operations of the Company and its subsidiaries are and have been conducted at all times in compliance with applicable financial recordkeeping and reporting requirements of the Currency and Foreign Transactions Reporting Act of 1970, as amended, the money laundering statutes of all jurisdictions, the rules and regulations thereunder and any related or similar rules, regulations or guidelines, issued, administered or enforced by any governmental agency (collectively, the "<u>Money Laundering Laws</u>") and no action, suit or proceeding by or before any court or governmental agency, authority or body or any arbitrator involving the Company or any of its subsidiaries with respect to the Money Laundering Laws is pending or, to the knowledge of the Company, threatened.

(ee) *OFAC*. None of the Company, its subsidiaries, or, to the knowledge of the Company, any director, officer, agent, employee or controlled affiliate is currently the subject of any U.S. sanctions administered by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the U.S. Treasury Department, the U.S. Department of Commerce and the U.S. Department of State (collectively, "<u>Sanctions</u>"), nor is the Company or any of its subsidiaries located, organized or resident in a country or territory that is the subject of Sanctions. The Company will not, directly or indirectly, use the proceeds of the sale of the Shares, or lend, contribute or otherwise make available such proceeds to any of its subsidiaries, joint venture partners or other persons, (i) to fund any activities of or business with any person that, at the time of such funding, is the subject of Sanctions, or is in any country or territory, that, at the time of such funding, is the subject of Sanction by any person (including any person participating in the transaction, whether as underwriter, advisor, investor or otherwise) of Sanctions.

(ff) *Statistical and Market-Related Data*. Any statistical and market-related data included in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package or the Prospectus are based on or derived from sources that the Company believes to be reliable.

(gg) *No Commissions*. Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries are a party to any contract, agreement or understanding with any person (other than as contemplated by this Agreement) that would give rise to a valid claim against the Company or any of its subsidiaries or the Agents for a brokerage commission, finder's fee or like payment in connection with the offering and sale of any Shares.

(hh) *Actively-Traded Security.* The Common Stock is an "actively-traded security" exempted from the requirements of Rule 101 of Regulation M under the 1934 Act by subsection (c)(1) of such rule.

(ii) *Regulatory Matters*. The information that is incorporated into the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus by reference to the section entitled "Business—Government Regulation, Licensing and Enforcement" from the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 fairly presents, in all material respects, the regulations to which the Company and its subsidiaries are subject.

(jj) *Cyber Security.* The Company's and its subsidiaries' information technology assets and equipment, computers, systems, networks, hardware, software, websites, applications, and databases (collectively, "IT Systems") are adequate for, and operate and perform in all material respects as required in connection with the operation of the business of the Company and its subsidiaries as currently conducted, free and clear of all material bugs, errors, defects, Trojan horses, time bombs, malware and other corruptants. The Company and its subsidiaries have implemented and maintained commercially reasonable controls, policies, procedures, and safeguards to maintain and protect their material confidential information and the integrity, continuous operation, redundancy and security of all IT Systems and data (including all personal, personally identifiable, sensitive, confidential or regulated data) used in connection with their businesses, and there have been no breaches, violations, outages or unauthorized uses of or accesses to the same, except for those that have been remedied without material cost or liability or the duty to notify any other person or those that would not, individually or in the aggregate, have a Material Adverse Effect, nor any incidents under internal review or investigations relating to the same.

(kk) Data Protection. The Company and each of its subsidiaries are, and at all prior times were, in compliance with all applicable data privacy and security laws and regulations regarding the collection, use, transfer, storage, protection, disposal or disclosure of Personal Data (as defined below) collected from or provided by third parties. "Personal Data" means "personal data" as defined by the EU General Data Protection Regulations (EU 2016 679) and any data concerning an identified natural person. The Company and its subsidiaries have in place, comply with, and take appropriate steps reasonably designed to (i) ensure compliance with its privacy policies on its website and (ii) reasonably protect the security and confidentiality of all Personal Data.

(ll) *Forward Looking Statements*. No forward looking statement (within the meaning of Section 27A of the 1933 Act and Section 21E of the 1934 Act) included or incorporated by reference in any of the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package or the Prospectus has been made or reaffirmed without a reasonable basis or has been disclosed other than in good faith.

Any certificate signed by any officer or other authorized signatory of the Company and delivered to the Agents or to counsel for the Agents shall be deemed a representation and warranty by the Company to each Agent as to the matters covered thereby.

Section 2. Sale and Delivery of Shares.

(a) Subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein, the Company agrees to issue and sell Shares through the Agents acting severally as sales agents or directly to the Agents acting severally as principals from time to time. Sales of the Shares, if any, through the Agents acting as sales agents or directly to the Agents acting as principal will be made by means of ordinary brokers' transactions on Nasdaq or otherwise at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices.

(b) The Shares are to be sold to the Agents on an agented basis on any day (other than a day on which Nasdaq is scheduled to close prior to its regular weekday closing time) (each, a "<u>Trading Day</u>") on which (i) the Company has instructed an Agent to make such sales and (ii) the Company has satisfied its covenants and conditions specified in Sections 4 and 5 hereof. On any Trading Day, the Company may sell Shares through only one Agent and, if it determines to do so, shall instruct such Agent by telephone (confirmed promptly by telecopy or email, which confirmation will be promptly acknowledged by such Agent) as to the maximum number of Shares to be sold on such Trading Day and the minimum price per Share at which such Shares may be sold. Subject to the terms and conditions specified herein (including, without limitation, the accuracy of the representations and warranties of the Company and the performance by the Company of its covenants and other obligations, contained herein and the satisfaction of the additional conditions specified in Section 5 hereof), such Agent shall use its commercially reasonable efforts, consistent with its normal trading and sales practices and applicable law and regulations, to sell all of the Shares so designated by the Company as sales agent in accordance with such instruction. The Company and such Agent each acknowledge and agree that (A) there can be no assurance that such Agent will be successful in selling any Shares and (B) such Agent will not incur any liability or obligation to the Company or any other person or entity if they fail to sell Shares for any reason other than a failure to use its commercially reasonable efforts, consistent with its normal trading and sales practices and applicable law and regulations, to sell such Shares as required by this Agreement.

(c) The Company or the applicable Agent may, upon notice to the other party hereto by telephone (confirmed promptly by telecopy or email, which confirmation will be promptly acknowledged by the receiving party), suspend the offering of Shares with respect to which such Agent is acting as sales agent for any reason and at any time; provided, however, that such suspension shall not affect or impair the parties' respective obligations with respect to the Shares sold, or with respect to Shares that the Company has agreed to sell, hereunder prior to the giving of such notice.

(d) The gross sales price of any Shares sold pursuant to this Agreement by the applicable Agent acting as sales agent of the Company shall be equal to, in the discretion of such Agent but subject to the specific instructions of the Company, the market price prevailing at the time of sale for the Shares sold by such Agent on Nasdaq or otherwise, at prices related to prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices. The compensation payable to such Agent for sales of Shares with respect to which such Agent acts as sales agent shall not exceed 2% of the gross sales price for such Shares. The remaining proceeds, after further deduction for any transaction fees, transfer taxes or similar taxes or fees imposed by any governmental entity or self-regulatory organization in respect of such sales, shall constitute the net proceeds to the Company for such sales (the "<u>Net Proceeds</u>"). Such Agent shall notify the Company as promptly as practicable if any deduction referenced in the preceding sentence will be made. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event the Company engages an Agent as principal for the sale of Shares, the Company and such Agent will agree to compensation for such Agent that is customary for such sales.

(e) If acting as sales agent hereunder, an Agent shall provide written confirmation to the Company following the close of trading on Nasdaq on each Trading Day on which Shares are sold under this Agreement setting forth the number of Shares sold on such day, the aggregate gross sales proceeds of the Shares, the aggregate Net Proceeds to the Company and the aggregate compensation payable by the Company to such Agent with respect to such sales.

(f) Under no circumstances shall the aggregate gross sales price or number, as the case may be, of Shares offered or sold pursuant to this Agreement, or which are the subject of instructions to an Agent as sales agent pursuant to Section 2(b) hereof, exceed the aggregate gross sales price or number, as the case may be, of Shares (i) referred to in the preamble paragraph of this Agreement, as reduced by prior sales of Shares under this Agreement, (ii) available for sale under the Registration Statement or (iii) duly authorized from time to time to be issued and sold under this Agreement by the Company or approved for listing on Nasdaq, and, in each case referred to in clause (ii) and (iii), notified to the applicable Agent in writing. In addition, under no circumstances shall any Shares with respect to which an Agent acts as sales agent be offered or sold, or be the subject of instructions to an Agent as sales agent pursuant to Section 2(b) hereof, at a price lower than the minimum price therefor duly authorized from time to time by the Company and notified to the applicable Agent in writing. The Agents shall have no responsibility for maintaining records with respect to Shares available for sale under the Registration Statement or for determining the aggregate gross sales price, number or minimum price of Shares duly authorized by the Company.

(g) If the exemptive provisions set forth in Rule 101(c)(1) of Regulation M under the 1934 Act are not satisfied with respect to the Company or the Shares, the Company shall promptly notify the Agents and future offers and sales of Shares through the Agents on an agented basis under this ATM Equity OfferingSM Sales Agreement shall be suspended until that or other exemptive provisions have been satisfied in the judgment of each party.

(h) Settlement for sales of Shares will occur on the second business day that is also a Trading Day following the trade date on which such sales are made, unless another date shall be agreed to in writing by the Company and the applicable Agent (each such day, a "<u>Settlement Date</u>"). On each Settlement Date for the sale of Shares through an Agent as sales agent, such Shares shall be delivered by the Company to such Agent in book-entry form to such Agent's account at The Depository Trust Company against payment by such Agent of the Net Proceeds from the sale of such Shares in same day funds delivered to an account designated by the Company. If the Company shall default on its obligation to deliver Shares through such Agent as sales agent on any Settlement Date, the Company shall (i) indemnify and hold such Agent harmless against any loss, claim or damage arising from or as a result of such default by the Company and (ii) pay such Agent any commission to which it would otherwise be entitled absent such default.

(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the Company shall not offer or sell, or instruct any Agent to offer or sell, any Shares through any Agent as sales agent (and, by notice to the Agents given by telephone (confirmed promptly by telecopy or email), shall cancel any instructions for any such offer or sale of any Shares prior to the commencement of the periods referenced below), and the Agents shall not be obligated to make any such offer or sale of Shares, (i) during any period in which the Company is, or could be deemed to be, in possession of material non-public information or (ii) except as provided in Section 2(j) hereof, at any time during the period commencing on the 10th business day prior to the time the Company issues a press release containing, or shall otherwise publicly announce, its earnings, revenues or other operating results for a fiscal period or periods (each, an "Earnings Announcement") through and including the time that is 24 hours after the time that the Company files a Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q or an Annual Report on Form 10-K (a "Filing Time") that includes consolidated financial statements as of and for the same fiscal period or periods, as the case may be, covered by such Earnings Announcement.

(j) Notwithstanding clause (ii) of Section 2(i) hereof, if the Company wishes to offer or sell Shares to an Agent as sales agent at any time during the period from and including an Earnings Announcement through and including the corresponding Filing Time, the Company shall first (i) prepare and deliver to such Agent (with a copy to counsel for the Agents) a Current Report on Form 8-K that includes substantially the same financial and related information (together with management's discussion and analysis thereof) that was included in such Earnings Announcement (other than any earnings projections and similar forward-looking data and officers' quotations) (each, an "Earnings 8-K"), in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to such Agent, and, prior to its filing, obtain the written consent of such Agent to such filing (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld), (ii) provide such Agent with the officers' certificate, opinions and letters of counsel and accountants' letter specified in Section 3(o), (p) and (q), respectively, hereof, (iii) afford such Agent the opportunity to conduct a due diligence review in accordance with Section 3(t) hereof prior to filing such Earnings 8-K and (iv) file such Earnings 8-K with the Commission. For purposes of clarity, the parties hereto agree that (A) the delivery of any officers' certificate, opinion or letter of counsel or accountants' letter pursuant to this Section 2(j) shall not relieve the Company from any of its obligations under this Agreement with respect to any Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q or Annual Report on Form 10-K, as the case may be, including, without limitation, the obligation to deliver officers' certificates, opinions and letters of counsel and accountants' letters as provided in Section 3(o), (p) and (q), respectively, hereof, and (B) this Section 2(j) shall in no way affect or limit the operation of clause (i) of Section 2(i) hereof, which shall have independent application.

(k) The Agents shall not have any obligation to purchase Shares as principals, whether from the Company or otherwise, unless the Company and the Agents agree as set forth below. Shares purchased from the Company by an Agent as principal shall be made in accordance with terms agreed upon between such Agent and the Company as evidenced by a Terms Agreement. Such Agent's commitment to purchase Shares from the Company as principal shall be deemed to have been made on the basis of the accuracy of the representations and warranties of the Company, and performance by the Company of its covenants and other obligations, herein contained and shall be subject to the terms and conditions herein set forth. At the time of each Terms Agreement, the applicable Agent shall specify the requirements, if any, for the officers' certificate, opinions and letters of counsel and accountants' letter pursuant to Section 3(o), (p) and (q), respectively, hereof. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this ATM Equity OfferingSM Sales Agreement and a Terms Agreement, the terms of such Terms Agreement shall control.

Section 3. Covenants. The Company agrees with each Agent:

Compliance with Securities Regulations and Commission Requests. The Company, subject to Section 3(b) and 3(c) hereof, will (a) comply with the requirements of Rule 430B, and will notify the Agents immediately, and confirm the notice in writing. (i) when any post-effective amendment to the Registration Statement or any new registration statement relating to the Shares shall become effective or any amendment or supplement to the Prospectus shall have been filed (other than an amendment or supplement providing solely for the determination of the terms of an offering of securities unless related to an offering of Shares), (ii) of the receipt of any comments from the Commission, (iii) of any request by the Commission for any amendment to the Registration Statement or any amendment or supplement to the Prospectus, including any document incorporated by reference therein, or for additional information, (iv) of the issuance by the Commission of any stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement or any posteffective amendment thereto or any notice of objection to the use of the Registration Statement or any post-effective amendment thereto pursuant to Rule 401(g)(2) or of the issuance of any order preventing or suspending the use of any preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus or any amendment or supplement thereto, or of the suspension of the qualification of any Shares for offering or sale in any jurisdiction, or of the initiation or threatening of any proceedings for any of such purposes or of any examination pursuant to Section 8(d) or 8(e) of the 1933 Act concerning the Registration Statement and (v) if the Company becomes the subject of a proceeding under Section 8A of the 1933 Act in connection with any offering of Shares. In connection with a Terms Agreement, the Company will prepare and file with the Commission, subject to Section 3(c) hereof, a pricing supplement with respect to the offer and sale of Shares covered by such Terms Agreement. The Company will effect all filings required under Rule 424(b), in the manner and within the time period required by Rule 424(b) (without reliance on Rule 424(b)(8)), and will take such steps as it deems necessary to ascertain promptly whether the form of prospectus transmitted for filing under Rule 424(b) was received for filing by the Commission and, in the event that it was not, it will promptly file such prospectus. The Company will use its best efforts to prevent the issuance of any stop, prevention or suspension order and, if any such order is issued, to obtain the lifting thereof at the earliest possible moment. In the event of any issuance of a notice of objection by the Commission, the Company shall take all necessary action to permit offers and sales of Shares by or through the Agents, including, without limitation, amending the Registration Statement or filing a new shelf registration statement relating thereto and, if necessary, using its best efforts to have such amendment or new registration statement declared effective as soon as practicable unless the Company suspends sales of Shares hereunder and provides written notice to the Agents of such suspension. The Company shall pay the required Commission filing fees relating to the Shares prior to the time the initial Prospectus Supplement is filed with the Commission or the time any subsequent Prospectus Supplement that increases the gross offering price or number of Shares that may offered and sold under this Agreement from that referenced in the immediately preceding Prospectus Supplement filed with the Commission.

Continued Compliance with Securities Laws. The Company will comply with the 1933 Act, the 1933 Act Regulations, the 1934 Act (b) and the 1934 Act Regulations so as to permit the completion of sales of Shares as contemplated in this Agreement and in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus. If any event shall occur or condition shall exist as a result of which it is necessary, in the opinion of counsel for the Agents or counsel to the Company, to (i) amend the Registration Statement in order that the Registration Statement will not include an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading, (ii) amend or supplement the General Disclosure Package or the Prospectus in order that the General Disclosure Package or the Prospectus, as the case may be, will not include any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein not misleading in the light of the circumstances existing at the time it is delivered to a purchaser or (iii) amend the Registration Statement or amend or supplement the General Disclosure Package or the Prospectus, as the case may be, including, without limitation, the filing of any document incorporated by reference therein, in order to comply with the requirements of the 1933 Act, the 1933 Act Regulations, the 1934 Act or the 1934 Act Regulations, the Company will promptly suspend sales of Shares hereunder or (A) give the Agents written notice of such event or condition, (B) prepare any amendment or supplement as may be necessary to correct such statement or omission or to comply with such requirements and, a reasonable amount of time prior to any proposed filing or use, furnish the Agents with copies of any such amendment or supplement and (C) file with the Commission any such amendment or supplement and use its reasonable efforts to have any amendment to the Registration Statement declared effective by the Commission as soon as possible if the Company is no longer eligible to file an automatic shelf registration statement; provided, however, that the Company shall not file or use any such amendment or supplement to which any Agent or counsel for the Agents shall reasonably object.



(c) *Filing or Use of Amendments and Supplements.* The Company will give the Agents written notice of its intention to file or use (i) any amendment to the Registration Statement or any amendment or supplement to the General Disclosure Package or the Prospectus (other than an amendment or supplement thereto relating solely to the offering of securities unless related to an offering of Shares or any report required pursuant to Sections 13, 14 or 15(d) of the 1934 Act), (ii) any new Prospectus Supplement that includes information in addition to the information referred to in Section 3(n) hereof or (iii) a pricing supplement disclosing the offer and sale of Shares covered by a Terms Agreement, will furnish the Agents with copies of any such document a reasonable amount of time prior to such proposed filing or use, as the case may be, and will not file or use any such document to which any Agent or counsel for the Agents shall reasonably object.

(d) *Delivery of Registration Statements.* The Company has furnished or will deliver to the Agents and counsel for the Agents, without charge, signed copies of the Registration Statement as originally filed and each amendment thereto (including exhibits filed therewith or incorporated by reference therein and documents incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference therein) and signed copies of all consents and certificates of experts. The signed copies of the Registration Statement and each amendment thereto furnished to the Agents and counsel for the Agents will be identical to the electronically transmitted copies thereof filed with the Commission pursuant to EDGAR, except to the extent permitted by Regulation S-T.

(e) *Delivery of Prospectuses.* The Company will furnish to the Agents, without charge, upon execution of this Agreement and thereafter during the period in which a prospectus is (or, but for the exception afforded by Rule 172 of the 1933 Act Regulations ("<u>Rule 172</u>"), would be) required by the 1933 Act to be delivered in connection with any offer or sale of Shares, such number of copies of the Prospectus (as amended or supplemented) as the Agents may reasonably request. The Company will also furnish, upon request of the Agents copies of the Prospectus (as amended or supplemented) to each exchange or market on which sales of Shares were made as may be required by the rules and regulations of such exchange or market. The Prospectus and any amendments or supplements thereto furnished in accordance with this Section will be identical to the electronically transmitted copies thereof filed with the Commission pursuant to EDGAR, except to the extent permitted by Regulation S-T.

(f) *Reporting Requirements.* The Company, during the period in which a prospectus is (or, but for the exception afforded by Rule 172, would be) required by the 1933 Act to be delivered in connection with any offer or sale of Shares, will file all documents required to be filed with the Commission pursuant to the 1934 Act within the time periods prescribed by, and meeting the requirements of, the 1934 Act and the 1934 Act Regulations. Additionally, the Company shall report the use of the net proceeds from the sale of any Shares as may be required under the 1933 Act and the 1933 Act Regulations, including, if applicable, Rule 463 of the 1933 Act Regulations.

(g) *Blue Sky Qualifications*. The Company will arrange, if necessary, for the qualification of the Shares for sale under the laws of such jurisdictions as the Agents may designate and will maintain such qualifications in effect so long as required for the distribution of the Shares; provided that in no event shall the Company be obligated to qualify to do business in any jurisdiction where it is not now so qualified or to take any action that would subject it to service of process in suits, other than those arising out of the offering or sale of the Shares, in any jurisdiction where it is not now so subject.

(h) *Earnings Statement*. The Company will timely file such reports pursuant to the 1934 Act as are necessary in order to make generally available to its securityholders as soon as practicable an earnings statement for the purposes of, and to provide to the Agents the benefits contemplated by, the last paragraph of Section 11(a) of the 1933 Act and Rule 158.

Use of Proceeds. The Company will use the net proceeds received by it from the sale of the Shares pursuant to this Agreement in the (i) manner specified in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus under "Use of Proceeds,"

Listing. The Company will use its best efforts to effect and maintain the listing of the Shares on, and satisfy the requirements of,

(i) Nasdaq.

(k) Notice of Certain Actions. The Company will not, without the prior written consent of the Agents, unless it gives the Agents at least two business days' prior written notice, (i) directly or indirectly offer, pledge, sell, contract to sell, sell any option or contract to purchase, purchase any option or contract to sell, grant any option, right or warrant to purchase or otherwise transfer or dispose of any shares of Common Stock or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for shares of Common Stock or file any registration statement under the 1933 Act with respect to any of the foregoing or (ii) enter into any swap or any other agreement or transaction that transfers, in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, the economic consequence of ownership of the Common Stock, whether any such swap, agreement or transaction described in clause (i) or (ii) above is to be settled by delivery of Common Stock or such other securities, in cash or otherwise. The foregoing sentence shall not apply to the issuance of shares of Common Stock or any securities convertible into, or exercisable or exchangeable for, Common Stock by the Company (i) in connection with acquisitions, joint ventures, strategic partnerships or collaboration arrangements, provided that the aggregate number of shares of Common Stock issued (together with any other shares of Common Stock issuable in respect of such other securities) in any single transaction does not exceed 10% of the number of shares of Common Stock outstanding as of the date hereof), (ii) pursuant to any equity compensation or incentive plans or any dividend reinvestment plan, (iii) upon exchange of the Company's 4.00% Exchangeable Senior Notes due 2024, (iv) the filing of one or more registration statements on Form S-8 with the Commission with respect to shares of Common Stock issued or issuable under any equity compensation or incentive plans, (v) the filing of one or more registration statements on Form S-4 with the Commission with respect to shares of Common Stock issued or issuable pursuant to clause (i) above, (vi) pursuant to the Stock Purchase Agreements that the Company shall enter into with certain creditors of Windstream Holdings, Inc. and its direct and indirect subsidiaries (collectively, "Windstream") under which the Company will sell an aggregate of 38,633,470 shares Common Stock to such creditors in connection with the Company's disclosed settlement with Windstream, or (vii) the Shares to be sold hereunder. Upon receipt of any written notice contemplated above, each Agent may suspend its activity under this Agreement for such period of time as deemed appropriate by such Agent.

Issuer Free Writing Prospectuses. The Company agrees that, unless it obtains the prior written consent of the Agents, it will not (1)make any offer relating to the Shares that would constitute an Issuer Free Writing Prospectus or that would otherwise constitute a "free writing prospectus" (as defined in Rule 405), or a portion thereof, required to be filed by the Company with the Commission or retained by the Company under Rule 433. The Company represents that it has treated or agrees that it will treat each such free writing prospectus consented to by the Agents as an "issuer free writing prospectus," as defined in Rule 433, and that it will comply with the applicable requirements of Rule 433 with respect thereto, including timely filing with the Commission where required, legending and record keeping. If at any time following issuance of an Issuer Free Writing Prospectus any event shall occur or condition shall exist as a result of which such Issuer Free Writing Prospectus conflicted or would conflict with the information contained in the Registration Statement, any preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus or included or would include an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted or would omit to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances existing at that subsequent time, not misleading, the Company will promptly notify the Agents and will promptly amend or supplement, at its own expense, such Issuer Free Writing Prospectus to eliminate or correct such conflict, untrue statement or omission.

No Stabilization or Manipulation. The Company will not take, directly or indirectly, any action designed to or that would constitute (m) or that might reasonably be expected to cause or result in, under the 1934 Act or otherwise, stabilization or manipulation of the price of any security of the Company to facilitate the sale or resale of the Shares.

(n) Update of Activity under this Agreement. The Company shall disclose (i) in each Annual Report on Form 10-K or Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed by the Company in respect of any fiscal quarterly period (which, in the case of an Annual Report on Form 10-K, would mean the last quarterly period of the fiscal year) in which sales of Shares were made by or through the Agents under this Agreement (each date on which any such document or amendment thereto is filed, a "<u>Company Periodic Report Date</u>"), or (ii) to the extent required by applicable law and/or interpretations of the Commission, in Prospectus Supplements for each such fiscal quarterly period, the number of Shares sold by or through the Agents under this Agreement during such fiscal quarterly period and the net proceeds received by the Company and the aggregate compensation paid by the Company to the Agents with respect to such sales.

Delivery of Future Officers' Certificates. Upon commencement of the offering of Shares under this Agreement, (A) each time Shares (0) are delivered to the Agents as principals on a Settlement Date and (B) promptly after each (i) date on which the Registration Statement shall be amended or a new registration statement relating to the Shares shall become effective or the Prospectus shall be amended or supplemented (other than (1) by an amendment or supplement providing solely for the determination of the terms of securities, including the Shares or that does not relate to the Shares, or (2) in connection with the filing of a Prospectus Supplement that contains solely the information referred to in Section 3(n) hereof (each such date, a "Registration Statement Amendment Date") (ii) date on which an Earnings 8-K shall be filed with the Commission as contemplated by Section 2(j) hereof (a "Company Earnings Report Date") and (iii) Company Periodic Report Date, the Company will furnish or cause to be furnished to the Agents an officers' certificate, dated such Settlement Date or such Registration Statement Amendment Date, such Company Earnings Report Date or such Company Periodic Report Date, as the case may be, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Agents to the effect that the statements contained in the officers' certificate referred to in Section 5(f) hereof that was last furnished to the Agents are true and correct as of the date of such certificate as though made at and as of the date of such certificate (except that such statements shall be deemed to relate to the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus as amended and supplemented at the date of such certificate) or, in lieu of such certificate, a certificate of the same tenor as the certificate referred to in Section 5(f) hereof that, but modified as necessary to relate to the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus as amended and supplemented at the date of such certificate. The requirement to provide a certificate pursuant to clause (B) of the first sentence of this Section 3(o) shall be waived for any Registration Statement Amendment Date, Company Earnings Report Date or Company Periodic Report Date occurring at a time at which no instruction to the Agents to sell Shares pursuant to Section 2(b) has been delivered by the Company or is pending. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Company subsequently decides to sell Shares following any such Registration Statement Amendment Date, such Company Earnings Report Date or such Company Periodic Report Date when the Company relied on such waiver and did not provide the Agents a certificate pursuant to clause (B) of the first sentence of this Section 3(o), then before the Company instructs the Agents to sell Shares pursuant to Section 2(b), the Company shall promptly provide the Agents with such certificate. As used in this Section 3(o), to the extent there shall be a sale of Shares on or following any Registration Statement Amendment Date, Company Earnings Report Date or Company Periodic Report Date, "promptly" shall be deemed to be at or prior to the Applicable Time for such sale.

Delivery of Future Opinions and Letters of Counsel. Upon commencement of the offering of Shares under this Agreement, (A) each (p) time Shares are delivered to the Agents as principals on a Settlement Date and (B) promptly after each Registration Statement Amendment Date, Company Earnings Report Date or Company Periodic Report Date, the Company will furnish or cause to be furnished to the Agents the written opinions and letters of each of counsel to the Company (who shall be reasonably acceptable to the Agents) and counsel to the Agents, dated such Settlement Date or such Registration Statement Amendment Date, such Company Earnings Report Date or such Company Periodic Report Date, as the case may be, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Agents of the same tenor as the respective opinions and letters referred to in Section 5(b) and 5(c), as applicable, hereof but modified as necessary to relate to the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus as amended and supplemented to the date of such opinion and letter or, in lieu of any such opinion and letter, counsel last furnishing such opinion and letter to the Agents shall furnish the Agents with a letter substantially to the effect that the Agents may rely on such counsel's last opinion and letter to the same extent as though each were dated the date of such letter authorizing reliance (except that statements in such last opinion and letter shall be deemed to relate to the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus as amended and supplemented to the date of such letter authorizing reliance). The requirement to provide an opinion and letter pursuant to clause (B) of the first sentence of this Section 3(p) shall be waived for any Registration Statement Amendment Date, Company Earnings Report Date or Company Periodic Report occurring at a time at which no instruction to the Agents to sell Shares pursuant to Section 2(b) has been delivered by the Company or is pending. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Company subsequently decides to sell Shares following any such Registration Statement Amendment Date, such Company Earnings Report Date or such Company Periodic Report when the Company relied on such waiver and did not provide the Agents an opinion and letter pursuant to clause (B) of the first sentence of this Section 3(p), then before the Company instructs any Agent to sell Shares pursuant to Section 2(b), the Company shall promptly provide the Agents with such opinion and letter. As used in this Section 3(p), to the extent there shall be a sale of Shares on or following any Registration Statement Amendment Date, Company Earnings Report Date or Company Periodic Report, "promptly" shall be deemed to be at or prior to the Applicable Time for such sale.

(q) Delivery of Future Accountants' Letters. Upon commencement of the offering of Shares under this Agreement, (A) each time Shares are delivered to the Agents as principals on a Settlement Date and (B) promptly after each Registration Statement Amendment Date, Company Earnings Report Date or Company Periodic Report Date, the Company will cause its independent accountants to furnish to the Agents letters, dated such Settlement Date or such Registration Statement Amendment Date, such Company Earnings Report Date or such Company Periodic Report Date, as the case may be, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Agents of the same tenor as the letters referred to in Section 5(d) hereof but modified as necessary to relate to the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus as amended and supplemented to the date of such letter. The requirement to provide such letters pursuant to clause (B) of the first sentence of this Section 3(q) shall be waived for any Registration Statement Amendment Date, Company Earnings Report Date or Company Periodic Report Date occurring at a time at which no instruction to the Agents to sell Shares pursuant to Section 2(b) has been delivered by the Company or is pending. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Company Subsequently decides to sell Shares following any such Registration Statement Amendment Date, such Company Earnings Report Date or such Company Periodic Report Date when the Company relied on such waiver and did not provide the Agents such letters pursuant to clause (B) of the first sentence of this Section 3(p), then before the Company instructs any Agent to sell Shares pursuant to Section 2(b), the Company shall promptly provide the Agents with such letters. As used in this paragraph, to the extent there shall be a sale of Shares on or following any Registration Statement Amendment Date, Company Earnings Report Date or Company Periodic Report Date, "promptly" shall be deemed to be on or prior to the Applicable Time for such sale.

(r) *Trading in the Common Stock*. The Company consents to each Agent trading in the Company's Common Stock for its own account and for the account of its clients at the same time as sales of Shares occur pursuant to this Agreement; *provided* that the Company is not responsible for the compliance by the Agents with applicable laws and regulations (including Regulation M) that apply to such Agents with respect to any such trading. For the avoidance of doubt, the representations, warranties and covenants of the Company in this Agreement are made solely with respect to the offering of the Shares hereunder and do not apply to such trading.

(s) *Non-Consummation Offer*. If, to the knowledge of the Company, any filing required by Rule 424 in connection with an offering of Shares shall not have been made, or the representations and warranties of the Company contained in this Agreement shall not be true and correct on the applicable Settlement Date, the Company will offer to any person who has agreed to purchase Shares from or through the Agents the right to refuse to purchase and pay for such Shares.

(t) *Due Diligence Review.* The Company will cooperate with any due diligence review reasonably requested by the Agents or counsel for the Agents, after consultation with the Company, in a timely manner, in connections with offers and sales of Shares from time to time, including, without limitation, and upon reasonable notice, providing information and making available documents and appropriate corporate officers, during regular business hours and at the Company's principal offices.

(u) *Renewal Deadline*. If, immediately prior to the third anniversary of the initial effective date of the Registration Statement (the "<u>Renewal Deadline</u>"), this Agreement is still in effect or any Shares purchased by the Agents as principals remain unsold, the Company will, prior to the Renewal Deadline, (i) promptly notify the Agents and (ii) promptly file, if it is eligible to do so, a new automatic shelf registration statement relating to the Shares, in a form and substance satisfactory to the Agents. If, at the time the Company intends to file such a new automatic shelf registration statement, it is not eligible to do so, the Company will, prior to the Renewal Deadline, (i) promptly notify the Agents, (ii) promptly file a new shelf registration statement on the proper form relating to the Shares, in a form and substance satisfactory to the Agents, (ii) promptly notify the Agents of such effectiveness. The Company will take all other action necessary or appropriate to permit the offering and sale of the Shares to continue as contemplated in the expired Registration Statement. References herein to the "Registration Statement" shall include such new automatic shelf registration statement or such new shelf registration statement, as the case may be.

(v) *Ceasing Eligibility For Use of Automatic Shelf Registration Statement Form.* If, at any time, during the term of this Agreement or otherwise when Shares purchased by the Agents as principals remain unsold, the Company receives a notice from the Commission pursuant to Rule 401(g) (2) or otherwise ceases to be eligible to use the automatic shelf registration statement form, the Company will (i) promptly notify the Agents, (ii) promptly file a new shelf registration statement or post-effective amendment on the proper form relating to such Shares, in form and substance satisfactory to the Agents, (iii) use its best efforts to cause such new shelf registration statement or post-effective amendment to be declared effective as soon as practicable and (iv) promptly notify the Agents of such effectiveness. The Company will take all other action necessary or appropriate to permit the offering and sale of the Shares to continue as contemplated in the Registration Statement that was the subject of the Rule 401(g)(2) notice or for which the Company has otherwise become ineligible. References herein to the "Registration Statement" shall include such new shelf registration statement or post-effective amendment, as the case may be.

(w) *Delivery of Additional Materials.* Upon commencement of the offering of Shares under this Agreement, (A) each time Shares are delivered to the Agents as principals on a Settlement Date and (B) promptly after each Registration Statement Amendment Date, Company Earnings Report Date or Company Periodic Report Date, the Company will furnish or cause to be furnished to the Agents such appropriate further information, certificates and documents as the Agents may reasonably request.

Section 4. <u>Payment of Expenses</u>. (a) The Company will pay or cause to be paid all expenses incident to the performance of their obligations under this Agreement, including (i) the preparation and filing of the Registration Statement (including financial statements and exhibits and any document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated therein by reference) as originally filed and each amendment or supplement thereto, (ii) the preparation, printing and delivery to the Agents of copies of any preliminary prospectus, any Issuer Free Writing Prospectus and the Prospectus and any amendments or supplements thereto as reasonably requested by the Agents, (iii) the preparation, issuance and delivery of the certificates for the Shares, including any stock or other transfer taxes and any stamp or other duties payable upon the sale, issuance or delivery of the Shares to the Agents, (iv) the fees and disbursements of the Company's counsel, accountants and other advisors, (v) the qualification of the Shares under securities laws in accordance with the provisions of Section 3(g) hereof, including filing fees and the reasonable fees and disbursements of counsel for the Agents in connection therewith and in connection with the preparation of any Blue Sky survey and any supplement thereto (such fees and disbursements of counsel for the Agents not to exceed \$5,000), (vi) the fees and expenses of any transfer agent or registrar for the Shares, (viii) the filing fees incident to, and the reasonable fees and disbursements of counsel for the Agents in connection with the marketing of the Shares, (viii) the filing fees and disbursements of counsel fees and disbursements of counsel for the Agents in connection with, the review by FINRA of the terms of sales of Shares (such fees and disbursements of counsel for the Agents not to exceed \$5,000), and (ix) the fees and expenses incurred in connection with the listing of the Shares on Nasdaq and (x) the costs and expenses (including, without limitation, any damages or other amounts payable

(b) If an aggregate offering price of Shares of at least \$50,000,000 have not been offered and sold under this Agreement prior to the first 18 months following the effective date of this Agreement (or such earlier date on which the Company terminates this ATM Equity OfferingSM Sales Agreement), the Company shall reimburse the Agents for the reasonable and documented fees and disbursements of external counsel for the Agents incurred in connection with this Agreement (such reasonable and documented fees and disbursements of external counsel for the Agents not to exceed \$200,000).

Section 5. <u>Conditions of Agent's Obligations</u>. The obligations of each Agent hereunder are subject to the accuracy of the representations and warranties of the Company contained herein or in certificates of any officer of the Company or any of its subsidiaries delivered pursuant to the provisions hereof at each Representation Date, to the performance by the Company of its covenants and other obligations hereunder, and to the following further conditions:

(a) *Effectiveness of Registration Statement and Filing of Prospectus*. The Company shall have filed the Registration Statement with the Commission not earlier than three years prior to the date hereof and the Registration Statement became effective upon filing in accordance with Rule 462(e). The Company shall have filed with the Commission the Prospectus on or prior to the date of this Agreement and any subsequent Base Prospectus or Prospectus Supplement prior to any Applicable Time and related Settlement Date, as applicable, in each case in the manner and within the time period required by Rule 424(b), and each Issuer Free Writing Prospectus, if any, in the manner and within the time period required by Rule 433. No stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement or any post-effective amendment thereto has been issued under the 1933 Act, no notice of objection of the Commission to the use of the Registration Statement or any post-effective amendment thereto pursuant to Rule 401(g)(2) has been received by the Company, no order preventing or suspending the use of any preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus or any amendment or supplement thereto has been issued and no proceedings for any of those purposes have been instituted or are pending or, to the Commission to the reasonable satisfaction of the Company shall have complied with any and all requests for additional information on the part of the Commission to the reasonable satisfaction of the Agents. The Company shall have paid the required Commission filing fees relating to the Shares as specified in Section 3(a) hereof.

(b) Opinion of Counsel to the Agents. On the date of this ATM Equity OfferingSM Sales Agreement, the Agents shall have received the favorable written opinion or opinions and negative assurance letter of Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP, counsel to the Agents, each dated such date, with respect to such matters as the Agents may reasonably request. In giving such opinion or opinions, such counsel may rely, as to all matters governed by the laws of jurisdictions other than the laws of the State of New York, the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware and the federal securities laws of the United States, upon the opinions of counsel satisfactory to the Agents. Such counsel may also state that, insofar as such opinion involves factual matters, they have relied, to the extent they deem proper, upon certificates of officers and other representatives of the Company and its subsidiaries and certificates of public officials.

(c) *Opinion of Counsel to the Company.* On the date of this ATM Equity OfferingSM Sales Agreement, the Agents shall have received (i) the favorable written opinion or opinions of (A) Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, counsel to the Company, dated such date, to the effect set forth in Exhibit A hereto, (B) Kutak Rock LLP, Maryland counsel to the Company, dated such date, to the effect set forth in Exhibit B hereto, and (C) Daniel L. Heard, Executive Vice President - General Counsel and Secretary of the Company dated such date, to the effect set forth in Exhibit C hereto, and to such further effect as the Agents may reasonably request and (ii) a negative assurance letter of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, counsel to the Company, dated such date.

(d) Accountants' Letter. On the date of this ATM Equity OfferingSM Sales Agreement, the Agents shall have received a letter from (i) PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP and (ii) KPMG LLP, in each case dated such date, in form and substance satisfactory to the Agents, containing statements and information of the type ordinarily included in accountants' "comfort letters" to underwriters with respect to the financial statements and other financial information included in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus or any amendment or supplement thereto.

(e) Officer's Certificate on Size of ATM Program. On the date of this ATM Equity OfferingSM Sales Agreement, the Company shall have furnished to the Agents a certificate of an executive officer of the Company, dated such date, in a form satisfactory to the Agents, stating the minimum gross sales price per share for sales of Shares pursuant to this Agreement and the maximum number of Shares that may be issued and sold pursuant to this Agreement or, alternatively, the maximum gross proceeds from such sales, as duly authorized by the Company's board of directors or a duly authorized committee thereof, and specifying the number of Shares that have been approved for listing subject to official notice of issuance, on Nasdaq, as applicable.

(f) Officers' Certificate for the Company. On the date of this ATM Equity OfferingSM Sales Agreement, there shall not have been, since the date of the latest audited financial statements included in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus or since the respective dates as of which information is given in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus, any Material Adverse Effect, and the Agents shall have received a certificate of the Chief Executive Officer or President of the Company and of the Chief Financial Officer or Chief Accounting Officer of the Company, dated such date, to the effect that (A) there has been no such Material Adverse Effect, (B) the representations and warranties of the Company in this Agreement are true and correct with the same force and effect as though expressly made on and as of such date, (C) the Company has complied with all agreements and satisfied all conditions on its part to be performed or satisfied on or prior to such date and (D) no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement or any post-effective amendment thereto has been issued under the 1933 Act, no notice of objection of the Company, no order preventing or suspending the use of any preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus or any amendment or supplement thereto has been issued and no proceedings for any of those purposes have been instituted or are pending or, to their knowledge, contemplated.

(g) *Listing*. The Shares shall have been approved for listing, subject to official notice of issuance, on Nasdaq, as applicable.

(h) *Ratings Decline*. Subsequent to each Applicable Time, there shall not have been any decrease in the rating of any of the debt securities of the Company or any of its subsidiaries by any "nationally recognized statistical rating organization" (as defined for purposes of Rule 3(a)(62) under the Exchange Act) or any notice given of any intended or potential decrease in any such rating or of a possible change in any such rating that does not indicate the direction of the possible change.

(i) *Additional Documents.* On the date of this ATM Equity OfferingSM Sales Agreement, counsel for the Agents shall have been furnished with such documents and opinions as they may require for the purpose of enabling them to render the opinions or make the statements requested by the Agents, or in order to evidence the accuracy of any of the representations or warranties, or the fulfillment of any of the covenants, obligations or conditions, contained herein; and all proceedings taken by the Company in connection with the issuance and sale of the Shares as contemplated herein shall be satisfactory in form and substance to the Agents and counsel for the Agents.

(j) *Termination of this ATM Equity Offering*SM *Sales Agreement*. If any condition specified in this Section shall not have been fulfilled when and as required to be fulfilled, this ATM Equity OfferingSM Sales Agreement may be terminated by the applicable Agent by notice to the Company at any time, and any such termination shall be without liability of any party to any other party except the provisions of Sections 1, 3(h), 4, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14 and 15 hereof shall remain in full force and effect notwithstanding such termination.

Section 6. Indemnification.

(a) Indemnification of the Agents. The Company agrees to indemnify and hold harmless each Agent, the directors, officers, employees, affiliates and agents of each Agent and each person who controls any Agent within the meaning of either the 1933 Act or the 1934 Act against any and all losses, claims, damages or liabilities, joint or several, to which they or any of them may become subject under the 1933 Act, the 1934 Act or other Federal or state statutory law or regulation, at common law or otherwise, insofar as such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions in respect thereof) arise out of or are based upon any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in the Registration Statement for the registration of the Shares as originally filed or in any amendment thereof or supplement thereto or arise out of or are based upon the omission or alleged omission to state therein a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary in order to make the statements therein not misleading, and agrees to reimburse each such indemnified party, as incurred, for any legal or other expenses reasonably incurred by them in connection with investigating or defending any such loss, claim, damage, liability or action; provided, however, that the Company will not be liable in any such case to the extent that any such loss, claim, damage or liability arises out of or is based upon any such untrue statement or alleged untrue statement or omission or alleged omission therein in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the Company by or on behalf of any Agent specifically for inclusion therein. This indemnity agreement will be in addition to any liability which the Company may otherwise have.

(b) Indemnification of Company, Directors and Officers. Each Agent severally and not jointly agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Company, each of its directors, each of its officers who signs the Registration Statement, and each person who controls the Company within the meaning of either the 1933 Act or the 1934 Act, to the same extent as set forth in paragraph (a) above, but only with reference to written information relating to such Agent furnished to the Company by or on behalf of such Agent specifically for inclusion in the documents referred to in the foregoing indemnity. This indemnity agreement will be in addition to any liability which any Agent may otherwise have. The Company acknowledges that the statements in the third sentence of the second paragraph and the first and second sentences of the fourth paragraph under the caption under "Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)" constitute the only information furnished in writing by or on behalf of the several Agents for inclusion in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package, any preliminary prospectus, the Prospectus or any Issuer Free Writing Prospectus.

Actions against Parties; Notification. Promptly after receipt by an indemnified party under this Section 6 of notice of the (c) commencement of any action, such indemnified party will, if a claim in respect thereof is to be made against the indemnifying party under this Section 6, notify each indemnifying party in writing of the commencement thereof; but the failure to so notify a indemnifying party (i) will not relieve it from liability under paragraph (a) or (b) above unless and to the extent it did not otherwise learn of such action and such failure results in the forfeiture by such indemnifying party of substantial rights and defenses and (ii) will not, in any event, relieve the indemnifying party from any obligations to any indemnified party other than the indemnification obligation provided in paragraph (a) or (b) above. The indemnifying party shall be entitled to appoint counsel of the indemnifying party's choice at the indemnifying party's expense to represent the indemnified party in any action for which indemnification is sought (in which case the indemnifying party shall not thereafter be responsible for the fees and expenses of any separate counsel retained by the indemnified party or parties except as set forth below); provided, however, that such counsel shall be satisfactory to the indemnified party. Notwithstanding the indemnifying party's election to appoint counsel to represent the indemnified party in an action, the indemnified party shall have the right to employ separate counsel (including local counsel), and the indemnifying party shall bear the reasonable fees, costs and expenses of such separate counsel if (i) the use of counsel chosen by the indemnifying party to represent the indemnified party would present such counsel with a conflict of interest, (ii) the actual or potential defendants in, or targets of, any such action include both the indemnified party and the indemnifying party and the indemnified party shall have reasonably concluded that there may be legal defenses available to it and/or other indemnified parties which are different from or additional to those available to the indemnifying party, (iii) the indemnifying party shall not have employed counsel satisfactory to the indemnified party to represent the indemnified party within a reasonable time after notice of the institution of such action or (iv) the indemnifying party shall authorize the indemnified party to employ separate counsel at the expense of the indemnifying party. In no event shall the indemnifying parties be liable for (1) fees and expenses of more than one counsel (in addition to any local counsel) separate from their own counsel for all Agents and each person who controls any Agent within the meaning of either the 1933 Act or the 1934 Act or (2) fees and expenses of more than one counsel (in addition to any local counsel) separate from their own counsel for, collectively, the Company and each of its directors, each of its officers who signs the Registration Statement, and each person who controls the Company within the meaning of either the 1933 Act or the 1934 Act. An indemnifying party will not, without the prior written consent of the indemnified parties, settle or compromise or consent to the entry of any judgment with respect to any pending or threatened claim, action, suit or proceeding in respect of which indemnification or contribution may be sought hereunder (whether or not the indemnified parties are actual or potential parties to such claim or action) unless such settlement, compromise or consent includes: (i) an unconditional release of each indemnified party, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to such indemnified party, from all liability arising out of such claim, action, suit or proceeding and (ii) does not include any statement as to or any admission of fault, culpability or a failure to act by or on behalf of any indemnified party. An indemnified party will not, without the prior written consent of the indemnifying parties, settle or compromise or consent to the entry of any judgment with respect to any pending or threatened claim, action, suit or proceeding in respect of which indemnification or contribution may be sought hereunder (whether or not the indemnifying parties are actual or potential parties to such claim or action).

(d) Settlement without Consent if Failure to Reimburse. If at any time an indemnified party shall have requested an indemnifying party to reimburse the indemnified party for fees and expenses of counsel, such indemnifying party agrees that it shall be liable for any settlement of the nature contemplated by Section 6(c) hereof effected without its written consent if (i) such settlement is entered into more than 45 days after receipt by such indemnifying party shall have received notice of the terms of such settlement at least 30 days prior to such settlement being entered into and (iii) such indemnifying party shall not have reimbursed such indemnified party in accordance with such request prior to the date of such settlement.

Section 7. Contribution. In the event that the indemnity provided in paragraph (a) or (b) of Section 6 is unavailable to or insufficient to hold harmless an indemnified party for any reason, the Company and the Agents severally agree to contribute to the aggregate losses, claims, damages and liabilities (including legal or other expenses reasonably incurred in connection with investigating or defending same) (collectively "Losses") to which the Company and one or more of the Agents may be subject in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect the relative benefits received by the Company and the Agents from the applicable offering of the Shares. If the allocation provided by the immediately preceding sentence is unavailable for any reason, the Company and the Agents severally shall contribute in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect not only such relative benefits but also the relative fault of the Company and the Agents, in connection with the statements or omissions which resulted in such Losses as well as any other relevant equitable considerations. Benefits received by the Company shall be deemed to be equal to the total net proceeds from the offering (before deducting expenses) received by the Company, and benefits received by the Agents shall be deemed to be equal to the total underwriting discounts and commissions. Relative fault shall be determined by reference to, among other things, whether any untrue or any alleged untrue statement of a material fact or the omission or alleged omission to state a material fact relates to information provided by the Company or the Agents, the intent of the parties and their relative knowledge, access to information and opportunity to correct or prevent such untrue statement or omission. The Company and the Agents agree that it would not be just and equitable if contribution were determined by pro rata allocation or any other method of allocation which does not take account of the equitable considerations referred to above. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section 7, in no event shall any Agent be required to contribute any amount in excess of the amount by which the total underwriting discounts and commissions received by such Agent in connection with Shares placed or underwritten by it for sale to the public exceeds the amount of any damages that such Agent has otherwise been required to pay by reason of such untrue or alleged untrue statement or omission or alleged omission. No person guilty of fraudulent misrepresentation (within the meaning of Section 11(f) of the 1933 Act) shall be entitled to contribution from any person who was not guilty of such fraudulent misrepresentation. For purposes of Sections 6 and 7, each person who controls an Agent within the meaning of either the 1933 Act or the 1934 Act and each director, officer, employee, affiliate and agent of an Agent shall have the same rights to contribution as such Agent, and each person who controls the Company within the meaning of either the 1933 Act or the 1934 Act, each officer of the Company who shall have signed the Registration Statement and each director of the Company shall have the same rights to contribution as the Company, subject in each case to the applicable terms and conditions of this Section 7.

Section 8. <u>Representations</u>, <u>Warranties and Agreements to Survive</u>. All representations, warranties and agreements contained in this Agreement or in certificates of officers of the Company or any of its subsidiaries submitted pursuant hereto shall remain operative and in full force and effect regardless of (i) any investigation made by or on behalf of the Agents or their affiliates, selling agents, officers or directors or any person controlling the Agents, or the Company or its officers or directors, or any person controlling the Company and (ii) delivery of and payment for the Shares.

Section 9. Termination.

(a) This ATM Equity Offering SM Sales Agreement may be terminated by the Company for any reason, at any time, upon prior written notice to the Agents.

(b) Each Agent may terminate this ATM Equity Offering SM Sales Agreement as to itself for any reason, at any time, upon prior written notice to the Company and the other Agents; provided, however, that this Agreement and the obligations hereunder will remain in full force and effect with respect to the Agents that have not so terminated their obligations.

Each Agent may terminate a Terms Agreement to which it is a party, at any time at or prior to the Settlement Date, if (i) there has been, in such judgment of such Agent, since the time of execution of such Terms Agreement or since the respective dates as of which information is given in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package or the Prospectus, any Material Adverse Effect, (ii) trading in the Company's Common Stock shall have been suspended by the Commission or Nasdaq or trading in securities generally on the New York Stock Exchange shall have been suspended or limited or minimum prices shall have been established on such exchange, (iii) a banking moratorium shall have been declared either by Federal or New York State authorities, (iv) there shall have occurred a material disruption in commercial banking or securities settlement or clearance services or (v) there shall have occurred any outbreak or escalation of hostilities, declaration by the United States of a national emergency or war, or other calamity or crisis the effect of which on financial markets is such as to make it, in the sole judgment of the Agents, impractical or inadvisable to proceed with the offering of the Shares as contemplated by any preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus (exclusive of any amendment or supplement thereto).

(c) In the event of any termination under this Section 9, none of the parties will have any liability to the other parties hereto, except that (i) each Agent shall be entitled to any commissions earned in accordance with Section 2(b) hereof, (ii) if at the time of termination (a) such Agent shall own any Shares purchased by it as principal or (b) an offer to purchase any Shares has been accepted by the Company but the Settlement Date has not occurred, the covenants set forth in Section 3 hereof shall remain in effect until such Shares are resold or so delivered, as the case may be, and (iii) the covenant set forth in Section 3(h) hereof, the provisions of Section 4 hereof, the indemnity and contribution agreements set forth in Sections 6 and 7 hereof, and the provisions of Sections 8, 12, 13, 14 and 15 hereof shall remain in effect.

Section 10. <u>Notices</u>. All notices and other communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given if mailed or transmitted by any standard form of telecommunication. Notices to the Agents shall be directed to it c/o BofA Securities, Inc., One Bryant Park, New York, New York 10036, Attention: ATM Execution (email: dg.atm_execution@bofa.com), with a copy to ECM Legal (Fax: (212) 230-8730); Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC, 200 West Street, New York, New York 10282 (Phone: (866) 471-2526), Attention: Registration Department; Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC, 1585 Broadway, New York, New York 10036, Attention: Equity Syndicate Desk, with a copy to the Legal Department; Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, Attention: Equity Syndicate Department, 500 West 33rd Street, New York, New York 10001, (Phone: (800) 326-5897 or email a request to cmclientsupport@wellsfargo.com); and notices to the Company shall be directed to it at 10802 Executive Center Drive, Benton Building, Suite 300, Little Rock, Arkansas 72211, Attention of the Legal Department.

Section 11. <u>No Advisory or Fiduciary Relationship</u>. The Company acknowledges and agrees that (a) each purchase and sale of Shares pursuant to this Agreement, including the determination of the respective initial public offering prices of Shares, if any, and any related discounts and commissions, is an arm's-length commercial transaction between the Company, on the one hand, and the Agents, on the other hand, (b) the Agents have not assumed and will not assume any advisory or fiduciary responsibility in favor of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or other affiliates with respect to any offering of Shares or the process leading thereto (irrespective of whether the Agents have advised or are currently advising the Company or any of its subsidiaries or other affiliates on other matters) or any other obligation to the Company except the obligations expressly set forth in this Agreement, (c) the Agents and their affiliates may be engaged in a broad range of transactions that involve interests that differ from those of the Company and (d) the Agents have not provided any legal, accounting, financial, regulatory or tax advice to the Company or any other person or entity with respect to any offering of Shares and the Company has consulted its own respective legal, accounting, financial, regulatory and tax advisors to the extent it deemed appropriate.

Section 12. <u>Parties</u>. This Agreement shall each inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the Agents and the Company and their respective successors. Nothing expressed or mentioned in this Agreement is intended or shall be construed to give any person, firm or corporation, other than the Agents, their affiliates and selling agents, the Company and their respective successors and the controlling persons and officers and directors referred to in Sections 6 and 7 and their heirs and legal representatives, any legal or equitable right, remedy or claim under or in respect of this Agreement or any provision herein contained. This Agreement and all conditions and provisions hereof are intended to be for the sole and exclusive benefit of the Agents, their affiliates and selling agents, the Company and their respective successors, and said controlling persons and officers and directors and their heirs and legal representatives, and for the benefit of no other person, firm or corporation. No purchaser of Shares shall be deemed to be a successor by reason merely of such purchase.

Section 13. <u>Trial by Jury</u>. Each of the Company (on its behalf and, to the extent permitted by applicable law, on behalf of its stockholders and affiliates), and each of the Agents hereby irrevocably waives, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, any and all right to trial by jury in any legal proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the transactions contemplated hereby.



Section 14. <u>GOVERNING LAW</u>. THIS AGREEMENT AND ANY CLAIM, CONTROVERSY OR DISPUTE ARISING UNDER OR RELATED TO THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE GOVERNED BY, AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF, THE STATE OF NEW YORK WITHOUT REGARD TO ITS CHOICE OF LAW PROVISIONS.

Section 15. <u>Consent to Jurisdiction; Waiver of Immunity</u>. Each of the Company and the Agents agrees that any legal suit, action or proceeding arising out of or based upon this Agreement or the transactions contemplated hereby shall be instituted in (i) the federal courts of the United States of America located in the City and County of New York, Borough of Manhattan or (ii) the courts of the State of New York located in the City and County of New York, Borough of Manhattan or (ii) the courts of the scale of New York located in the City and County of New York, Borough of Manhattan (collectively, the "Specified Courts</u>"), and irrevocably submits to the exclusive jurisdiction (except for proceedings instituted in regard to the enforcement of a judgment of any Specified Court, as to which such jurisdiction is non-exclusive) of the Specified Courts in any such suit, action or proceeding. Service of any process, summons, notice or document by mail to a party's address set forth in Section 11 hereof shall be effective service of process upon such party for any suit, action or proceeding brought in any Specified Court. Each of the Company and the Agents irrevocably and unconditionally waives any objection to the laying of venue of any suit, action or proceeding in the Specified Courts and irrevocably and unconditionally waives and agrees not to plead or claim in any Specified Court that any such suit, action or proceeding brought in any Specified Court has been brought in an inconvenient forum.

Section 16. <u>TIME</u>. TIME SHALL BE OF THE ESSENCE OF THIS AGREEMENT. EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE SET FORTH HEREIN, SPECIFIED TIMES OF DAY REFER TO NEW YORK CITY TIME.

Section 17. <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original, but all such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same Agreement. Counterparts may be delivered via facsimile, electronic mail (including any electronic signature covered by the U.S. Federal ESIGN Act of 2000, Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, the Electronic Signatures and Records Act or other applicable law, e.g., www.docusign.com) or other transmission method, and any counterpart so delivered shall be deemed to have been duly and validly delivered and be valid and effective for all purposes.

Section 18. Effect of Headings. The Section headings herein are for convenience only and shall not affect the construction hereof.

Section 19. <u>USA Patriot Act</u>. In accordance with the requirements of the USA Patriot Act (Title III of Pub. L. 107-56 (signed into law October 26, 2001)), the Agents are required to obtain, verify and record information that identifies their respective clients, including the Company, which information may include the name and address of their respective clients, as well as other information that will allow the Agents to properly identify their respective clients.

Section 20. Recognition of U.S. Special Resolution Regimes.

(a) In the event that any Agent that is a Covered Entity becomes subject to a proceeding under a U.S. Special Resolution Regime, the transfer from such Agent of this Agreement, and any interest and obligation in or under this Agreement, will be effective to the same extent as the transfer would be effective under the U.S. Special Resolution Regime if this Agreement, and any such interest and obligation, were governed by the laws of the United States or a state of the United States.

(b) In the event that any Agent that is a Covered Entity or a BHC Act Affiliate of such Agent becomes subject to a proceeding under a U.S. Special Resolution Regime, Default Rights under this Agreement that may be exercised against such Agent are permitted to be exercised to no greater extent than such Default Rights could be exercised under the U.S. Special Resolution Regime if this Agreement were governed by the laws of the United States or a state of the United States.

For purposes of this Section, a "BHC Act Affiliate" has the meaning assigned to the term "affiliate" in, and shall be interpreted in accordance with, 12 U.S.C. § 1841(k). "Covered Entity" means any of the following: (i) a "covered entity" as that term is defined in, and interpreted in accordance with, 12 C.F.R. § 252.82(b); (ii) a "covered bank" as that term is defined in, and interpreted in accordance with, 12 C.F.R. § 47.3(b); or (iii) a "covered bank" as that term is defined in, and interpreted in accordance with, 12 C.F.R. § 47.3(b); or (iii) a "covered FSI" as that term is defined in, and interpreted in accordance with, 12 C.F.R. § 382.2(b). "Default Right" has the meaning assigned to that term in, and shall be interpreted in accordance with, 12 C.F.R. §§ 252.81, 47.2 or 382.1, as applicable. "U.S. Special Resolution Regime" means each of (i) the Federal Deposit Insurance Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder and (ii) Title II of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder.



If the foregoing is in accordance with your understanding of our agreement, please sign and return to the Company a counterpart hereof, whereupon this instrument, along with all counterparts, will become a binding agreement between the Agents and the Company in accordance with its terms.

Very truly yours, Uniti Group Inc.

By: /s/ Daniel L. Heard

Name: Daniel L. Heard Title: Executive Vice President – General Counsel and Secretary Accepted as of the date hereof:

BofA Securities, Inc.

By: /s/ Mark E. Bush

Name: Mark E. Bush Title: Managing Director

Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC

By: /s/ Ryan Cunn

Name: Ryan Cunn Title: Managing Director

Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC

By: /s/ James Watts

Name: James Watts Title: Executive Director

Wells Fargo Securities, LLC

By: /s/ James Bohm Name: James (Beau) Bohm Title: Managing Director

FORM OF OPINION OF COMPANY'S COUNSEL TO BE DELIVERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 5(c)

1. The Company is not, and after giving effect to the offering and sale of the Shares and the application of the proceeds thereof as described in the Prospectus will not be, required to register as an "investment company" as such term is defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended.

2. The execution and delivery by the Company of, and the performance by the Company of its obligations under, the Equity Distribution Agreement will not contravene (i) any provision of the statutory laws of the State of New York or any federal law of the United States of America that in our experience is normally applicable to general business corporations in relation to transactions of the type contemplated by the Equity Distribution Agreement, provided that we express no opinion as to federal or state securities laws or (ii) any agreement that is an exhibit to the Registration Statement; provided that we express no opinion in clause (ii) as to compliance with any financial or accounting test, or any limitation or restriction expressed as a dollar (or other currency) amount, ratio or percentage in any of the agreements that are exhibits to the Registration Statement.

3. No consent, approval, authorization, or order of, or qualification with, any governmental body or agency under the laws of the State of New York or any federal law of the United States of America that in our experience is normally applicable to general business corporations in relation to transactions of the type contemplated by the Equity Distribution Agreement is required for the execution, delivery and performance by the Company of its obligations under the Equity Distribution Agreement, except such as may be required under federal or state securities or Blue Sky laws as to which we express no opinion.

FORM OF OPINION OF COMPANY'S MARYLAND COUNSEL TO BE DELIVERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 5(c)

1. Maryland. The Company has been duly incorporated and is validly existing as a corporation in good standing under the laws of the state of

2. The Company has corporate power and authority to own, lease and operate its properties and to conduct its business as described in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus.

3. As of the date hereof, the Company has an authorized capitalization of 500,000,000 shares of Common Stock and 50,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.0001 par value per share, of the Company. The Shares conform in all material respects to the descriptions thereof contained under the caption "Description of Common Stock" in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus.

4. The Shares have been duly authorized for issuance and sale by the Company pursuant to the Distribution Agreement and, when issued and delivered by the Company pursuant to the Distribution Agreement against payment of the consideration set forth in the Distribution Agreement, will be validly issued and fully paid and non-assessable. The issuance of the Shares is not subject to any preemptive or other similar rights arising under the Maryland General Corporation Law, the Charter or the Bylaws.

5. The Distribution Agreement has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company.

6. Neither the execution and delivery of the Distribution Agreement, the offering and sale of the Shares as described in the Registration Statement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus, nor the consummation of any other of the transactions contemplated in the Distribution Agreement, nor the fulfillment of the terms of the Distribution Agreement will conflict with, or result in a breach of, (a) the Charter or Bylaws of the Company or (b) any Maryland law, regulation or rule to which the Company may be subject.

7. No consent, approval, authorization, order, filing, registration, or qualification of or with any Maryland state governmental agency or body is required for the execution and delivery by the Company of, or the performance by the Company of its obligations under, the Distribution Agreement, except such as may be required by the securities laws of the State of Maryland (as to which we express no opinion) and such other approvals as have been obtained.

FORM OF OPINION OF GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE COMPANY TO BE DELIVERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 5(c)

- 1. The Company and its subsidiaries validly hold all Authorizations necessary or required under Applicable Laws for the Company and its subsidiaries to conduct their business as currently conducted and as proposed to be conducted following the date hereof in the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus, including competitive local exchange services and other communication services provided by the Company and its subsidiaries (the "Company Authorizations") except where the absence of such Company Authorizations will not have a Material Adverse Effect on the Company; except as would not be material to the Company, the Company Authorizations are in full force and effect and I have no reason to believe that the Company Authorizations will not be renewed in the ordinary course. As used herein, (1) "Authorization" means any certificate, concession, cable and other franchise, consent, exemption, order, permit, license, authorization or other approval of and from a Governmental Authority; (2) "Applicable Law" means any of the statues, rules, regulations, policies, orders, court or administrative agency decisions and interpretations, or other laws of a Governmental Authority, including, without limitation, communications and environmental Authority" means all applicable Law" shall not include any federal or state securities or tax laws; and (3) "Governmental Authority" means all applicable state, local and other governmental authorities (including the Public Utility Commission thereof), all self-regulatory governmental organizations, all cable franchising authorities and all courts and other tribunals in the states listed on Schedule A hereto that have jurisdiction over the Company and its subsidiaries.
- 2. Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has received any notice of proceedings relating to the revocation, suspension or modification of any Company Authorization, except as would not be material to the Company; the Company and its subsidiaries are in compliance in all respects with the terms and conditions of all Company Authorizations and with the rules and regulations of the regulatory authorities having jurisdiction with respect thereto, except where the failure to be in full force and effect or be in compliance would not result in a Material Adverse Effect on the Company.
- 3. The Company and its subsidiaries have made all reports and filings, and paid all fees, required by all Governmental Authorities necessary for the Company and its subsidiaries to own, lease, license and use their properties and assets and to conduct their business in the manner described in the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus or as currently conducted, except for those reports, filings, and fees the failure to file or pay of which would not have a Material Adverse Effect on the Company.
- 4. No consent, approval, or authorization of, or filing with, any Governmental Authority under any Applicable Law is necessary for the execution and delivery of the Equity Distribution Agreement and performance by the Company of its obligations thereunder and the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Equity Distribution Agreement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus, except to the extent that the failure to obtain any such consent, approval or authorization, or to make any such filing, would not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect on the Company; the execution and delivery of the Equity Distribution Agreement and the performance by the Company of its obligations thereunder and the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Equity Distribution the transactions contemplated by the Equity Distribution the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Equity Distribution the transactions contemplated by the Company of its obligations thereunder and the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Equity Distribution the transactions contemplated by the Company of its obligations thereunder and the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Equity Distribution Agreement, the General Disclosure Package and the Prospectus do not violate any Applicable Law, except for any violation that would not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect on the Company.
- 5. There is no unsatisfied adverse order, decree or ruling under any Applicable Law outstanding against the Company or any of its subsidiaries, except for any such order, decree or ruling that would not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect on the Company; there is no proceeding (including any rulemaking proceeding), complaint, petition or investigation pending or, to the best of my knowledge, threatened, against the Company or any of its subsidiaries, before any Governmental Authority under any Applicable Law (other than proceedings affecting the telecommunications industry generally, to which none of the Company and its subsidiaries is a specific party), except for any such proceeding, complaint, petition or investigation that would not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect on the Company; neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries is a party to any complaint, petition, investigation or other proceeding against other licensees or applicants under any Applicable Law, except for any such complaint, petition, investigation or other proceeding that would not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect on the Company.
- 6. Based upon an investigation, to my knowledge, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries is in violation of, or in default under, any Applicable Law, the effect of which, singly or in the aggregate, would reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect on the Company.

Uniti Group Inc. 10802 Executive Center Drive Benton Building Suite 300 Little Rock, Arkansas 72211

Re: <u>Registration Statement on Form S-3 (File No. 333-237139)</u>

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as special counsel to Uniti Group Inc., a Maryland corporation (the "Company"), in connection with certain matters of Maryland law arising out of the registration of shares (the "Shares") of the Company's common stock, \$0.0001 par value per share (the "Common Stock"), having an aggregate offering price of up to \$250,000,000, from time to time in an at-the-market offering (the "Offering"), covered by the above-referenced registration statement on Form S-3 (together with all amendments thereto, the "Registration Statement"), filed by the Company with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act").

In connection with our representation of the Company, and as a basis for the opinions hereinafter set forth, we have examined originals, or copies certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, of the following documents (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Documents"):

1. The Registration Statement and the base prospectus included therein in the form in which it was transmitted to the Commission under the Securities Act;

2. The prospectus supplement, dated June 22, 2020, in the form in which it was transmitted to the Commission under the Securities Act (the "Prospectus Supplement");

3. The Articles of Amendment and Restatement of the Company, which were accepted by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation of Maryland (the "SDAT") as of April 10, 2015, as amended through (i) the Articles of Amendment (changing the name of the Company) filed by the Company on February 22, 2017, (ii) the Articles of Amendment to Articles Supplementary filed by the Company on May 9, 2017, (iii) the Resident Agent Change of Address filed by the Company's registered agent on June 19, 2017, (iv) the Articles of Amendment (amending Article Eight) filed by the Company on May 18, 2018 and (v) the Resolutions to Change Principal Office or Resident Agent filed by the Company on January 29, 2020 (the foregoing, collectively, the "Charter");

4. The Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Company, which were adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company as of April 9, 2015, as amended February 27, 2017 and May 1, 2017;

5. A certificate of the SDAT as to the good standing of the Company, dated as of a recent date;

6. The ATM Equity OfferingSM Sales Agreement, dated June 22, 2020 (the "Distribution Agreement"), by and among the Company, BofA Securities, Inc., Goldman, Sachs & Co. LLC, Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC;

7. Certain resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company relating to, among other matters, (a) the authorization of the sale, issuance and registration of the Shares, (b) the authorization of the execution and delivery of the Distribution Agreement and (c) the delegation to certain officers of the Company (the "Authorized Officers") of the power to determine, subject to certain parameters, the number of Shares and the offering price of each Share to be sold in the Offering (the "Resolutions"); and

8. Such other documents, statutes, ordinances, regulations, certificates and matters as we have deemed necessary or appropriate to express the opinion set forth below, subject to the assumptions, limitations and qualifications stated herein.

In expressing the opinion set forth below, we have assumed the following:

1. competent to do so.

Each individual executing any of the Documents, whether on behalf of such individual or another person, is legally

ompetent to do so.

2.

1.

Each individual executing any of the Documents on behalf of a party (other than the Company) is duly authorized to do so.

3. Each of the parties (other than the Company) executing any of the Documents has duly and validly executed and delivered each of the Documents to which such party is a signatory, and such party's obligations set forth therein are legal, valid and binding and are enforceable in accordance with all stated terms.

4. All Documents submitted to us as originals are authentic. The form and content of all Documents submitted to us as unexecuted drafts do not differ in any respect relevant to this opinion from the form and content of such Documents as executed and delivered. All Documents submitted to us as certified or photostatic copies conform to the original documents. All signatures on all Documents are genuine. All public records reviewed or relied upon by us or on our behalf are true and complete. All representations, warranties, statements and information contained in the Documents are true and complete. There has been no oral or written modification of or amendment to any of the Documents, and there has been no waiver of any provision of any of the Documents, by action or omission of the parties or otherwise.

5. The Shares will not be issued or transferred in violation of any restriction or limitation contained in Article Seven of the Charter.

6. Upon the issuance of any of the Shares, the total number of shares of Common Stock issued and outstanding will not exceed the total number of shares of Common Stock that the Company is then authorized to issue under the Charter.

7. The number of Shares, and the offering price of each Share, to be issued by the Company from time to time pursuant to the Distribution Agreement will be determined by the Board, a duly authorized committee thereof or the Authorized Officers in accordance with the Resolutions (with such determinations referred to hereinafter as the "Corporate Proceedings") prior to the issuance thereof.

Based upon the foregoing, and subject to the assumptions, limitations and qualifications stated herein, it is our opinion that:

The Company is a corporation, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the State of Maryland.

2. The issuance of the Shares has been duly authorized and, when and to the extent issued against payment therefor in accordance with the Registration Statement, the Prospectus Supplement, the Distribution Agreement, the Resolutions and the Corporate Proceedings, the Shares will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

The foregoing opinion is limited to the laws of the State of Maryland and we do not express any opinion herein concerning any other law. We express no opinion as to compliance with any federal or state securities laws, including the securities laws of the State of Maryland, or as to federal or state laws regarding fraudulent transfers. To the extent that any matter as to which our opinion is expressed herein would be governed by the laws of any jurisdiction other than the State of Maryland, we do not express any opinion on such matter. The opinion expressed herein is subject to the effect of any judicial decision which may permit the introduction of parol evidence to modify the terms or the interpretation of agreements. The opinion expressed herein is limited to the matters specifically set forth herein and no other opinion shall be inferred beyond the matters expressly stated. We assume no obligation to supplement this opinion if any applicable law changes after the date hereof or if we become aware of any fact that might change the opinion expressed herein after the date hereof.

This opinion is being furnished to you for submission to the Commission as an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K relating to the Offering (the "Current Report"), which is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement. We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Current Report and the said incorporation by reference and to the use of the name of our firm therein. In giving this consent, we do not admit that we are within the category of persons whose consent is required by Section 7 of the Securities Act, or the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission promulgated thereunder, or Item 509 of Regulation S-K.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Kutak Rock LLP

Uniti Group Inc. 10802 Executive Center Drive Benton Building Suite 300 Little Rock, Arkansas 72211

Re: <u>Registration Statement on Form S-3 (File No. 333-237139)</u>

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as special counsel to Uniti Group Inc., a Maryland corporation (the "<u>Company</u>"), in connection with certain matters of Maryland law relating to the resale of up to 38,249,667 shares (the "<u>Shares</u>") of the Company's common stock, \$0.0001 par value per share (the "<u>Common Stock</u>"),by the stockholders of the Company named under the caption "Selling Stockholders" in the Prospectus Supplement (as defined below). The offering and sale of the Shares are covered by the above-referenced registration statement on Form S-3 (together with all amendments thereto, the "<u>Registration Statement</u>"), filed by the Company with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "<u>Commission</u>") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "<u>Securities Act</u>"). The Shares are issuable upon the exchange of 4.00% Exchangeable Senior Notes due 2024 (the "<u>Notes</u>") issued by Uniti Fiber Holdings Inc., an indirect subsidiary of the Company (the "<u>Issuer</u>").

In connection with our representation of the Company, and as a basis for the opinions hereinafter set forth, we have examined originals, or copies certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, of the following documents (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Documents"):

1. The Registration Statement and the base prospectus included therein in the form in which it was transmitted to the Commission under the Securities Act;

2. The prospectus supplement, dated June 22, 2020, in the form in which it was transmitted to the Commission under the Securities Act (the "Prospectus Supplement");

3. The Articles of Amendment and Restatement of the Company, which were accepted by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation of Maryland (the "<u>SDAT</u>") as of April 10, 2015, as amended through (i) the Articles of Amendment (changing the name of the Company) filed by the Company on February 22, 2017, (ii) the Articles of Amendment to Articles Supplementary filed by the Company on May 9, 2017, (iii) the Resident Agent Change of Address filed by the Company's registered agent on June 19, 2017, (iv) the Articles of Amendment (amending Article Eight) filed by the Company on May 18, 2018 and (v) the Resolutions to Change Principal Office or Resident Agent filed by the Company on January 29, 2020 (the foregoing, collectively, the "<u>Charter</u>");

4. The Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Company which were adopted by the Board of Directors of Company as of April 9, 2015, as amended February 27, 2017 and May 1, 2017;

5. A certificate of the SDAT as to the good standing of the Company, dated as of a recent date;

6. The Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of June 28, 2019, by and among the Issuer, the Company and Barclays Capital Inc., on behalf of the initial purchasers;

7. Certain resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company relating to, among other matters, authorization of the filing of the Registration Statement, the execution and delivery of the Registration Rights Agreement and the registration and issuance of the Shares (the "<u>Resolutions</u>"); and

8. Such other documents, statutes, ordinances, regulations, certificates and matters as we have deemed necessary or appropriate to express the opinion set forth below, subject to the assumptions, limitations and qualifications stated herein.

In expressing the opinion set forth below, we have assumed the following:

1. Each individual executing any of the Documents, whether on behalf of such individual or another person, is legally competent to do so.

2. Each individual executing any of the Documents on behalf of a party (other than the Company) is duly authorized to do so.

3. Each of the parties (other than the Company) executing any of the Documents has duly and validly executed and delivered each of the Documents to which such party is a signatory, and such party's obligations set forth therein are legal, valid and binding and are enforceable in accordance with all stated terms.

4. All Documents submitted to us as originals are authentic. The form and content of all Documents submitted to us as unexecuted drafts do not differ in any respect relevant to this opinion from the form and content of such Documents as executed and delivered. All Documents submitted to us as certified or photostatic copies conform to the original documents. All signatures on all Documents are genuine. All public records reviewed or relied upon by us or on our behalf are true and complete. All representations, warranties, statements and information contained in the Documents are true and complete. There has been no oral or written modification of or amendment to any of the Documents, and there has been no waiver of any provision of any of the Documents, by action or omission of the parties or otherwise.

5. The Shares will not be issued or transferred in violation of any restriction or limitation contained in Article Seven of the Charter.

6. The Notes have been duly authorized and validly issued by the Issuer.

7. Upon the issuance of any of the Shares, the total number of shares of Common Stock issued and outstanding will not exceed the total number of shares of Common Stock that the Company is then authorized to issue under the Charter.

Based upon the foregoing, and subject to the assumptions, limitations and qualifications stated herein, it is our opinion that:

1. The Company is a corporation, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the State of Maryland.

2. The issuance of the Shares has been duly authorized and, when and to the extent issued upon the exchange of the Notes in accordance with the Registration Statement, the Prospectus Supplement, the Notes, the indenture governing the Notes and the Resolutions, the Shares will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

The foregoing opinion is limited to the laws of the State of Maryland and we do not express any opinion herein concerning any other law. We express no opinion as to compliance with any federal or state securities laws, including the securities laws of the State of Maryland, or as to federal or state laws regarding fraudulent transfers. To the extent that any matter as to which our opinion is expressed herein would be governed by the laws of any jurisdiction other than the State of Maryland, we do not express any opinion on such matter. The opinion expressed herein is subject to the effect of any judicial decision which may permit the introduction of parol evidence to modify the terms or the interpretation of agreements.

The opinion expressed herein is limited to the matters specifically set forth herein and no other opinion shall be inferred beyond the matters expressly stated. We assume no obligation to supplement this opinion if any applicable law changes after the date hereof or if we become aware of any fact that might change the opinion expressed herein after the date hereof.

This opinion is being furnished to you for submission to the Commission as an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K relating to the Shares (the "<u>Current Report</u>"), which is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement. We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Current Report and the said incorporation by reference and to the use of the name of our firm therein. In giving this consent, we do not admit that we are within the category of persons whose consent is required by Section 7 of the Securities Act, or the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission promulgated thereunder, or Item 509 of Regulation S-K.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Kutak Rock LLP