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3 MS. CORNISH: Your Honor, thank you
4 for continuing the hearing and giving us more
5 time. We really appreciate it and it was a
6 productive -- very productive use of time as
7 well. We were able to, I think, at least
8 preliminarily, work through some difficult
9 issues.

10 With respect to the next motion,
11 which we'd like to take up item 18 on the agenda,
12 which is the --

13 THE COURT: Item --

14 MS. CORNISH: Oh, excuse me.

15 THE COURT: 16.

16 MS. CORNISH: Item 16, sorry.

17 THE COURT: Don't scare me like that.

18 MS. CORNISH: The, the debtors'
19 motion for an interim order authorizing the
20 continuance of a receivables facility.

21 Very briefly, Your Honor I know it's
22 very late in the day, this motion really is quite
23 simple. We seek authority to keep a vital
24 prepetition receivables securitization program in

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1 place which essentially funds the Donahue
2 Corporation Group and Abitibi Group in Canada.
3 Specifically, the company has monetized
4 substantially all of its accounts receivable
5 generated by the Abitibi Group, and specifically
6 the two entities are ACSC, Abitibi Consolidated
7 Sales Corporation, and ACI, the Canadian entity,

8 through a securitization program with Citibank.

9 And this motion simply seeks to keep the
10 prepetition securitization program in place for a
11 limited period of time, 45 days, until the
12 company puts a replacement facility in place.

13 There's nothing fancy about this.

14 There are no new liens being granted. We believe
15 no one's rights are being altered, et cetera.
16 We're simply taking a prepetition facility and
17 extending it into the case for 45 days.

18 The reason we are here before you is
19 the filing of the Chapter 11 CCAA proceedings
20 gives Citibank the right to terminate the
21 securitization program. It's a termination event
22 under the existing program, which would result in
23 an immediate and very detrimental disruption of
24 cash flow on the Abitibi side. The group

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1 depends, Your Honor, on advance funding of its
2 accounts receivable under the securitization
3 program to fund its operations in Canada. The
4 program is a classic -- and in the U.S.

5 The program is a classic
6 securitization structure. ACI and ACSC originate
7 receivables and then they sell them into an SPV,
8 which is called Abitibi Consolidated U.S. Funding
9 Corp., and it's on your chart, if you still have
10 that.

11 THE COURT: I do.

12 MS. CORNISH: It is the one entity, I

13 believe, Your Honor, it's on the left side of the
14 chart and it is a, it is -- it's below ACSC. And
15 those receivables are sold at a discount based on
16 outstanding balances on accounts receivable. The
17 SPV ACI funds, pays ACI and ACSC for the
18 receivables from essentially two sources,
19 collections on accounts receivable it already
20 owns, and second, pooling acquired receivables
21 and selling an undivided percentage ownership
22 interest to Citibank, which has committed to
23 purchase receivables up to \$210 million under the
24 program.

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1 The financing available under the
2 program is limited principally by the outstanding
3 balance of eligible receivables and the size of
4 total reserves; basically, an equity cushion
5 based on the present value of the future income
6 stream from the receivables.

7 Under the program Citibank was
8 granted a security interest in all of ACI
9 fundings, the SPV's rights under certain of the
10 securitization documents, the receivables
11 themselves, lock boxes, deposit accounts and
12 other items under the documents.

13 As I mentioned, the filing of these
14 cases and the CCAA proceedings constitute a
15 termination event, and we are seeking approval of
16 a fifth amendment to the securitization program,
17 pursuant to which Citi will waive that

18 termination event and permit the continuation of
19 the securitization program for 45 days, again,
20 Your Honor, at which time we expect that we will
21 be replacing that facility with another
22 securitization facility or some other alternate
23 financing vehicle.

24 The fifth amendment effectively

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1 maintains the securitization program's
2 perpetuation economics and structure, we believe
3 to the benefit of all stakeholders. And I note
4 that the company is seeking identical relief in
5 the Canadian court with respect to ACI's
6 participation in this program.

7 So in summary, Your Honor, the items
8 that we're seeking under this motion are approval
9 of the fifth amendment; in addition, a finding
10 that the transfers that are made by ACI and ACSC
11 to the SPV are true sales, I think something that
12 was done in Tribune and perhaps other cases, also
13 a finding that the performance by ACI and ACSC
14 and the SPV under the financing agreements does
15 not provide a basis for substantive consolidation
16 of those entities.

17 There is an administrative claim that
18 is granted in favor of Citi which basically
19 covers indemnification obligations and similar
20 obligations by ACI and ACSC. And then finally,
21 we're seeking authorization for ACSC to cause the
22 SPV to pay certain fees to Citi in connection

23 with the extension, which are set forth in the
24 motion.

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1 We have had extensive negotiations
2 with, with the companies -- with the term loan
3 lenders. Your Honor, I mentioned in my open
4 remarks, I believe, that one of the ways that the
5 Abitibi Group has gotten working capital and has
6 been funded over the last year is through a
7 secured 364-day term loan facility that is at
8 ACCC in Canada. That loan is secured by fixed
9 assets and other -- excuse me, personalty in
10 Canada, as well as there are guarantees by the
11 Donahue Corp. entities and certain of its
12 subsidiaries of those obligations, and those
13 guarantees are secured by a pledge of certain
14 personalty of Donahue Corp. and subsidiaries,
15 some real property and other collateral.

16 The term loan lenders have asserted
17 that they are entitled to adequate protection of
18 their interests in connection with the extension
19 of the securitization facility, and we have
20 negotiated with them we believe an adequate
21 protection package that the company is prepared
22 to, to provide. And I believe that -- and
23 counsel for the term loan lenders can speak for
24 themselves, I believe they have no objection to

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1 at this point. And essentially, that adequate
Page 6

2 protection package is -- contains the following:
3 The adequate protection, first off, all of the
4 elements I'm about to recite are really for just
5 the duration of the 45-day period of the
6 securitization facility. They go no further than
7 that.

8 First, the adequate protection is to
9 be provided by Donahue Corporation and its
10 subsidiaries who are debtors in these cases.
11 This does not -- the adequate protection package
12 does not impact the securitization or any of
13 Citibank's rights with respect to the program.

14 To the extent of diminution in value
15 on their prepetition collateral during the 45-day
16 period, the term loan lenders will receive
17 replacement liens on post-petition assets that
18 constituted prepetition collateral, in the case
19 of the receivables subject to the inter creditor
20 agreement.

21 They will receive liens on
22 unencumbered assets on which the debtors are able
23 to grant such a lien. And just to be clear,
24 those assets do not include the membership

1 interest to the Augusta Newsprint Corp. joint
2 venture. That will not be subject to the
3 adequate protection lien.

4 We have also offered junior liens on
5 assets that are already encumbered on the D Corp.
6 side. As additional adequate protection, we have

7 offered a 507(b) claim in an allowed amount equal
8 to the amount of interest due on the facility
9 through the petition date and interest accruing
10 during the 45-day period.

11 In addition, we've offered reasonable
12 fees and expenses of advisors to the term loan
13 lenders, including their financial advisor, I
14 believe it's Jeffries, Canadian counsel, and
15 their primary U.S. and local counsel.

16 There is no stipulation in this
17 adequate protection package as to the validity,
18 enforceability or perfection of the term lenders'
19 liens or claims here.

20 And finally, there is a standstill
21 under the inter creditor agreement. It will
22 continue to be valid with the term loan lenders
23 having the right and obligation under the inter
24 creditor agreement -- all rights and obligations

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1 under the inter creditor agreement. That
2 standstill will expire upon the termination of
3 the securitization facility, or obviously at the
4 end of the 45-day period.

5 And I believe that covers what we --
6 the debtors are willing to offer as adequate
7 protection, and again, I believe that the term
8 loan lenders have no objection, but I will turn
9 the podium over to them.

10 Oh, thank you. Also, just a
11 clarification. The 507(b) claim that I just

12 described with respect to payment of interest is
13 junior to Citi's claim, their administrative
14 claim that we've negotiated with respect to the
15 fifth amendment.

16 THE COURT: All right, thank you.
17 Anyone else care to be heard?

18 MR. LANDIS: Thank you, Your Honor,
19 and good evening. Adam Landis, for the record,
20 on behalf of certain ACC term lenders.

21 I am -- we did file a limited
22 objection, and I don't know if Your Honor was
23 able to take a look at it.

24 THE COURT: I've read it.

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1 MR. LANDIS: We were working pretty
2 fast without a net. I'm here with David Hillman
3 from Schulte Roth & Zabel, co-counsel in this
4 matter. And although we haven't moved his
5 admission pro hac vice by formal paper, I'd like
6 to move it for purposes of this hearing orally
7 today.

8 THE COURT: You will follow up with a
9 written motion?

10 MR. LANDIS: Absolutely, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Very well, thank you.

12 MR. LANDIS: And I'll yield the
13 motion to Mr. Hillman.

14 THE COURT: All right. welcome.

15 MR. HILLMAN: Good evening, Your
16 Honor, thank you. I'm here today as counsel to
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17 certain of what we've been describing as the ACC
18 term lenders. Debtors' counsel has described
19 certain proposals that they've made in the form
20 of adequate protection. I think there are some
21 clarifications that are worth making.

22 First, it's our understanding that
23 the proceeds, the cash collateral that will be
24 generated from the sale of receivables to the

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1 securitization and the existing cash collateral
2 in the company's balance sheet will be used in
3 accordance with a budget. We've been provided
4 today with an amended copy of that budget, and
5 it's our understanding that the stipulation that
6 we're reading into the record here today will
7 actually be memorialized in a separate document
8 that we'll work on after the hearing, and that
9 budget would be attached to the order.

10 The second issue is, relates to the
11 Augusta property. I think you heard from the
12 debtors that our replacement lien would not
13 attach to the debtors' interest in Augusta. I
14 don't know what the operative documents provide,
15 but we have agreed that our replacement lien will
16 not attach to any property that the debtor is not
17 authorized to grant us a lien on. If that
18 includes the Augusta property or the Augusta
19 equity interest, then we won't get it.

20 There was a discussion about a 507(b)
21 superpriority claim for interest that has -- that

22 is due prepetition, and that occurs or is accrued
23 post-petition for the next 45 days. That's
24 accurate, but the agreement is to interest at the

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1 default rate.

2 The next issue that requires some
3 clarification is --

4 THE COURT: What is that rate?

5 MR. HILLMAN: LIBOR plus 800 plus
6 200 points.

7 THE COURT: Thank you.

8 MR. HILLMAN: There was a proposal
9 that the adequate protection package would
10 include an agreement for the standstill on --

11 THE COURT: I'm sorry. That is
12 sometimes caused by live PDAs.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, I know.

14 MR. HILLMAN: Your Honor, I was
15 saying that there was -- part of the package
16 included a standstill of any enforcement under
17 the inter creditor agreement, and I believe the
18 debtor said that it would terminate upon the
19 termination of the securitization program, or if
20 an event of default occurs under the termination
21 program, I wanted to add that in.

22 One of the other superpriority
23 administrative claims that we did hear about was
24 with respect to interest. We also were provided

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1 or offered a superpriority administrative expense
2 claim for the use of cash collateral equal to the
3 diminution that would arise during the 45-day
4 period. That is a separate superpriority
5 administrative expense claim, but that
6 superpriority expense claim is also subordinate
7 to the claim granted to Citibank under the
8 securitization order.

9 Things are moving fast. My clients
10 are trying to get up to speed and follow all the
11 events as they unfold.

12 THE COURT: I try to do the same
13 thing. And I haven't met a slow case recently
14 either.

15 MR. HILLMAN: It's not always
16 possible to be on top of every order of every
17 provision, but I know we will work diligently
18 with the debtor, as they will with us, to try to
19 keep us in the loop and to get this order
20 entered. I would say that to the extent the
21 Court is inclined to enter the order that's been
22 presented, I would ask that we put on the order
23 that it's as modified by the agreements on the
24 record, and that we will work with the debtor to

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1 come up with a stand-alone order to address the
2 issues that we've outlined to the Court.

3 The last point I would like to make
4 is the motion is to use or to sell accounts

5 receivable that constitute cash collateral of the
6 ACC lenders. We have liens on that. When the
7 proceeds are generated, it is also the ACC
8 lenders' position that we have liens on the
9 proceeds. I wanted to make sure that that
10 position was accurately reflected on the record,
11 as we will want to recite that in our stipulation
12 as well.

13 This order, as you heard, would be
14 interim, and I don't know what the Court's
15 scheduling is like to schedule a final hearing,
16 but as a housekeeping matter, at 5:30, quarter to
17 6, we were trying to get ahold of all of our
18 clients to get them to sign off on this, and I
19 wasn't able to reach all of those clients. So I
20 would just ask that the Court take that into
21 consideration when scheduling the final hearing.
22 Thank you, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Well, we've already
24 scheduled the final hearing in connection with

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1 the other financing motion. I had anticipated
2 we'd do the same with this one.

3 MR. HILLMAN: I suspected that would
4 be Your Honor's position. I didn't know if there
5 was any opportunity to have an earlier date as
6 maybe a status or a hold date in case there are
7 issues that need to be resolved.

8 THE COURT: If there are issues,
9 reach out to me by conference telephone.

10 MR. HILLMAN: Thank you, Your Honor.

11 MS. CORNISH: Your Honor, just a
12 couple of points. On the issue of a budget, we
13 will provide a budget for the 45-day period, but
14 we do not agree that we are bound by it or that
15 it can't be amended or the like. We will provide
16 a budget.

17 And with respect to the, the lien
18 with respect to Augusta, I just want to confirm
19 that we are not able to grant that lien and,
20 therefore, that's not part of the package that's
21 being offered.

22 And finally, with respect to
23 Mr. Hillman's statements with respect to the
24 liens and claims and where they sit in the

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1 structure, we just want to make it clear for the
2 record that we're not conceding any of that. I
3 understand it's his position, but we're not
4 conceding any of that.

5 And with that, Your Honor, we would
6 ask you to approve this motion, which would
7 permit the debtors to continue this very vital
8 securitization program post-petition.

9 THE COURT: Well, are you asking me
10 to sign the form of order that you have by
11 pooling in the agreements that have been read
12 into the record so that it can get docketed
13 tonight? I take it that's what you're asking?

14 MS. CORNISH: We are, yes. And then

15 we will do, we will do a separate order
16 memorializing what's been agreed to here orally
17 this evening.

18 THE COURT: Okay. And assuming that
19 doesn't come to me tonight, is there any problem
20 with my signing that upon my return on Thursday
21 of next week?

22 MS. CORNISH: Absolutely not, Your
23 Honor. As long as our order gets signed this
24 evening and it incorporates the oral agreements

18

1 of this evening, that's adequate.

2 THE COURT: Okay.

3 MS. CORNISH: Thank you, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Mr. Hillman?

5 MR. HILLMAN: I'm sorry, but the
6 last -- one comment that the debtors' counsel has
7 made is troublesome, and it deals with the
8 budget. Effectively this is a cash collateral
9 motion in part because the debtor seeks the
10 authority to use cash collateral. The budget is
11 a vital piece of that, and we had many concerns
12 about line items in the budget. And the debtor,
13 to its credit, addressed a number of our concerns
14 by removing some of the line items that gave us
15 problems, so to hear the debtor say we'll give
16 you a budget but we won't be bound by it.

17 (DATA ERROR)

18 MS. CORNISH: But we cannot be, we
19 cannot be bound to every, you know, item in the

20 budget.

21 THE COURT: Well, normally a budget
22 would contain variances, allowances. Maybe that
23 would be the way to address that issue.

24 MS. CORNISH: It just puts us in a

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1 very tough spot, especially now, Your Honor. You
2 can imagine how busy and how many things are on
3 the plate of this debtor, and to get something
4 together and to be comfortable with it for this
5 very brief -- I mean we're talking about 45 days,
6 starting today. I mean we are not talking about
7 a rolling 13-week forecast that covered, you
8 know, a year DIP. It's 45 days.

9 I mean the amount of time -- you
10 know, we'll get something together. We will get
11 it to them in good faith. But it was not
12 something that we offered as a part of this
13 package, and I just don't want to, I don't want
14 to constrain the company.

15 THE COURT: Well, Mr. Hillman, here's
16 what I'm hearing, is that the debtor will use its
17 best efforts to provide a budget to you. To the
18 extent the parties can reach agreement on what it
19 should be, reach out to me and I will address it
20 then.

21 I don't know, the one comfort I have,
22 and expectation I almost always have, is that
23 regardless of what might have happened
24 prepetition, and I'm making no suggestion about

1 that, once the debtor is in Chapter 11, there are
2 so many people looking over its shoulder, that
3 the likelihood of it doing something untoward is
4 fairly low. Not that it's impossible.

5 MR. HILLMAN: Your Honor, I
6 understand the Court's comments. While it is a
7 45-day period or 30 days until the final hearing,
8 there's a substantial amount of money that is to
9 be spent, in excess of \$20 plus million. So cash
10 collateral use requires in every case I've been
11 involved with a budget, and I'm confident that we
12 can work together with the debtor to come up with
13 a budget along the lines what they showed us and
14 reasonable variances, so I don't see this as a
15 stumbling block, but it's not something we want
16 to see six weeks, 45 days, 30 days as part of the
17 stipulation that we should be preparing for the
18 Court as soon as we leave the hearing or shortly
19 thereafter.

20 THE COURT: well, as I said, if there
21 is an issue reach out to me by conference
22 telephone.

23 MR. HILLMAN: Thank you, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: All right. Does anyone

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1 else care to be heard in connection with this
2 motion? I hear no further response. So I take
3 it, Mr. Hillman, on the record, the limited

4 objection is resolved.

5 MR. HILLMAN: I would say that the
6 limited objection to entry of the interim order
7 is resolved, but we reserve our rights to carry
8 the objection to the final hearing, whenever that
9 is set for.

10 THE COURT: Understood.

11 MR. HILLMAN: Thank you, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Okay, is there a form of
13 order?

14 MS. CORNISH: Yes.
15 Should we keep moving along?

16 THE COURT: Certainly.

17 MS. CORNISH: Your Honor, why don't
18 we move along through the rest of the first day
19 motions and we will, as soon as we make some
20 interlineations, we'll hand up the order.

21 THE COURT: All right.

22 MS. CORNISH: Thank you, Your Honor.

23 (6:29 p.m.)

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1 CERTIFICATE

2
3 STATE OF DELAWARE)
4 NEW CASTLE COUNTY)

5 I, Julie H. Parrack, Registered
6 Professional Reporter and Notary Public, do
7 hereby certify that the foregoing record, pages 1
8 to 22 inclusive, is a true and accurate
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9 transcript of an excerpt of an electronic
10 recording, to the best of my ability, in the
11 above-captioned matter.

12 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
13 set my hand and seal this 20th day of April,
14 2009.

15

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19 Julie H. Parrack, RMR-CRR
20 Certification No. 102-RPR
(Expires January 31, 2011)

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