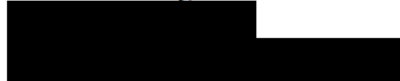




VIA EMAIL AND FEDERAL EXPRESS

January 18, 2024

Mr. Robert Colby
Executive Vice President
and Chief Legal Officer



Mr. Colby:

I write on behalf of Next Bridge Hydrocarbons, Inc. (“Next Bridge” or the “Company”) in response to your letter dated December 7, 2023 (“FINRA’s Response Letter”). This continues our correspondence related to FINRA’s November 6, 2023 Supplemental FAQ: MMTLP Corporate Action Trading Halt.¹

In FINRA’s Response Letter, FINRA noted that “NBH has yet to obtain a CUSIP identifier for its common stock and the shares are not DTC-eligible, thus, it continues to be very difficult for holders to trade NBH (although NBH’s common stock is widely held).” At the time of Next Bridge’s spin-off from Meta Materials, Inc. (“Meta Materials”), Next Bridge did not plan to have publicly traded securities. Indeed, the Prospectus for that transaction disclosed that Next Bridge common stock “is not and will not be publicly traded and will not be eligible for electronic transfer through the Depository Trust Company book-entry system or any other established clearing corporation.”²

If FINRA is interested in receiving the information we have regarding the number of short positions being held in Next Bridge’s common stock, I am happy to schedule a call at a mutually convenient time for you and your staff to discuss.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Greg McCabe'.

Greg McCabe
Chairman of the Board
Next Bridge Hydrocarbons, Inc.

¹ <https://www.finra.org/investors/insights/supplemental-faq-mmtlp-corporate-action-and-trading-halt> (“November 6 Supplemental FAQ”).

² Prospectus of Next Bridge Hydrocarbons, Inc. dated November 18, 2023 on page 1 at https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1936756/00011931252292114/d302576d424b4.htm#toc302576_3.