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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Mario N. Alioto (56433) Lauren C. Capurro (241151) TRUMP, ALIOTO, TRUMP & PRESCOTT 2001 Union Street, Suite 482 San Francisco, CA 94123 Telephone: 415-563-7200 Facsimile: 415- 346-0679 Email: <u>malioto@tatp.com</u> <u>laurenrussell@tatp.com</u> <i>Lead Counsel for the</i> <i>Indirect Purchaser Plaintiffs</i>	LLP
9	UNITED STAT	TES DISTRICT COURT
10	NORTHERN DIS	STRICT OF CALIFORNIA
11	OAKL	AND DIVISION
12	IN RE: CATHODE RAY TUBE (CRT) ANTITRUST LITIGATION	Master File No. 4:07-cv-05944-JST Case No. 4:17-cv-04067-JST
13		MDL No. 1917
14	This Document Relates to:	INDIRECT PURCHASER PLAINTIFFS'
15 16 17 18	Luscher, et al. v. Mitsubishi Electric Corp., No. 4:17-cv-04067-JST	NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH DEFENDANT MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION; MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT THEREOF
10		Hearing Date: June 1, 2023
20		Time: 2:00 p.m. Courtroom: 5, 2nd Floor (via Zoom) Judge: Honorable Jon S. Tigar
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	INDIRECT PURCHASER PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST; Master File No. 07-cv-05944-JST	

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	INDIRECT PURCHASER PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST; Master File No. 07-cv-05944-JST

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NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION

TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, on June 1, 2022 at 2:00 p.m., before the Honorable Jon S. Tigar, United States District Court for the Northern District of California, 1301 Clay Street, Oakland, California, Courtroom 6, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, California, via Zoom, the Indirect Purchaser Plaintiffs ("IPPs") will move the Court, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. 23 (e), for entry of an Order:

- 1. Granting final class certification of the Settlement Class;
- Granting final approval of the proposed class action settlement ("Settlement") with Defendant Mitsubishi Electric Corporation ("Mitsubishi Electric");

 Granting final approval of IPPs' plan of distribution for the Mitsubishi Electric Settlement ("Plan of Distribution") among the eligible certified settlement class members ("Class Members"); and

 Dismissing with prejudice IPPs' claims against Mitsubishi Electric from the IPP MDL actions ("Actions") and entering a Final Judgment, with findings under Fed. R. Civ. P. 54(b) as to Mitsubishi Electric.

The Court should grant this motion because (a) the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and satisfies Rule 23(e); (b) the Settlement is the product of arm's-length negotiations; (c) the Courtapproved notice program satisfies Due Process and Rule 23; and (d) the Plan of Distribution is fair, reasonable, and adequate.

This motion is based on this Notice of Motion and Motion; the supporting Memorandum of Points and Authorities; the accompanying Declarations of Mario N. Alioto and Joseph Fisher in support of the Motion; the Court's October 31, 2022 Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement with Defendant Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, ECF No. 6104; the [Proposed] Orders submitted herewith; any further papers filed in support of this Motion; the argument of counsel; and all pleadings and records on file in this matter.

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INDIRECT PURCHASER PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST; Master File No. 07-cv-05944-JST

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1	Pursuant to the Court's Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement	
2	With Defendant Mitsubishi Electric C	Corporation, ECF No. 6104 ¶12(a), the Fairness Hearing will be
3	conducted via Zoom, with the link ava	ailable at https://cand.uscourts.gov/judges/tigar-jon-s-jst/.
4		
5	Dated: May 11, 2023	Respectfully submitted,
6		<u>/s/ Mario N. Alioto</u> Mario N. Alioto (56433)
7		malioto@tatp.com Lauren C. Capurro (241151)
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	CLASS ACTION SETTLEN	MENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION -04067-JST; Master File No. 07-cv-05944-JST

STATEMENT OF ISSUE TO BE DECIDED

Whether this Court should certify the Proposed Settlement Class and grant final approval of the unopposed Settlement with Mitsubishi Electric and the Plan of Distribution given that it is fair, reasonable, and adequate, satisfies all applicable requirements and, after proper notice to the proposed settlement class ("Settlement Class") in accordance with Due Process and Rule 23, no Class Member has objected. iii INDIRECT PURCHASER PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST; Master File No. 07-cv-05944-JST

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

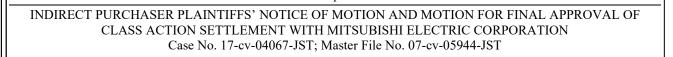
I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

Pursuant to Rule 23(e) and the Court's Order granting preliminary settlement class certification, preliminary approval of the Settlement, and approval of the notice program to potential Class Members (the "Notice Program"), IPPs submit this memorandum in support of final approval of the Settlement with Mitsubishi Electric Corporation ("Mitsubishi Electric"). This memorandum also further supports IPPs' unopposed Second Motion for an Award of Attorneys' Fees, Reimbursement of Expenses, and Incentive Awards for Class Representatives, ECF No. 6177.

The Settlement is "fair, reasonable, and adequate," *In re Online DVD-Rental Antitrust Litig.*, 779 F.3d 934, 945 (9th Cir. 2015), and represents an excellent recovery for the Settlement Class given the amount of Mitsubishi Electric's CRT commerce involved as compared to the overall commerce at issue in the Action, and the substantial risks and delay IPPs would have faced if this case had proceeded to trial. The Settlement provides for a settlement fund of \$33,000,000 ("Settlement Fund"). Together with the nine previously-approved settlements (the "Prior Settlements"), the total settlement amount recovered for indirect purchasers of Cathode Ray Tubes ("CRTs") totals Five Hundred Eighty Million Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$580,750,000)—one of the largest recoveries ever on behalf of indirect purchasers. Consistent with the Prior Settlements, there are no coupons or vouchers and there will be no reversion or refund to Mitsubishi Electric. No *cy pres* distribution is contemplated.

The Settlement also includes a substantial cooperation requirement that will assist IPPs in the prosecution of their claims against the Irico Defendants. The Settlement provides considerable relief for the Settlement Class, whose members would otherwise face uncertainty and additional delay in this Action. Despite the strength of IPPs' claims, the class continues to face litigation risk in the form of summary judgment motions, trial, and potential appeals.

In addition to the excellent recovery this Settlement represents, the reaction of the Settlement Class has been overwhelmingly and uniformly positive. Despite the large size of the Settlement Class and a comprehensive, Court-approved Notice Program that included direct notice to all Prior



1 Claimants¹—many of which are sophisticated multinational corporations represented by counsel—not 2 a single Class Member has objected to the Settlement. Likewise, no one has objected to IPPs' requested attorneys' fee award, reimbursement of expenses, or the requested service awards for the Class 3 Representatives.² In addition, only one individual class member opted out of the Settlement Class.³ 4 5 The lack of objections and opt outs is a strong indication that the Settlement and the requested attorney fee are fair, reasonable, adequate, and warrant final approval. 6

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FACTUAL AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Factual History A.

9 For a complete factual history regarding this Action, IPPs refer to the Court to the Declaration 10 of Mario N. Alioto in Support of IPPs' Second Motion for Attorneys' Fees, Expenses, and Service Awards (ECF No. 6177-1) ¶ 2-56 (detailing IPPs' efforts in this Action),⁴ submitted in connection 12 with these final approval proceedings. This Action arises from alleged conspiracies by Defendants to 13 fix, raise, maintain, and/or stabilize the price of CRTs sold in the United States. All parties have 14 heavily litigated this Action, as evidenced by the more than 6,000 docket entries. The Settlement is 15 therefore the result of a fair evaluation of the merits of the Action after over fifteen years of extensive 16 litigation and discovery, as well as extensive arm's-length negotiations between IPP Counsel and 17 Mitsubishi Electric's counsel. See Alioto Fee Decl. ¶ 18-24.

On October 31, 2022, this Court entered an Order preliminarily certifying the Settlement Class, preliminarily approving the Settlement and the Notice Program, and setting a deadline by which class members could opt-out or object. ECF No. 6104 ("Preliminary Approval Order"). Notice was

¹ "Prior Claimants" includes all class members who submitted valid claims in the Prior Settlements.

² In accordance with the Preliminary Approval Order, ¶ 22, ECF No. 6104, IPPs' Second Motion for

Attorneys' Fees, Reimbursement of Expenses, and Service Awards, ECF No. 6177, was posted on the website, www.CRTClaims.com, on March 10, 2023, the same day it was filed. See Decl. of Joseph M.

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Fisher Re: Mitsubishi Electric Notice Program and Claims Administration ¶ 7 ("Fisher Decl.").

²⁶ ³ See Fisher Decl. ¶ 25, Ex. T.

²⁷ That Alioto Declaration is referred to herein as the "Alioto Fee Decl." IPPs submit herewith the separate Decl. of Mario N. Alioto ISO Motion For Final Approval of this Settlement ("Alioto Decl.").

thereafter published in accordance with the Preliminary Approval Order. Publication consisted of the || following actions: 2

2	Tonowing actions:	
3	• Publication on the CRT settlement website, <u>www.CRTClaims.com</u> , which has received	
4	more than 1,228,574 unique visitors since February 8, 2023.	
5	• Digital notice via paid advertisements on Google, Facebook, and other popular	
6	websites;	
7	• Print publication notice in magazines and newspapers with collective readership of	
8	more than 43 million;	
9	• English and Spanish press releases carried by 457 domestic and foreign websites with	
10	a total potential audience of approximately 203,600,000;	
11	• Television ads on various popular cable TV networks; and	
12	• Direct mailed/emailed notice to almost thirteen million unique addresses, including all	
13	Prior Claimants, many of which are large, corporate end-users of CRTs in the 31 States;	
14	Collectively, these efforts reached an estimated 87% of class members with an estimated frequency of	
15	5 3.02, which is well-within the acceptable range. See generally Fisher Decl. ¶¶ 4-24. Despite the	
16	breadth of the Notice Program, only one Class Member has opted out of the Settlement Class (<i>id.</i> at	
17	Ex. T), and even more significantly, no Class Member has objected.	
18	B. The Settlement Agreement	
19	The terms of the Settlement are described in detail in IPPs' preliminary approval motion (ECF	
20	No. 6053) and the Court's Preliminary Approval Order (ECF No. 6104), incorporated herein by	
21	reference. To summarize, in exchange for \$33,000,000 from Mitsubishi Electric, and substantial	
22	cooperation in the further prosecution of the Action against the non-settling Defendants, the Settlement	
23	Class releases claims under the laws of 30 States and the District of Columbia for alleged price-fixing	
24	of CRTs sold indirectly to IPPs. ECF No. 6053-1 ¶¶ 20-28, Ex. A. The Court found that it "would	
25	likely be able to approve the proposed Settlement Agreement under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(2)" and it	
26	would "likely be able to certify the Settlement Class[.]" ECF No. 6104. Thus, it directed IPPs to	
27	implement the Notice Program.	

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III. <u>ARGUMENT</u>

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A. The Class Action Settlement Approval Procedure

"The claims, issues, or defenses of a certified class may be settled . . . only with the court's approval." Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e). The settlement approval procedure includes three steps: (1) conditional certification of a settlement class and preliminary approval of the proposed settlement; (2) dissemination of notice to affected class members; and (3) a formal fairness or final approval hearing, at which class members may be heard regarding the settlement, and at which counsel may present argument concerning the fairness, adequacy, and reasonableness of the settlements. *See Manual for Complex Litigation, 4th ed.* § 23.63 (2004); 4 Newberg on Class Actions § 13:1 *et seq.* (5th ed. 2015) (*"Newberg"*) (describing class action settlement procedure). This procedure safeguards class members' Due Process rights and enables the Court to fulfill its role as the guardian of class interests. *See id.* §§ 13:39–40.

The Court completed the first step in the settlement approval procedure when it granted preliminary approval to the Proposed Settlement. As discussed below, the second step in the process has been completed as well: The Court-approved Notice Program was fully implemented. IPPs now request that the Court take the final steps of holding a formal Fairness Hearing, granting final approval of the Proposed Settlement, and entering Final Judgment.

||

B.

Legal Standard For Final Approval Of Class Action Settlements

Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e) "requires the district court to determine whether a proposed settlement is fundamentally fair, adequate, and reasonable." *Hanlon v. Chrysler Corp.*, 150 F.3d 1011, 1026 (9th Cir. 1998). To assess a settlement proposal, the Ninth Circuit uses a multi-factor balancing test:

(1) the strength of the plaintiff's case; (2) the risk, expense, complexity, and likely duration of further litigation; (3) the risk of maintaining class action status throughout the trial; (4) the amount offered in settlement; (5) the extent of discovery completed and the stage of the proceedings; (6) the experience and view of counsel; (7) the presence of a governmental participant; and (8) the reaction of the class members of the proposed settlement.

In re Online DVD, 779 F.3d at 944 (quoting *Churchill Vill., L.L.C. v. GE*, 361 F.3d 566, 575 (9th Cir. 2004)).

INDIRECT PURCHASER PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST; Master File No. 07-cv-05944-JST

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"Recent amendments to Rule 23 require the district court to consider a similar list of factors before approving a settlement." ECF No. 5786 ("2020 Final Approval Order") at 13-14 (quoting *Theodore Broomfield v. Craft Brew All., Inc.*, No. 17-cv-01027-BLF, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 74801, at *16-17 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 5, 2020) "These factors include whether: (1) 'the class representatives and class counsel have adequately represented the class;' (2) 'the proposal was negotiated at arm's length;' (3) 'the relief provided for the class is adequate;' and (4) 'the proposal treats class members equitably relative to each other." *Id.* at 14 (quoting Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(2)). The "specific factors added to Rule 23(e)(2) are not intended to 'displace' any factors currently used by the courts, but instead aim to focus the court and attorneys on 'the core concerns of procedure and substance that should guide the decision whether to approve the proposal." *Id.* (quoting Advisory Committee Notes to 2018 Amendments, Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(2)). Thus, in analyzing final approval of the Prior Settlements in its 2020 Final Approval Order, this Court applied the framework set forth in Rule 23 with guidance from the Ninth Circuit's precedent. *Id.*

Settlements occurring before formal class certification "require a higher standard of fairness." *In re Mego Fin. Corp. Sec. Litig.*, 213 F. 3d 454, 458 (9th Cir. 2000). In reviewing such settlements,
the court must ensure that "the settlement is not the product of collusion among the negotiating
parties." *In re Bluetooth Headset Prods. Liab. Litig.*, 654 F. 3d 935, 946-47 (9th Cir. 2011).

Finally, this District's Procedural Guidance for Class Action Settlements ("Procedural Guidance") provides that "[t]he motion for final approval briefing should include information about the number of undeliverable class notices and claim packets, the number of class members who submitted valid claims, the number of class members who opted out, and the number of class members who objected to or commented on the settlement. In addition, the motion for final approval should respond to any objections."⁵

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⁵ Procedural Guidance for Class Action Settlements | United States District Court, Northern District
 of California (uscourts.gov). The Procedural Guidance also includes requirements for class counsel's attorneys' fee motion and requests for service awards for class representatives. *Id.* In compliance with the Procedural Guidance, IPPs separately filed their motion for attorneys' fees, which included a request for service awards, thirty-five (35) days before the objection deadline. *See* ECF No. 6177.

INDIRECT PURCHASER PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST; Master File No. 07-cv-05944-JST

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С. The Notice Program Comports With Due Process

A court must "direct notice [of a proposed class settlement] in a reasonable manner to all class members who would be bound by the proposal." Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(1). "The class must be notified of a proposed settlement in a manner that does not systematically leave any group without notice." Officers for Just. v. Civil Serv. Com., 688 F.2d 615, 624 (9th Cir. 1982) (citation omitted). "Notice is satisfactory if it 'generally describes the terms of the settlement in sufficient detail to alert those with adverse viewpoints to investigate and to come forward and be heard." Espinosa v. Ahearn (In re Hyundai & Kia Fuel Econ. Litig.), 926 F.3d 539, 567 (9th Cir. 2019) (en banc) (quoting Churchill *Vill., L.L.C. v. GE*, 361 F.3d at 575). This standard does not require perfection, but rather reasonable 10 efforts to reach as many class members as possible through either individual or publication means. See, e.g., Federal Judicial Center, Judges' Class Action Notice and Claims Process Checklist and Plain Language Guide (2010) ("FJC Checklist"), at 3 ("It is reasonable to reach between 70-95%"); Silber v. Mabon, 18 F.3d 1449, 1454 (9th Cir. 1994). Publication notice is an acceptable method of providing notice where the identity of specific class members is not reasonably available. See In re Tableware Antitrust Litig., 484 F. Supp. 2d 1078, 1080 (N.D. Cal. 2007).

The Court has held that the content of the Detailed Notice and the Summary Notice (the "Notices"), as well as the Notice Program proposed by IPP Counsel, "meet the requirements of Rule 23 and due process, and are the best notice practicable under the circumstances and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to all persons entitled thereto." Preliminary Approval Order, ¶ 13.

The Court-appointed Settlement Administrator, The Notice Company (id. ¶ 11), implemented the Notice Plan in accordance with the Preliminary Approval Order. Fisher Decl. ¶ 4. Pursuant to that Order, ¶¶ 12-13, indirect purchasers of CRTs were notified of the Settlement through a carefully designed combination of (1) a case-specific website, www.CRTClaims.com, which has received more than 1,228,574 unique visitors since notice was published on February 8, 2023, (2) extensive publication notice in print and online, including various popular social media websites and eMagazines, (3) digital banner ads resulting in more than 471,570,000 impressions, (4) an earned media plan, (5) press releases in English and Spanish carried by 457 domestic and foreign websites

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with a total potential audience of 203,600,000, (6) television ads on various popular cable TV networks, (7) direct mail notice to 22,243 individual and corporate addresses, including Prior Claimants, and including many of the largest institutional end-users of CRTs, many of whom are represented by counsel who also received direct notice of the Proposed Settlement via ECF, (8) direct email notice to almost thirteen million email addresses, including Prior Claimants, and (9) a casespecific toll-free number. Id. ¶¶ 4-24. The notice reached at least 87% of adults aged 35+ who owned TVs or computers during the relevant period with an estimated frequency of 3.02 times. Id. ¶¶ 4, 37. This reach and frequency for the notice is well within the acceptable range.

Moreover, the reach and frequency of the notice to Class Members was effectively greater since the calculated numbers ignore so-called "organic" notices that cannot be directly traced to a paid 10 activity. For example, a search result showing the CRT Settlement Website as a paid advertisement would be included in the calculated reach; but a search result showing the CRT Settlement Website as 12 13 an unpaid search result is not included. Both results effectively reach the viewer, but only the paid 14 search result is counted. Likewise, none of the direct notices by mail or email are included in the reach 15 and frequency numbers because they only measure paid media-outreach programs. Fisher Decl. ¶ 37.

The Notices also advised Class Members that IPPs intended to apply for attorneys' fees in the amount of one-third of the Settlement Fund (\$11,000,000), notice costs, litigation expenses, and \$2,000 incentive awards for the each of the Class Representatives. Id., Ex. D (Detailed Notice) at 10-11; Alioto Decl. ¶ 2. The Notices further advised how to access the fee petition. Id. IPPs posted the fee petition (ECF No. 6177) to the settlement website, www.CRTclaims.com, on March 10, 2023the same day it was filed, and 35 days before the deadline to object. Id. ¶ 3; Fisher Decl. ¶ 7. To date, no Class Member has objected to IPP Counsel's attorney fee request, the reimbursement of \$13,122.10 in expenses, or the 2,000 incentive awards for each Class Representative. Alioto Decl. ¶ 4.

The Notice Program comports with due process and was the best notice practicable under the 24 25 circumstances. Fisher Decl. ¶¶ 35-37.

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INDIRECT PURCHASER PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST; Master File No. 07-cv-05944-JST

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D. The Court Should Finally Certify The Settlement Class

In its Preliminary Approval Order, the Court analyzed the requirements for class certification of a Settlement Class under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a) and (b) and found that "it is likely to be able to certify the Settlement Class." Preliminary Approval Order, ¶¶ 2-9. The grounds for certification articulated in the Preliminary Approval Order are unchanged, and final certification is warranted. In 2020, the Court finally approved a similarly defined Settlement Class for IPPs' Prior Settlements (ECF No. 5786), and in 2013, certified 22 state classes which are defined similarly to the Settlement Class proposed here. *See In re Cathode Ray Tube (CRT) Antitrust Litig.*, No. 07-cv-5944-JST, 2013 WL 5391159 (N.D. Cal. Sept. 24, 2013).

10 The Court may certify a settlement class where plaintiffs demonstrate that the proposed class and proposed class representatives meet the four prerequisites listed in Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)-11 numerosity, commonality, typicality, and adequacy of representation-and one of the three 12 requirements of Rule 23(b). Hanlon, 150 F.3d at 1019. Class certification under Rule 23(b)(3) requires 13 14 a showing that "questions of law and fact common to the members of the class predominate over any 15 questions affecting only individual members, and that a class action is superior to other available 16 methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy." Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(3). In 17 certifying a settlement class, the Court is not required to determine whether the action, if tried, would 18 present intractable management problems, "for the proposal is that there be no trial." Amchem Prods. v. Windsor, 521 U.S. 591, 620 (1997). See also In re Hyundai & Kia Fuel Econ. Litig., 926 F.3d at 19 20 556 (instructing that "[t]he criteria for class certification are applied differently in litigation and 21 settlement classes.").

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1. The Settlement Class Satisfies The Requirements Of Rule 23(a)

The requirements of Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a), which this Court extensively examined at preliminary approval, are satisfied here.⁶ *First*, it is undisputed that the members of the Settlement

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⁶ IPPs' motion for preliminary approval contains a detailed discussion of the requirements of Rule 23(a) (ECF No. 6053), which IPPs incorporate herein by reference.

Class number in the millions,⁷ making joinder impracticable.⁸ Second, the claims of the proposed 1 Settlement Class are common, as they "depend upon a common contention . . . of such a nature that it 2 is capable of classwide resolution."9 Here, as this Court has found, a central, common, question 3 underlying each of IPPs' claims in this case is "whether Mitsubishi Electric violated the antitrust 4 and/or various other laws of the [31] states "¹⁰ *Third*, the claims of the class representatives are 5 6 "typical of the claims . . . of the class." Rule 23(a)(3). The typicality requirement is easily satisfied where, as here, "it is alleged that the defendants engaged in a common [price-fixing] scheme relative to all members of the class."¹¹ The Class Representatives have no interests that conflict with the 8 9 Settlement Class and have a common interest in obtaining compensation for a shared injury.¹²

Finally, the Named Plaintiffs have fairly and adequately represented the Settlement Class and 10 should be confirmed as Settlement Class Representatives. Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(4). A representative 11 plaintiff is an adequate representative of the class if he or she: (1) does not have interests antagonistic 12 to or in conflict with the interests of the class; and (2) is represented by qualified counsel who will 13 vigorously prosecute the class's interests.¹³ Here, the interests of Named Plaintiffs and Class Members 14 are aligned because (a) they all claim similar injury in the form of higher CRT Product prices due to 15

⁷ See ECF No. 5695 at 8 (adopting prior findings that "millions of people in the United States purchased CRT products during the class period.").

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INDIRECT PURCHASER PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST; Master File No. 07-cv-05944-JST

⁸ See Bellinghausen v. Tractor Supply Co., 303 F.R.D. 611, 616 (N.D. Cal. 2014) (where "general 19 knowledge and common sense" indicate a large class, "numerosity is satisfied."). 20

⁹ Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. v. Dukes, 564 U.S. 338, 350 (2011); Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(2).

²¹ 10 ECF No. 6104 ¶ 5; see also ECF No. 4351 at 18 ("there are undeniably questions of law and fact common to the Class, including whether the Defendants engaged in a price-fixing conspiracy that 22 injured Plaintiffs when they paid more for CRT Products than they would have absent the alleged 23 price-fixing conspiracy."); ECF No. 5695 at 8 (same).

¹¹ In re Cathode Ray Tube Antitrust Litig., 308 F.R.D. 606, 613 (N.D. Cal. 2015) (quoting In re Catfish 24 Antitrust Litig., 826 F. Supp. 1019, 1035 (N.D. Miss. 1993))

²⁵ ¹² See ECF No. 5695 at 9-10 (granting preliminary approval of Prior Settlements and adopting prior finding that "the claims of the representative parties are typical of the claims of the class . . . because 26 they all indirectly purchased CRT products at supra-competitive levels as a result of the alleged price-fixing conspiracy during the relevant time period."). 27

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¹³ Hanlon, 150 F.3d at 1020; Ellis v. Costco Wholesale Corp., 657 F.3d 970, 985 (9th Cir. 2011).

the alleged conspiracy, and (b) they each seek the same relief as the class members in their state under 1 their respective state statutes. By proving their own claims, representative Plaintiffs would necessarily 2 prove the claims of their fellow Class Members. The Named Plaintiffs understand the allegations in 3 this Action and have reviewed pleadings, responded to discovery, and produced the documents 4 5 requested. The majority of them have been actively involved in the Action for more than fifteen 6 years,¹⁴ and have previously been found to be adequate representatives of their respective state classes.¹⁵ The thirteen new Class Representatives have likewise been found to be adequate 8 representatives. ECF No. 6104, ¶ 7. Nothing has changed in the interim to alter these findings.

In sum, the Settlement Class satisfies the requirements of Rule 23(a).

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2. The Settlement Class Satisfies The Requirements Of Rule 23(b)(3)

"Under Rule 23(b)(3), a plaintiff must demonstrate the superiority of maintaining a class action 11 and show 'that the questions of law or fact common to class members predominate over any questions 12 13 affecting only individual members." Mazza v. Am. Honda Motor Co., 666 F.3d 581, 596 (9th Cir. 2012) (quoting Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(3)). "[T]he focus of the predominance inquiry" is whether "a 14 proposed class is 'sufficiently cohesive to warrant adjudication by representation." Amgen Inc. v. 15 16 Conn. Ret. Plans & Tr. Funds, 568 U.S. 455, 469 (2013) (quoting Amchem Prods. v. Windsor, 521 U.S. 591, 623 (1997)). "But the rule 'does not require a plaintiff seeking class certification to prove 17 18 that each element of their claim is susceptible to classwide proof,' so long as one or more common 19 questions predominate." Castillo v. Bank of Am., NA, 980 F.3d 723, 730 (9th Cir. 2020) (citing Amgen 20 Inc. v. Conn. Ret. Plans & Tr. Funds, 568 U.S. 455, 469 (2013)). As this Court previously noted, "in 21 price-fixing cases, such as this, 'courts repeatedly have held that the existence of the conspiracy is the 22 predominant issue and warrants certification even when significant individual issues are present."

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¹⁴ ECF No. 6053-1, ¶¶ 57-59 (Alioto Declaration ISO Preliminary Approval, describing how 21 of the 34 class representatives have been involved in this MDL since inception and were appointed as representatives of the litigated class and settlement class for the Prior Settlements).

¹⁵ See In re CRT, 2013 WL 5391159, at *3 (concluding that the named plaintiffs were adequate class 27 representatives); ECF No. 5695 at 10-11 (Preliminary Approval Order for Prior Settlements finding named plaintiffs are adequate class representatives); ECF No. 6104, ¶ 7 (same).

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ECF No. 5695 at 8 (quoting Thomas & Thomas Rodmakers, Inc. v. Newport Adhesives & Composites, Inc., 209 F.R.D. 159, 167 (C.D. Cal. 2002)); see also Amchem Prods., 521 U.S. at 625 (predominance under Rule 23(b)(3) is "readily met" in antitrust cases).

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Resolution of IPPs' claims here depends principally on whether Defendants participated in a price-fixing conspiracy that increased the price of CRT Products. This Court has already found that the predominance requirement of Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(3) was met for an almost identical class during the litigation,¹⁶ an almost identical Settlement Class in connection with the Prior Settlements (ECF No. 5695 at 8), and in its Order preliminarily approving this Proposed Settlement. ECF No. 6104 ¶ 8.

In addition, resolution of IPPs' claims through a class action is unquestionably superior. Litigating every Class Member's claims separately would waste judicial and party resources, given that the vast majority of evidence would be identical.¹⁷ Further, individual Class Members would lack incentive to bring their own cases given that their alleged damages are small relative to the enormous costs necessary to litigation complex antitrust cases. Thus, the requirements of Rule 23(b)(3) are also satisfied here.

3. The Court Should Appoint Trump, Alioto, Trump & Prescott, LLP As **Settlement Class Counsel For Final Approval**

Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(g) separately requires this Court to appoint class counsel to represent the Settlement Class. Considering IPP Lead Counsel's work in this action, its expertise and experience in handling this Action for the past fifteen years, and the resources it has committed to representing the class, it should be appointed as class counsel for the proposed Settlement Class under Rule 23(g)(3) and confirmed under Rule 23(g)(1), as this Court already ordered.¹⁸

¹⁶ See In re CRT, 2013 WL 5391159, at *6 (finding common questions predominated and certifying twenty-two statewide classes of indirect purchasers of CRTs).

¹⁷ See In re Cathode Ray Tube Antitrust Litig., No. 07-cv-5944-JST, 2013 WL 5429718, at *23 (N.D. Cal. June 20, 2013).

¹⁸ See ECF No. 6104, ¶ 9 (finding that Mario N. Alioto and Trump, Alioto, Trump & Prescott, LLP have protected and will continue to fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Settlement Class."); In re Cathode Ray Tube Antitrust Litig., No. 07-cv-5944-JST, 2016 WL 3648478, at *5 (N.D. 27 Cal. July 7, 2016) ("the entire record of the litigation viewed fairly demonstrates that Class Counsel

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1	E. The Court Should Grant Final Approval Of The Proposed Settlement	
2	Under Rule 23(e)(2), the Court "may approve [a class action settlement] only after a hearing	
3	and only on finding that it is fair, reasonable, and adequate after considering whether:	
4	(A) The class representatives and class counsel have adequately represented the class;	
5	(B) The proposal was negotiated at arm's length;	
6	(C) The relief provided for the class is adequate, taking into account:	
7	i. The costs, risks, and delay of trial and appeal;	
8	ii. The effectiveness of any proposed method of distributing relief to the class,	
9	including the method of processing class member claims;	
10	iii. The terms of any proposed award of attorneys' fees, including timing of	
11	payment; and	
12	iv. Any agreement required to be identified under Rule 23(e)(3); and	
13	(D) The proposal treats class members equitably relative to each other.	
14	Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(2). In granting preliminary approval of the Settlement, this Court concluded that	
15	these Rule 23(e)(2) factors had been satisfied, and that it would likely be able to approve the	
16	Settlement. ECF No. 6104 ¶ 1. No contrary evidence has emerged.	
17	As demonstrated below, all the Rule 23(e)(2) factors favor final approval of the Settlement,	
18	which also satisfies the Northern District of California's guidelines. Thus, the Court should approve	
19	the Settlement as fair, reasonable, and adequate.	
20	1. The Class Has Been Adequately Represented	
21	Rule 23(e)(2)(A), in conjunction with subsection (B), requires the court to "identify matters	
22	that might be described as 'procedural' concerns, looking to the conduct of the litigation and of the	
23	negotiations leading up to the proposed settlement." Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(2) Advisory Comm. Notes,	
24	Paragraphs (A) and (B) (2018). As an "example, the nature and amount of discovery in this or other	
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26	managed this area diligently and efficiently for the herefit of the class []" and "Class Counsel was	
27	managed this case diligently and efficiently for the benefit of the class[,]" and "Class Counsel was superb at coordinating the class effort."); ECF No. 5695 at 10 ("IPP Lead Counsel has "invested	
28	considerable time in this case and ha[s] substantial experience with class action litigation.").	
	INDIRECT PURCHASER PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION	

cases, or the actual outcomes of other cases, may indicate whether counsel negotiating on behalf of the class had an adequate information base." Id.

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Here, as detailed in the preliminary approval motion (ECF No. 6053) and fee motion (ECF No. 6177), the class representatives and counsel have vigorously represented the interests of class members for more than fifteen years, including full case development for trial. See Alioto Fee Decl. ¶¶ 4-49.¹⁹ Thus, IPPs negotiated the Settlement with detailed knowledge of the factual and legal issues underlying the parties' claims and defenses, and their strengths and weaknesses. Id. ¶¶ 35-41.

In its July 2020 Final Approval Order (affirmed on appeal), this Court reaffirmed its findings 8 9 that: (1) "IPPs and Class Counsel have vigorously prosecuted this action . . . through extensive 10 discovery[,] including the "review of millions of documents and the taking of hundreds of depositions, all conducted over eight-plus years"; and (2) IPP Lead Counsel has 'invested considerable time in this 11 case and has substantial experience with class action litigation." ECF No. 5786 at 17. The Court 12 13 concluded, therefore, that "counsel 'possessed sufficient information to make an informed decision about settlement." Id. (quoting Hefler v. Wells Fargo & Co., No. 16-cv-05479-JST, 2018 WL 14 15 6619983, at *6 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 18, 2018)). These findings apply with equal force to the Settlement 16 with Mitsubishi Electric. Thus, the Court should affirm its finding in its Preliminary Approval Order that "[t]he class representatives and counsel have vigorously represented the interests of the Settlement 17 Class." ECF No. 6104 ¶ 1(a). 18

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2. The Proposed Settlement Is The Product Of Arm's Length Negotiations

Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(2)(B) instructs courts to consider whether "the proposal was negotiated at arm's length." A class action settlement is entitled to an initial presumption of fairness where it is 22 the result of arm's-length negotiations among experienced counsel. See, e.g., Viceral v. Mistras Grp., 23 Inc., No. 15-cv-02198-EMC, 2016 WL 5907869, at *8 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 11, 2016). Further, "the involvement of a neutral or court-affiliated mediator or facilitator in those negotiations may bear on 24 25 whether they were conducted in a manner that would protect and further the class interests." Fed. R.

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¹⁹ See also ECF No. 4071-1 (Alioto Decl. in support of September 23, 2015 attorney fee motion).

Civ. P. 23(e)(2) Advisory Comm. Notes, Paragraph (B) (2018).

The Settlement with Mitsubishi Electric was reached after months of hard-fought and highly adversarial negotiations, including multiple telephone conferences, an in-person meeting attended by counsel for all parties and representatives of Mitsubishi Electric from the United States and Japan, and an in-person mediation before Judge Corley. A settlement in principle was reached during that mediation and indeed, was the result of the mediator's proposal. Alioto Fee Decl. ¶ 21. Thus, the settlement was not the product of collusion. See Final Approval Order (ECF No. 5786) at 18 (mediation sessions supervised by a former judge are an indication of arm's length negotiations).

9 Courts should also consider the "treatment of any award of attorney's fees, with respect to both the manner of negotiating the fee award and its terms." R. 23(e). Advisory Comm. Notes, Para. (B) 10 11 (2018). While the Settlement provides that Mitsubishi Electric will not object to attorneys' fees of up to one-third of the Settlement Fund, there is no agreement on the amount of attorneys' fees Class 12 13 Counsel will receive. ECF No. 6053-1, Ex. A, ¶ 34. As in the Prior Settlements, any award of 14 attorneys' fees remains within the discretion of the Court and will be awarded from the common fund. 15 See ECF No. 5786 at 19 ("Although the agreements contain a "clear sailing" provision, the Court finds 16 no cause for concern because Class Counsel's fee will be awarded from the same common fund as the recovery to the class.") (citing Rodriguez v. W. Publ'g Corp., 563 F.3d 948, 961 n.5 (9th Cir. 2009)). 17

Based on the foregoing, this Court concluded that "[t]he Settlement Agreement was negotiated by arm's-length, informed, and non-collusive negotiations between counsel for IPPs and Mitsubishi Electric under the supervision of a Magistrate Judge." ECF No. 6104 \P 1(b). No class member has objected to this conclusion and no contrary evidence has emerged.

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3. The Proposed Settlement Provides Substantial Relief For The Class

23 Rule 23(e)(2)(C) instructs courts to consider whether "the relief provided for the class is adequate" considering (i) the costs, risks, and delay of trial and appeal; (ii) the proposed distribution plan; (iii) the terms of any proposed award of attorneys' fees; and (iv) any agreement required to be identified under Rule 23(e)(3). As this Court has already concluded, the Proposed Settlement is fair when evaluated against these standards. ECF No. $6104 \ \mbox{l} 1(c)$.

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a. The Costs, Risks, And Delay Of Trial And Appeal Were Significant

The first factor—"the costs, risks, and delay of trial and appeal" (Rule 23(e)(2)(C)(i))—is analogous to the Ninth Circuit's traditional consideration of the risk, expense, complexity, and likely duration of further litigation, while also examining the strength of plaintiffs' case, the risk of maintaining class action status throughout the trial, and the amount offered in settlement. *See In re Online DVD-Rental,* 779 F.3d at 944 (listing factors).

First, as explained in detail at preliminary approval and in IPPs' fee motion, the \$33 million settlement amount is 5.6% of the total \$580,750,000 Settlement Fund, which is more than Mitsubishi Electric's market share (less than 5%) and is consistent with the previously-approved IPP settlements with other similarly situated Japanese defendants. Alioto Fee Decl. ¶41. Second, based on the damage study by IPPs' expert, Dr. Netz,²⁰ the damages attributable to Mitsubishi Electric would be approximately \$168 million (5.6% of \$3.36 billion).²¹ Thus, the \$33 million settlement is approximately 19.6% of the damages attributable to Mitsubishi Electric. *Id.* ¶¶ 38-40. Such a result represents a reasonable compromise of the parties' positions and is well within the range of possible final approval. *See In re CRT*, 2016 WL 3648478, at *6-7 (finding that 20% of single damages was "without question a good recovery and firmly in line with the recovery in other cases"). Likewise, when combined with the Prior Settlement amounts, the total recovery to date is \$580,750,000, which is almost 20% of the \$3.36 billion in single damages. When compared to other *indirect* purchaser cases

 ²⁰ IPPs' expert, Dr. Netz, estimated single damages to members of the 22 state classes to be \$2.78
 ²¹ billion. *Id.* ¶ 36. After adjusting this estimate to account for the nine additional states included in the Proposed Settlement Class, the single damages to class members in the 30 states and the District of Columbia would be \$3.36 billion. *Id.* ¶ 37.

 ²¹ Mitsubishi Electric would have strongly contested IPPs' damages claims. The other Defendants' experts opined that indirect purchasers suffered little or no damages as a result of the alleged CRT conspiracy. One defense expert estimated the total class damages to be approximately \$61 million. Other defense experts maintained that the total class damages were zero. *See* Alioto Fee Decl. ¶ 39.

1 $\|$ (some of which never make it past class certification²²), this is an excellent result.²³

2 Third, the risks to IPPs at trial and on appeal would have been significant and support the reasonableness of the Settlement. For example, IPPs faced a substantial risk that the jury would find 3 Mitsubishi Electric did not participate in the alleged conspiracy. Among other things, Mitsubishi 4 5 Electric would have argued at trial that it did not attend a single "glass meeting"; that it ceased manufacture of CPTs in 1998 and CDTs in 2004; that most of its CDTs used a different technology 6 7 and were marketed to different customers than those of the other alleged conspirators; and that because its market share was very small—substantially less than 5%— it was therefore always a minor player 8 9 in the market, with little or no incentive to join the conspiracy. The Court's ruling precluding Samsung SDI's litigation statements against Mitsubishi Electric would also have made IPPs' case more difficult 10 to prove. ECF No. 4982. Alioto Fee Decl. ¶ 45. 11

12 Mitsubishi Electric would also likely have asserted that even if it had participated in the 13 conspiracy, it withdrew when it stopped manufacturing CRTs in 2004, ²⁴ and that the majority of IPPs' 14 damages are barred by the Foreign Trade Antitrust Improvements Act, 6 U.S.C. § 15 ("FTAIA").²⁵ It 15 would also have contested IPPs' evidence of antitrust standing, and pass-through of the overcharge to

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²² See, e.g., In re Lithium Ion Batteries Antitrust Litig., No. 13-MD-2420 YGR, 2017 WL 1391491, at
*1 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 12, 2017) (denying class certification to indirect purchasers of lithium ion batteries in part because they were unable to prove impact (i.e., pass-through of the overcharge) on a class-wide basis); *In re Flash Memory Antitrust Litig.*, No. C 07-0086 SBA, 2010 WL 2332081, at *19 (N.D. Cal. June 9, 2010) (same); *In re Graphics Processing Units Antitrust Litig.*, 253 F.R.D. 478, 507 (N.D. Cal. 2008) (same).

 ^{21 23} See In re Lithium Ion Batteries Antitrust Litig., No. 4:13-md-02420-YGR (MDL), 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 139327, at *53 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 16, 2019) (finding indirect purchaser settlements amounting to 11.7 percent of single damages were an "excellent result" for the class).

²⁴ See ECF No. 4786 (granting Philips' summary judgment motion on withdrawal grounds).

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²⁵ The other Defendants moved for summary judgment on IPPs' claims on FTAIA grounds. *See* ECF
²⁵ Nos. 3006 and 3008. Even though the Court denied these motions in the DAP case, the FTAIA would
²⁶ still have been an issue at trial and is frequently an issue on appeal. *See, e.g., Lotes Co. v. Hon Hai*²⁷ *Precision Indus. Co.,* 753 F.3d 395, 412-13 (2d Cir. 2014); *Animal Sci. Prods. v. China Minmetals*²⁷ *Corp.,* 654 F.3d 462 (3d Cir. 2011); *Minn-Chem, Inc. v. Agrium Inc.,* 683 F.3d 845 (7th Cir. 2012);
²⁸ *Motorola Mobility L.L.C. v. AU Optronics Corp.,* 775 F.3d 816 (7th Cir. 2014); and *U.S. v. Hsiung,*

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¹⁶ INDIRECT PURCHASER PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST; Master File No. 07-cv-05944-JST

indirect purchasers.²⁶ Moreover, IPPs could prevail on liability and still obtain no net recovery given the large settlement offset (\$547,750,000) that would be applied as a result of the other settlements.²⁷ And, any jury award would also have to withstand appellate review. While IPPs remain confident in the strength of the evidence supporting their claims, a successful jury verdict remained a risky proposition. *See In re NASDAQ Mkt.-Makers Antitrust Litig.*, 187 F.R.D. 465, 475-76 (S.D.N.Y. 1998) ("[T]he history of antitrust litigation is replete with cases in which antitrust plaintiffs succeeded at trial on liability, but recovered no damages, or only negligible damages, at trial, or on appeal.").

Finally, even if IPPs were to win at every subsequent stage, continued litigation would delay recovery for years, in a case where the damage period already extends back twenty-five years. Settlement eliminates the risk of litigation, providing substantial and certain relief to the Settlement Class now. *AT&T Mobility Wireless Data Servs. Sales Litig., 270* F.R.D. 330, 347 (N.D. Ill. 2010) ("[A] future victory is not as valuable as a present victory"). In sum, the all-cash recovery of \$33,000,000 is a substantial result that avoids the meaningful risks IPPs faced at trial and on appeal.

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b. The Plan Of Distribution Is Fair, Adequate And Reasonable

Rule 23(e)(2)(C) also instructs courts to take into account the "effectiveness of any proposed method of distributing relief to the class, including the method of processing class-member claims." "Approval of a plan of allocation of settlement proceeds in a class action . . . is governed by the same standards of review applicable to approval of the settlement as a whole: the plan must be fair, reasonable and adequate." *Hefler v. Wells Fargo & Co., No.* 16-cv-05479-JST, 2018 WL 4207245, at *12 (N.D. Cal. Sept. 4, 2018) (citation omitted)); *see also In re CRT*, 2016 WL 3648478, at *11. A

^{23 &}lt;sup>26</sup> See, e.g., ECF Nos. 2012, 3050, 3585 & 3585 (motions relating to these issues filed by the other Defendants).

²⁷ Alioto Fee Decl. ¶ 46. In *LCD*, for example, the jury awarded the direct purchaser class plaintiffs
⁸⁸⁷ million in damages against Toshiba, but they recovered nothing because the award was offset by
their \$443 million obtained in settlements. Likewise, Best Buy recovered nothing at trial against
Toshiba and Hannstar. The jury found that Toshiba did not participate in the conspiracy and awarded
only \$7.5 million against Hannstar. Once Best Buy's settlements with the other defendants in *LCD*had been offset, Hannstar owed nothing to Best Buy. Likewise here, if IPPs had gone to trial against
Mitsubishi Electric, there would have been an offset of \$547,750,000. *Id.* ¶ 47.

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¹⁷ INDIRECT PURCHASER PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST; Master File No. 07-cv-05944-JST

plan of distribution that compensates class members based on the type and extent of their injuries is 1 2 generally considered reasonable. See id.

IPPs will use the same weighted pro rata distribution for the Settlement that the Court approved

IPP Counsel's Unopposed Attorneys' Fee Request Is Reasonable

A third factor to be considered under Rule 23(e)(2)(C) is "the terms of any proposed award of

At preliminary approval, IPPs informed the Court that they intended to request an attorney fee

Since then, IPPs have filed their motion for attorneys' fees requesting an award of \$11,000,000,

3 for the Prior Settlements,²⁸ and which the Court has preliminarily approved for this Settlement. ECF 4 5 No. 6104 \P 1(c). The Detailed Notice provided a detailed description of the Plan of Distribution, including how each claimant's pro rata share of the net settlement fund would be calculated, the 6 7 proposed \$10 minimum payment, instructions for how to file a claim, and a link to the Court-approved online Claim Form. Alioto Decl. ¶ 5; Fisher Decl., Exs. D & E (Detailed Notice). Millions of potential 8 9 claimants received direct notice of the Plan of Distribution, including many large corporations which are represented by counsel. Id. ¶ 16-20. To date, no objection to the proposed Plan of Distribution 10 has been received (Alioto Decl. ¶ 5), and nothing has changed since the Court's previous conclusions. 11 Thus, the Court should finally approve the Plan of Distribution. 12 13 14 15 attorney's fees, including timing of payment." Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(2)(C)(iii). 16 17 award of \$11,000,000, which together with the IPP Counsel's first fee award, would equate to 24.2% 18 of the total settlement fund, or one-third of the Mitsubishi Electric Settlement Fund. See ECF No. 6053 19 at 21. The Court concluded that "the reasonableness of the anticipated request for an award of 20 attorneys' fees and reimbursement of litigation expenses," supported the finding that the relief 21 provided for the Settlement Class is adequate. ECF No. $6104 \ \mbox{\tt l} 1(c)$. 22 23 or 24.2% of the total settlement fund. See generally ECF No. 6177. Pursuant to the Preliminary Approval Order, ECF No. 6104 ¶ 22, IPPs filed their motion with the Court on March 10, 2023 (ECF 24 25 No. 6177) and posted it to the website, www.CRTclaims.com, thirty-five (35) days before the deadline 26 27 28

c.

²⁸ ECF No. 5786 at 20 (adopting reasoning from original order approving the Prior Settlements).

for objections to give Class Members an opportunity to review the attorney fee motion and either support or file objections to it. Alioto Decl. ¶ 3. The motion is noticed for June 1, 2023, the same date as the final approval hearing.²⁹ To date, despite the comprehensive notice program—including direct mail, email and ECF notice to Prior Claimants, many of which are sophisticated corporate claimants represented by counsel—no one has objected to IPPs' fee motion, the request for reimbursement of litigation expenses, or the requested incentive awards for the Class Representatives. Alioto Decl. ¶ 4.

7 As demonstrated in IPPs' fee motion, the requested fee award is reasonable under the circumstances of this case. Together with the \$129,606,250 in attorneys' fees already awarded to IPP 8 9 Counsel, IPPs' proposed \$11,000,000 fee award would result in a total fee of \$140,606,250, which 10 constitutes 24.2% of the \$580,750,000 total settlement fund, and an overall multiplier of 1.735. As this Court has noted, the Ninth Circuit has set the "benchmark for an attorneys' fee award in a 11 successful class action [at] twenty-five percent of the entire common fund."³⁰ The Court also found 12 that a multiplier of 1.6 is "well within the range of acceptable multipliers." Id. at 24. Thus, IPPs' 13 requested fee would still be below the Ninth Circuit's 25% benchmark and would only increase the 14 15 already-approved multiplier by a small amount to 1.735—still well within the range of acceptable 16 multipliers. See, e.g., In re Hyundai & Kia Fuel Econ. Litig., 926 F.3d at 572 (affirming "modest" multipliers of 1.22 and 1.5521 and citing cases affirming multipliers up to 3.65). A lodestar cross-17 18 check also confirms the reasonableness of the requested fee award. See ECF No. 6177 at 28-32.

In the Preliminary Approval Order, the Court stated that it "will typically withhold between
10% and 25% of the attorney's fees granted at final approval until after the post-distribution
accounting has been filed. The final approval motion should specify what percentage class counsel
believes it is appropriate to withhold and why." ECF No. 6104 ¶ 27. This language is echoed by the
Court's Standing Order.³¹

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INDIRECT PURCHASER PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST; Master File No. 07-cv-05944-JST

²⁹ See Procedural Guidance, Final Approval (2) ("Regardless of when they are filed, requests for attorneys' fees must be noticed for the same date as the final approval hearing.").

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 ³⁰ ECF No. 5786 at 22-23 (quoting *Williams v. MGM-Pathe Commc 'ns Co.*, 129 F.3d 1026, 1027 (9th Cir. 1997)).

³¹ <u>Standing Order for All Civil Cases Before District Judge Jon S. Tigar (uscourts.gov)</u>.

¹⁹

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The Advisory Committee's Notes to Rule 23 provide that in some cases deferral of "some 1 portion" of an attorney fee award "may be appropriate" where the relief to the class is composed of "future payments" and "may not result in significant actual payments to class members."³² These concerns are not present here. This Settlement does not involve coupons or vouchers, and it is not a "claims made" settlement, wherein the settling defendant only pays the claims that are made. In such cases, it makes sense to defer the award of attorneys' fees until after the claims process so that the 7 court knows the value of the settlement. Here, the value of the Settlement is known—it is an all-cash settlement for \$33 million, which was paid into escrow by Mitsubishi Electric in 2017 and has been 8 earning interest for the benefit of the Settlement Class since then. In addition, most of the claimants 9 are already known because Prior Claimants' valid claims were automatically submitted against this 10 11 Settlement.³³ Thus, their claims have already been vetted and approved by the Claims Administrator.

Moreover, these Prior Claimants have recently cashed their checks from the Prior Settlements so there is little concern that they will not cash their checks for this Settlement. To date, claimants in the Prior Settlements have cashed \$402,666,291.52 of the \$410,503,806.60 net settlement fund available for distribution, with 21,114 checks remaining uncashed.³⁴ Because the residual is less than \$12 million, it will be distributed to Late Claimants whose claims in the Prior Settlements were

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²⁰ ³² See Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(h), Advisory Committee's Notes to 2003 Amendment ("In many instances, the court may need to proceed with care in assessing the value conferred on class members. Settlement 21 regimes that provide for future payments, for example, may not result in significant actual payments 22 to class members. In this connection, the court may need to scrutinize the manner and operation of any applicable claims procedure. In some cases, it may be appropriate to defer some portion of the fee 23 award until actual payouts to class members are known. Settlements involving nonmonetary provisions for class members also deserve careful scrutiny to ensure that these provisions have actual 24 value to the class. On occasion the court's Rule 23(e) review will provide a solid basis for this sort of evaluation, but in any event it is also important to assessing the fee award for the class."). 25

³³ Only valid claims by end user claimants were submitted in this Settlement; reseller claims were 26 excluded because resellers are not included in the Settlement Class. Fisher Decl. ¶ 28.

²⁷ ³⁴ Fisher Decl. ¶ 30. A \$10 million reserve fund was withheld from high-value claims, with remaining amounts to be distributed at the conclusion of the administration process. ECF No. 6040 ¶ 14. 28

INDIRECT PURCHASER PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST; Master File No. 07-cv-05944-JST

discounted by 50%.³⁵ Accordingly, this is not a case where the Court need be concerned that anything other than a *de minimis* portion of the net settlement fund will remain unclaimed. Alioto Decl. ¶ 6.

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Deferral of a portion of the attorneys' fees could also be appropriate if there is a concern that, once paid, class counsel may no longer be incentivized to serve the class through final distribution. Here again, there is no basis for concern. IPP Counsel are well-funded, experienced class action litigators who are continuing to prosecute this case against the Irico Defendants. In this case and others, they have served the Class's interests through final distribution with no need for deferral of fees. Indeed, IPP Counsel filed the motion to distribute the net settlement fund for the Prior Settlements to claimants *within ten days* of the United States Supreme Court's denial of certiorari and the Prior Settlements becoming final.³⁶ The same will be true here – IPP Counsel will devote whatever time is necessary to ensure the distribution is completed accurately and in a timely fashion. Alioto Decl. ¶ 7.

12 However, the post-distribution accounting is dependent upon the completion of the claims 13 processing, which is largely beyond the control of IPP Counsel. Claims processing is handled primarily by the Claims Administrator. It is not uncommon for issues to arise between the Claims 14 15 Administrator and claimants that delay the completion of claims processing. Oftentimes, large 16 claimants and large groups of claimants are represented by claims aggregators and counsel. That is the 17 case here. It is also not uncommon for such claimants to litigate (and appeal) claims determinations, 18 further delaying completion of the claims process. For example, in this Action, claims aggregators objected to the treatment of late claims in the Prior Settlements necessitating mediations before Special 19 20 Master Walker and Judge Corley. ECF Nos. 5296 & 5715. As to matters within their control, IPP 21 Counsel have every incentive to complete the claims process as soon as possible since counsel will 22 continue to incur fees and expenses in claims processing, which usually go uncompensated. Alioto 23 Decl. ¶ 8.

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21 INDIRECT PURCHASER PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION

^{26 &}lt;sup>35</sup> ECF No. 6040 ¶ 8. Late Claimants' claims were automatically submitted in the Settlement and are therefore timely and will be paid in full.

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 ³⁶ Compare ECF No. 6023 with ECF No. 6025 (IPPs' Motion for Order Appointing Fund Administrator and Authorizing Distribution of Settlement Funds).

The case could be made—based on the foregoing, IPP Counsel's performance, and the results achieved to date—that the Court should not withhold a portion of the attorney fee award. If, however, the Court is inclined to do so, IPP Counsel believes that the withholding should be no more than 5%.

d. **Other Related Agreements**

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(2)(C)(iv), IPPs disclosed in the motion for preliminary approval³⁷ agreements whereby certain objectors voluntarily dismissed their appeals of the original settlements in March and April 2018 in exchange for monetary consideration to be paid by IPP Counsel from their attorney fee award. These agreements also provided that the objectors would not object to this Settlement.³⁸ No payment is due to the objectors until all fee proceedings relating to the Prior Settlements are final,³⁹ at which time Lead Counsel will present these agreements to the Court.

4. The Settlement Treats Class Members Equitably

Rule 23(e)(2)(D) requires that the Court consider whether the Settlement "treats class members" equitably relative to each other." Matters of concern for the Court may include "whether the apportionment of relief among class members takes appropriate account of differences among their claims." Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(2) 2018 Advisory Committee Notes.

Here, the Settlement provides for a lump-sum cash payment to the Settlement Class. ECF No. 6053-1, Ex A, ¶ 25. The Settlement's terms do not distinguish between class members in any way and treat all class members equally. All Class Members are entitled to file claims to receive their pro-rata share of the Settlement, and IPPs propose to distribute the settlement funds to Class Members according to the same weighted pro-rata distribution that this Court already examined and approved as fair, adequate, and reasonable in connection with the Prior Settlements. See ECF No. 5786 at 21 (quoting In re Omnivision Techs., Inc., No. C-04-2297 SC, 2007 WL 4293467, at *7 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 6, 2007)) ("It is reasonable to allocate the settlement funds to class members based on . . . the strength of

³⁷ See ECF No. 6053 at 22-23; see also ECF Nos. 5587 at 9; 6001 at 5, n.5.

³⁸ ECF No. 6053-1 (Alioto Decl.) ¶¶ 62-63, Exs. B - E (copies of objector settlement agreements).

³⁹ This Court's Order approving the allocation of the aggregate fee award, ECF No. 6078, has been appealed by settlement objectors Cooper & Kirkham, P.C. and the Law Offices of Francis O. Scarpulla. See ECF Nos. 6079, 6080, 6081. Thus, the fee proceedings are not yet final.

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INDIRECT PURCHASER PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST; Master File No. 07-cv-05944-JST

their claims on the merits."). In addition, class representatives will be treated no differently than absent class members. While IPPs have sought modest \$2,000 incentive award for the Class Representatives, and no one has objected to the proposed awards, any such award will be within the Court's discretion.

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5. There Are No Objections To The Settlement Or The Attorney Fee Request

In ruling on final approval of a class action settlement, the Court should also consider "the reaction of the class members of the proposed settlement." In re Online DVD-Rental Antitrust Litig., 779 F.3d at 944 (quoting Churchill Vill., L.L.C. v. Gen. Elec., 361 F.3d at 575). Here, as noted, there 8 are no objections to the Settlement or the attorney fee request. The Court should give this factor more weight than usual because large numbers of claimants in this case are represented by claims 10 aggregators, each with their own separate counsel, or are represented directly by their own counsel. These claimants represent approximately 95% of the dollar value of all claims in the Prior Settlements 12 and will likely represent a similar percentage in this Settlement. See Fisher Decl. ¶ 29. These claimants 13 have had extensive contact with IPP Lead Counsel through their counsel, have formally appeared and 14 filed motions and other briefs in the case,⁴⁰ and have participated in mediations before the Hon. 15 Vaughn Walker (Ret.) and the Hon. Jacqueline Scott Corley on a wide variety of issues. See ECF Nos. 16 5296 & 5715. Indeed, IPP Lead Counsel provided the settlement papers to counsel for these claimants 17 in advance of the formal notice. In addition, they received direct formal notice via mail and/or email, 18 and their counsel was served with all filings via the Court's ECF system. Alioto Decl. ¶ 10.

19 Thus, approximately 95% of the total prior claims by value are represented by informed counsel who have no objection to this Settlement or the fee request. This should weigh strongly in favor of final approval of the Settlement and the fee request.

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6. The Settlement Satisfies This District's Procedural Guidance

As noted, this District's Procedural Guidance provides that "[t]he motion for final approval briefing should include information about the number of undeliverable class notices and claim packets, the number of class members who submitted valid claims, the number of class members who opted

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⁴⁰ See, e.g., ECF Nos. 5252, 5256, 5269, 5588, 5608, 5609, 5696, 5697, 5698, 5706.

out, and the number of class members who objected to or commented on the settlement. In addition, the motion for final approval should respond to any objections."

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The Number Of Undeliverable Class Notices And Claim Packets

The Claims Administrator mailed or emailed notice directly to 84,571 Prior Claimants, of which 3,556 bounced or were returned undeliverable. Fisher Decl. ¶¶ 17-18. In addition, 54,098 claimants representing 95% of the value of all prior claims were reached indirectly via their third-party representative or legal counsel, none of which were returned. Id. ¶ 16 & 18. The Claims Administrator also mailed the notice directly to 1,755 large businesses, academic institutions, and hospitals, of which 71 were returned undeliverable. Id. ¶ 19. Direct email notice was sent to a list of approximately 12.9 million email addresses for consumers and small businesses with a high interest in computers, consumer electronics, and televisions, resulting in a deliverability rate of 94%. Id. ¶ 20.

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b. The Number Of Valid Claims To Date

After reviewing and auditing the claims received in the Prior Settlements, the Settlement Administrator ultimately approved a total of 143,373 valid claims for purchases of 95,277,199 CRT Products, representing 273,146,112 CRT Weighted Units. See ECF No. 6031. All eligible end-user claims (resellers are not included in this Settlement Class) were automatically submitted in this Settlement and the claimants will receive their pro rata share of the Settlement.

18 The deadline to file a claim against the Settlement is June 13, 2023. As of May 3, 2023, the Claims Administrator has received 1,022,192 new claim submissions, of which 135,130 have passed 20 an initial screening for validity. Fisher Decl. ¶ 30. To date, the Claims Administrator has identified 9,515 duplicate claims and 640,902 potentially invalid claims, as well as an additional 225,310 claims 22 that warrant further review. Id. & ¶¶ 31-32. After the claims deadline passes and at the conclusion of 23 its claims review, the Settlement Administrator will propose, for the Court's review and approval, 24 appropriate processes for managing and excluding invalid claim submissions. Fisher Decl. ¶ 33.

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The Number Of Opt Outs c.

The Claims Administrator received one opt out request from one individual: Ali Ratzel of Jefferson City, Missouri. Fisher Decl. ¶ 25.

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d. The Number Of Objections Or Comments On The Settlement

To date, no objections or comments on the Settlement have been received or filed with the Court. Alioto Decl. ¶ 11; Fisher Decl. ¶ 26.

IV. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

IPPs respectfully request that the Court enter an Order: (1) finally approving the Settlement; (2) certifying the Settlement Class; (3) finally approving the Notice Plan as complying with due process and Rule 23, and constituting "the best notice practicable under the circumstances"; (4) appointing Trump, Alioto, Trump & Prescott, LLP as Settlement Class Counsel; and (5) appointing the Named Plaintiffs as Settlement Class Representatives for their respective state classes.

IPPs also respectfully request that the Court grant IPPs' unopposed motion for attorneys' fees, reimbursement of expenses and incentive awards for the Class Representatives, ECF No. 6177, and award IPP Counsel attorneys' fees in the amount of \$11,000,000 plus interest, \$13,122.10 in reimbursement of expenses, and \$2,000 to each of the Settlement Class Representatives for their time and effort representing the Class throughout the litigation.

16	16 Dated: May 11, 2023 Respect	fully submitted,
17		<i>io N. Alioto</i> J. Alioto (56433)
18	18 malioto	<u>@tatp.com</u>
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23	23 Lead Co	ounsel for the Indirect Purchaser Plaintiffs
24	24	
25	25	
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	INDIRECT PURCHASER PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MC CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH MIT Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST; Mast	SUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION

Case 4:07-cv-05944-JST Document 6192-:	1 Filed 05/11/23 Page 1 of 4
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA	
OAKLAND DIVISION	
ANTITRUST LITIGATION	Master File No. 07-cv-05944-JST Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST
	MDL No. 1917
This Document Relates to:	DECLARATION OF MARIO N. ALIOTO IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR FINAL
Luscher, et al. v. Mitsubishi Electric Corp., 17-cv-04067-JST	APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI
	ELECTRIC CORPORATION
	Hearing Date: June 1, 2023 Time: 2:00 p.m.
	Courtroom: 6, 2nd Floor (via Zoom) Judge: Honorable Jon S. Tigar
1	
	MARIO N. ALIOTO (56433) LAUREN C. CAPURRO (241151) TRUMP, ALIOTO, TRUMP & PRESCOTT, L 2001 Union Street, Suite 482 San Francisco, CA 94123 Telephone: (415) 563-7200 Facsimile: (415) 346-0679 E-mail: malioto@tatp.com laurenrussell@tatp.com Lead Counsel for the Indirect Purchaser Plaint UNITED STATES NORTHERN DISTR OAKLAN IN RE: CATHODE RAY TUBE (CRT) ANTITRUST LITIGATION This Document Relates to: Luscher, et al. v. Mitsubishi Electric Corp.,

I, Mario N. Alioto, declare:

I am an attorney duly licensed by the State of California and am admitted to practice
 before this Court. I am a partner with the law firm Trump, Alioto, Trump & Prescott, LLP and my
 firm serves as the Court-appointed Lead Counsel for the Indirect Purchaser Plaintiffs ("IPPs") in
 the above-captioned action. I submit this Declaration in support of the IPPs' Motion for Final
 Approval of Class Action Settlement with Defendant Mitsubishi Electric Corporation ("Mitsubishi
 Electric"), filed herewith. The matters set forth herein are within my personal knowledge and if
 called upon and sworn as a witness I could competently testify regarding them.

9 2. The Notices advised Class Members that IPPs intended to apply for attorneys' fees
10 in the amount of one-third of the Settlement Fund (\$11,000,000), notice costs, litigation expenses,
11 and \$2,000 incentive awards for each of the Class Representatives. The Notices further advised
12 how to access the fee petition when it was filed.

My firm filed IPPs' attorney fee motion on March 10, 2023 (ECF No. 6177), and
 the Settlement Administrator posted it to the settlement website, <u>www.CRTclaims.com</u>, that same
 day, which was 35 days before the deadline to object. This gave Class Members an opportunity to
 review the attorney fee motion and either support or file objections to it.

4. To date, no Class Member has objected to IPP Counsel's attorney fee request, the
reimbursement of \$13,122.10 in expenses, or the \$2,000 incentive awards for each Class
Representative.

5. The Detailed Notice provided a detailed description of the Plan of Distribution,
including how each claimant's pro rata share of the net settlement fund would be calculated, the
proposed \$10 minimum payment, instructions for how to file a claim, and a link to the Courtapproved online Claim Form. To date, no objection to the Plan of Distribution has been received.

6. Even though the claims proceeding is ongoing, many of the claimants in this
Settlement are already known because Prior Claimants' valid claims were automatically submitted
against this Settlement. Thus, their claims have already been vetted and approved by the Claims
Administrator. These Prior Claimants have recently been paid from the Prior Settlements so there
is little concern that they will not cash their checks for this Settlement. I am informed and believe

DECLARATION OF MARIO N. ALIOTO IN SUPPORT OF INDIRECT PURCHASER PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST; Master File No. 07-cv-05944-JST; MDL No. 1917 1 that, to date, claimants in the Prior Settlements have cashed \$402,666,291.52 of the 2 \$410,503,806.60 net settlement fund available for distribution, with 21,114 checks remaining 3 uncashed. Because the residual is less than \$12 million, it will be distributed to Late Claimants 4 whose claims in the Prior Settlements were discounted by 50%.¹ Accordingly, this is not a case 5 where the Court need be concerned that anything other than a *de minimis* portion of the net 6 settlement fund will remain unclaimed.

7 7. My firm and my co-counsel firms are well-funded, experienced class action litigators that are continuing to prosecute this case against the remaining Irico Defendants. In this 8 9 case and others, we have served the Class's interests through final distribution with no need for 10 deferral of fees. Indeed, my firm filed the motion to distribute the net settlement fund for the Prior 11 Settlements to claimants within ten days of the United States Supreme Court's denial of certiorari and the Prior Settlements becoming final.² The same will be true here – I and my co-counsel will 12 13 devote whatever time is necessary to ensure the distribution is completed accurately and in a timely 14 fashion.

15 8. Post-distribution accounting is dependent upon the completion of the claims processing, which—in my experience—is largely beyond the control of IPP Counsel. Claims 16 17 processing is handled primarily by the Claims Administrator. It is not uncommon for issues to arise 18 between the Claims Administrator and claimants that delay the completion of claims processing. 19 Oftentimes, large claimants and large groups of claimants are represented by claims aggregators and counsel. That is the case here. It is also not uncommon for such claimants to litigate (and 20 21 appeal) claims determinations, further delaying completion of the claims process. For example, in 22 this Action, claims aggregators objected to the treatment of late claims in the Prior Settlements 23 necessitating mediations before Special Master Walker and Judge Corley. See ECF Nos. 5296 &

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²⁶ ECF No. 6040 ¶ 8. Late Claimants' claims were automatically submitted in the Settlement and are therefore timely and will be paid in full.

 ^{27 27} Compare ECF No. 6023 with ECF No. 6025 (IPPs' Motion for Order Appointing Fund Administrator and Authorizing Distribution of Settlement Funds).

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1	5715. As to matters within our control, my co-counsel and I have every incentive to complete the		
2	claims process as soon as possible since we will continue to incur fees and expenses in claims		
3	processing, which usually go uncompensated.		
4	9. If the Court is inclined to withhold a portion of IPP Counsel's fee award, I believe		
5	that the withholding should be no more than 5%.		
6	10. My co-counsel and I have had extensive contact with certain Prior Claimants and		
7	claims aggregators through their counsel. Their counsel have formally appeared and filed motions		
8	and other briefs in the case, ³ and have participated in mediations before the Hon. Vaughn Walker		
9	(Ret.) and the Hon. Jacqueline Scott Corley on a wide variety of issues. See ECF Nos. 5296 &		
10	5715. I provided the settlement papers to counsel for these claimants in advance of the formal		
11	notice. In addition, they received direct formal notice via mail and/or email, and their counsel were		
12	served with all filings via the Court's ECF system.		
13	11. To date, no objections or comments on the Settlement have been received or filed		
14	with the Court.		
15			
16	I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this		
17	11th day of May 2023 at San Francisco, California.		
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19	/s/ Mario N. Alioto		
20	Mario N. Alioto		
21	Lead Counsel for the Indirect Purchaser Plaintiffs		
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28	³ See, e.g., ECF Nos. 5252, 5256, 5269, 5588, 5608, 5609, 5696, 5697, 5698, 5706.		
	DECLARATION OF MARIO N. ALIOTO IN SUPPORT OF INDIRECT PURCHASER PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST; Master File No. 07-cv-05944-JST; MDL No. 1917		

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Mario N. Alioto (56433) Lauren C. Capurro (241151) TRUMP, ALIOTO, TRUMP & PRESCOTT 2001 Union Street, Suite 482 San Francisco, CA 94123 Telephone: 415-563-7200 Facsimile: 415- 346-0679 Email: <u>malioto@tatp.com</u> <u>laurenrussell@tatp.com</u> <i>Lead Counsel for the</i> <i>Indirect Purchaser Plaintiffs</i>	LLP
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9		TES DISTRICT COURT
10		STRICT OF CALIFORNIA
11	OAKLAND DIVISION	
12 13	IN RE: CATHODE RAY TUBE (CRT) ANTITRUST LITIGATION	MASTER FILE NO. 4:07-cv-5944-JST Case No.: 4:17-cv-04067-JST
14 15	This Document Relates to:	MDL NO. 1917
16	Luscher, et al. v. Mitsubishi Electric Corp., No. 4:17-cv-04067-JST	DECLARATION OF JOSEPH M. FISHER RE: MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC NOTICE PROGRAM AND CLAIMS
17		ADMINISTRATION
18		Hearing Date: June 1, 2023 Time: 2:00 p.m.
19		Courtroom: 5, 2 nd Floor Judge: Honorable Jon S. Tigar
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		MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC NOTICE PROGRAM AND CLAIMS – Master File No. 4:07-cv-5944-JST

I, Joseph M. Fisher, declare:

INTRODUCTION

1. Identification. I am the president of The Notice Company, Inc., a Massachusetts corporation with offices at 94 Station Street, Hingham, MA 02043 ("The Notice Company" or "Settlement Administrator"). The Notice Company is principally engaged in the administration of class action settlements and lawsuits pending in courts around the United States, including the dissemination of notice to class members, administering the claims process, and distributing the proceeds of the litigation to the class. I have over 19 years of experience assisting attorneys with class action notices and claims administration. I am also a member in good standing of the bars of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Virginia. I am over 21 years of age and not a party to this action. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth 12 herein and, if called as a witness, could and would testify thereto under oath.

13 2. Purpose of Declaration. On October 31, 2022, the Court approved the Notice Plan and 14 appointed The Notice Company as the Settlement and Claims Administrator. Order Granting 15 Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement with Defendant Mitsubishi Electric Corporation 16 ("Preliminary Approval Order", ECF 6104). This Declaration confirms the implementation of the Notice Program for the proposed settlement with Mitsubishi Electric Corporation ("Mitsubishi 17 18 Electric") as authorized by the Court and reports on exclusion requests and claims.

19 3. Settlement Class. For purposes of the proposed Settlement, the Court determined that 20 it is likely to be able to certify a "Settlement Class" defined as follows:

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- All persons or entities who or which indirectly purchased in an Indirect Purchaser a. Jurisdiction,¹ other than Missouri, Montana, and Rhode Island, for their own use and not for resale, CRTs or CRT Products manufactured and/or sold by any Mitsubishi
- 25 ¹ "Indirect Purchaser Jurisdictions," as defined in Paragraph 5 of the Settlement Agreement, means: Arizona, Arkansas, California, District of Columbia, Florida, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, 26 Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South 27 Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. See Preliminary Approval Order ¶ 2.a at note 1. 28

DECLARATION OF JOSEPH M. FISHER RE: MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC NOTICE PROGRAM AND CLAIMS ADMINISTRATION - Master File No. 4:07-cv-5944-JST

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Electric Releasee, or any Alleged Co-Conspirator, where such purchase took place during the following time periods:

2		during the following time periods:
3		i. From March 1, 1995 through November 25, 2007 for purchases in Arizona,
4		Arkansas, California, District of Columbia, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Maine,
5		Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New
6		Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, South Carolina,
7		South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wisconsin;
8		ii. From June 25, 2002 through November 25, 2007 for purchases in Hawaii;
9		iii. From July 20, 2002 through November 25, 2007 for purchases in Nebraska;
10		iv. From February 4, 1999 through November 25, 2007 for purchases in Nevada;
11	b.	All persons who or which indirectly purchased in Missouri from March 1, 1995 through
12		November 25, 2007, for their own use and not for resale, and primarily for personal,
13		family or household purposes, CRTs or CRT Products manufactured and/or sold by
14		any Mitsubishi Electric Releasee, or any Alleged Co-Conspirator;
15	c.	All persons who or which indirectly purchased in Montana from March 1, 1995 through
16		November 25, 2007, for their own use and not for resale, and primarily for personal,
17		family or household purposes, CRTs or CRT Products manufactured and/or sold by
18		any Mitsubishi Electric Releasee, or any Alleged Co-Conspirator; and
19	d.	All natural persons who indirectly purchased in Rhode Island from March 1, 1995
20		through November 25, 2007, for their own use and not for resale, and primarily for
21		personal, family, or household purposes, CRTs or CRT Products manufactured and/or
22		sold by any Mitsubishi Electric Releasee, or any Alleged Co-Conspirator;
23	e.	Specifically excluded from the Settlement Class are Mitsubishi Electric Releasees,
24		Alleged Co-Conspirators, any federal, state or local government entities, and any
25		judicial officer presiding over this action and the members of his/her immediate family
26		and judicial staff.
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NOTICE PROGRAM RESULTS

4. <u>Summary</u>. In the *Declaration of Joseph M. Fisher Re: Mitsubishi Notice Program*("Fisher Declaration-2022," ECF 6059-1) filed on August 23, 2022, I proposed a Notice Program in
compliance with Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure ("FRCP 23") that consisted of the
following elements:

- (a) Settlement Website;
 - (b) Digital Media;
 - (c) Print Media;
 - (d) Press Release;
- (e) Magazine eNewsletters;
 - (f) Cable Television; and
 - (f) Direct Notice by mail and email;

The proposed Notice Program was designed to reach a high percentage of the Target Audience² across
 multiple channels.³ As implemented, the Notice Program delivered a calculated reach of 87% with an
 average frequency of 3.02.⁴

5. <u>Prior Settlements</u>. As described below, the Notice Program for the Settlement with
Mitsubishi Electric included a direct outreach to those members of the Settlement Class who had
previously been identified in connection with the prior settlements with Chunghwa, LG, Hitachi,
Panasonic, Philips, Samsung, Toshiba, Thomson and TDA involving indirect purchasers of CRT
products (collectively the "Prior Settlements"). Claimants in the Prior Settlements are referred to as
"Prior Claimants".

 $[\]begin{bmatrix} 23 \\ 24 \end{bmatrix}$ ² The Target Audience is a qualitative target of adults 35 years and older in the United States that own a television or computer. Fisher Declaration-2022 at ¶ 9.

 ³ Fisher Declaration-2022 at ¶ 31. The Notice Company was assisted by Postlethwaite & Netterville, APAC, including Brandon Schwartz, its Director of Notice, in the Notice Program's development and implementation.

⁴ This reach exceeds the standard set out by the Federal Judicial Center, which states that a notice plan that reaches at least 70% of class members is one that reaches a "high percentage" and is within the "norm." Barbara J. Rothstein & Thomas E. Willging, Federal Judicial Center, "Managing Class Action Litigation: A Pocket Guide or Judges," at 27 (3d ed. 2010).

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Settlement Website

6. Updated Website. On February 8, 2023, the Settlement Administrator updated the existing website for the Prior Settlements, at <u>www.CRTClaims.com</u> ("Settlement Website"), to focus on the Mitsubishi Electric Settlement, while retaining key updates and documents for the Prior 4 5 Settlements. The Settlement Website provides information about the Settlement and the Plan of Distribution, including key dates, the class definition, guidance on how to file a claim (including the 6 option to submit a claim online), guidance on how to exclude/opt-out of the Settlement and how to 7 object to the Settlement, information on attending the Fairness Hearing, answers to Frequently Asked 9 Questions (FAQs), Spanish translation documents, and contact information for the Settlement 10 Administrator. A copy of the Settlement Website's home page is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

11 7. Website Documents. The Settlement Website provides access to several documents, 12 including the Summary (Short-Form) Notice of Settlement in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B 13 (English) and Exhibit C (Spanish), Detailed (Long-Form) Notice of Settlement in the form attached 14 hereto as Exhibit D (English) and Exhibit E (Spanish), mail-in Claim Form and Instructions for 15 Individuals (Natural Persons) in the form attached hereto as Exhibit F (English) and Exhibit G 16 (Spanish), and mail-in Claim Form and Instructions for Businesses in the form attached hereto as 17 Exhibit H (English) and Exhibit I (Spanish). Also available on the Settlement Website are the Motion 18 for Preliminary Approval (ECF 6053), Order Granting Preliminary Approval (ECF 6104) and 19 Stipulation and Order Extending Deadline to Publish Notice (ECF 6114). On March 10, 2023, the 20 Motion for Award of Attorneys' Fees, Reimbursement of Litigation Expenses, and Incentive Awards 21 to Class Representatives (ECF 6177) was posted to the Settlement Website. A copy of the Settlement 22 Website's page for Settlement Documents is attached hereto as Exhibit J.

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8. Website Visits. For the period commencing on February 8, 2023, when the Settlement Website began to focus on the Mitsubishi Electric Settlement, through May 3, 2023, the Settlement Website has been visited by 1,228,574 unique visitors who made 5,395,698 page views.⁵

²⁷ ⁵ The Settlement Website's home page focuses on the Settlement with Mitsubishi Electric, although visitors may click through to obtain information on the Prior Settlements as well. 28

Paid Media - Digital

2 9. Digital Campaign. Beginning on February 8, 2023, and continuing through March 15, 3 2023, the Settlement Administrator caused digital media notices to run across Google Display Network, Yahoo!, Facebook, YouTube, LinkedIn, and AARP as well as search ads on Google.com. 4 The digital notices were targeted to the Target Audience⁶ and allowed website visitors to identify 5 themselves as potential Class Members and click through to the Settlement Website. In addition, 6 7 digital banner notices were translated into Spanish and served to users that chose Spanish as their 8 preferred browser language and/or appeared on language appropriate websites. More than 471,570,000 9 impressions were generated during the campaign, which is substantially consistent with anticipated total impressions.⁷ 10

Table 1: Summary of Digital Media		
	Expected Impressions	Actual Impressions
Google Display Network	186,200,000	193,717,521
Yahoo	67,800,000	61,203,208
Facebook	127,000,000	122,170,359
LinkedIn	29,000,000	30,216,189
YouTube	63,000,000	61,387,593
Google Ads	TBD	85,531
AARP	754,000	2,791,839
Total:	473,754,000	471,572,240

Screenshots of the digital media notices are attached as Exhibit K.

Paid Media - Print

10. <u>Print Publications</u>. The Settlement Administrator originally proposed publication of Summary Notice in two magazines: *People* Magazine and *Readers Digest*.⁸ In order to accommodate publishers' ad-submission schedules and to enhance the Notice Program, a third major print

²⁶ ⁶ Digital media audiences were targeted as described in the Fisher Declaration-2022 at ¶17.

⁷ See Fisher Declaration-2022 at ¶¶ 17 to 23.

 $_{28}$ || ⁸ Fisher Declaration-2022 at ¶¶ 24 to 26.

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publication was added: Us Weekly. On February 10, 2023, the Settlement Administrator caused the
Summary Notice to appear in People Magazine and Us Weekly.⁹ On April 18, 2023, the Settlement
Administrator caused the Summary Notice to appear in Readers Digest.¹⁰ A copy of the print notice
as it appeared in each publication is attached hereto as Exhibit L. Table 2 below summarizes the
circulation and readership of these print publications.¹¹

Table 2: Summary of Print Publications		
Magazine	Circulation	Readership
People	2,500,000	25,393,000
Us Weekly	1,950,000	7,052,000
Readers Digest	3,000,000	14,200,000

Press Release

11. <u>National Distribution</u>. On February 13, 2023, the Settlement Administrator disseminated a nationwide release in English and Spanish over Cision's PR Newswire US1 & National Hispanic Newsline. The press release was also distributed across Cision's consumer electronics microlist of influencers and posted on Cision's Twitter feed focused on consumer electronics. The release resulted in 457 pickups by media outlets and a total potential audience of 203,600,000. A copy of the release in English and Spanish as well as the visibility report is attached hereto as Exhibit M.

⁹ Summary Notice was published in the February 20, 2023, edition of *People* Magazine and *Us Weekly*, which were on sale to the public as of February 10, 2023.

 ¹⁰ Summary Notice appeared in the May edition of *Readers Digest* which was available to the public on April 18, 2023. *Readers Digest* did not publish a stand-alone April 2023 edition. Instead, it earlier published a combined March-April edition with a December closing date for advertising submissions that preceded our submission of the Summary Notice. Thus, notice publication in *Readers Digest* was helpful for promoting claim submissions by Class Members but did not factor into my analysis for informing Class Members of their exclusion and objection rights.

 ¹¹ Circulation refers to the number of copies of the magazine that are distributed. Readership refers to the number of people who read the magazine. The readership number is an estimate of how many hands a copy of the magazine goes into. For example, if a household subscribes to a magazine, it is read by multiple people in that household.

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Magazine eNewsletters

12. <u>Digital Dissemination</u>. Commencing on February 13, 2023, the Settlement Administrator disseminated notice through the digital newsletter publications of *Dotdash Meredith* (magazine titles include *Better Homes & Gardens* and *Southern Living*), *Golf Magazine*, and *Kiplinger*.

13. Digital Program. Notice in *DotDash Meredith* digital newsletter was provided by a 6 7 custom email and was sent to an average opt-in audience of 252,857 over seven newsletters. Notice in 8 Golf Magazine digital newsletter was provided by 300x250, 970x250, and 300x600 ad units as well 9 as a companion digital banner in the same ad sizes that ran on www.golfmagazine.com. In total, 10 1,008,404 impressions ran over a one-month period across all channels. Notice in *Kiplinger* ran four 11 times in *Kiplinger Today* and three times in *A Step Ahead* digital newsletters for a total of seven 12 insertions. Notice was provided by custom created content alongside a 600x400 image and was sent 13 to an average opt-in audience of 600,547 and 603,192 for Kiplinger Today and A Step Ahead, 14 respectively.

15 14. <u>Screenshots</u>. Screenshots of the digital newsletter notices and companion banners are
16 attached hereto as Exhibit N.

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Cable Television

18 15. <u>TV Ads</u>. Beginning on February 13, 2023 and continuing through March 3, 2023, the
19 Settlement Administrator caused notice via television ads on cable TV networks including MSNBC,
20 Hallmark, The Weather Channel, COMET, and The Action Channel, among others. The cable
21 television ads aired 604 times, which was 500 more airings than originally anticipated.¹²

Direct Notice

16. <u>Direct Notice to Claimant Representatives</u>. On February 10, 2023, the Settlement
 Administrator sent the Summary Notice to 68 representatives from third-party claim submission
 companies or law firms that had contacted the Settlement Administrator in connection with the Prior
 Settlements. Claims received from such entities accounted for approximately 95% of the dollar value

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 1^{12} See Fisher Declaration-2022 at ¶ 30.

of all claims submitted by claimants in the Prior Settlements. Summary Notice was sent via email
 substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit O, which included directions for notice distribution
 by the third-party claim submission companies and law firms to their respective clients.

17. <u>Direct Notice to Claimants in the Prior Settlements</u>. Commencing on March 1, 2023,
and continuing through March 10, 2023, the Settlement Administrator sent the Summary Notice in the
form attached hereto as Exhibit P, or the Email Notice in the form attached hereto as Exhibit Q, to all
other persons and businesses who had submitted indirect purchaser claims in the Prior Settlements.
The Email Notice was used when an email address was available for the claimant. The Summary
Notice was mailed when email addresses were not available or when an attempted email was returned
as undeliverable.

11 18. <u>Summary of Direct Notice</u>. Table 3 below summarizes the results of the direct notice
12 sent to Prior Claimants.

Description	Volume of Notices
	Sent (#)
Email Notice - Prior Claimar	nts
Total Email Notices Sent	64,083
Total Email Notices Delivered	62,519
Total Email Notices Bounced/Undeliverable	1,564
Mail Notice - Prior Claiman	ts
Total Notices Mailed	20,488
Total Notices Delivered	18,496
Total Notices Returned as Undeliverable	1,992
Direct Notice Program Reach – Prior	Claimants
Received Direct Notice	81,015
Did Not Receive Direct Notice	3,556

In addition to the totals reported above, 54,098 Prior Claimants were reached indirectly via their third party representative or legal counsel.¹³

19. <u>Direct Notice by Mail: Compiled Lists of Businesses and Organizations</u>. Commencing

on March 10, 2023, the Settlement Administrator sent the Summary Notice in postcard format,

 $28 ||^{13} See \P 16, supra.$

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substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit R, to the businesses, academic institutions and 2 hospitals identified as follows:¹⁴

3 Every Fortune 500 Company for each year from 1995 to 2007; (a) 4 (b) 406 largest Private Colleges and Universities in the United States located in the 5 Indirect Purchaser Jurisdictions: (c) 666 largest Private Schools (secondary schools) in the United States located in the 6 7 Indirect Purchaser Jurisdictions; and 8 (d) 48 largest Hospitals in the United States (not owned by any federal, state or local 9 governmental entity) located in the Indirect Purchaser Jurisdictions. 10 The results of this direct-notice outreach is summarized in Table 4 below. 11 Table 4: Summary of Direct Notice by Mail to Compiled List of Businesses and **Organizations** 12 Volume Percentage Description of Notices of Notices 13 Sent (#) Sent (%) Total Notices Mailed 100.0% 1.755 14 **Total Notices Delivered** 1,550 88.3% 15 205 Total Notices Returned as Undeliverable 11.7% 16 20. Direct Notice by Email: Lists of Small Businesses and Consumers: The Settlement 17 Administrator identified a list of email addresses for small business owners (businesses typically 18 ranging from five to twenty-five employees) consisting of 673,041 entries, and a list of consumers 19 aged 30 and older with a high interest in computers, consumer electronics, and televisions comprised 20 of 13,711,043 entries.¹⁵ The combined email list totaled approximately 14.3 million. As a first step, 21 the Settlement Administrator "scrubbed" the list to improve deliverability by removing emails that 22 could readily be identified as bad,¹⁶ resulting in an email list of approximately 12.9 million. The 23 24 ¹⁴ See Fisher Declaration-2022 at ¶ 13. Before mailing, the lists were processed to remove entities that otherwise were receiving notice as Prior Claimants.

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¹⁵ Fisher Declaration-2022 at \P 14 & 15.

²⁶ ¹⁶ The Emailable platform was used to remove bad emails and improve email deliverability. https://emailable.com/. Bad or invalid email addresses may arise due to data-entry typos or improper 27 formatting. Other examples of invalid email addresses include use of an expired domain name extension or use of an Internet Service Provider (ISP) that is no longer in business. 28

Settlement Administrator commenced on March 10, 2023, sending the Email Notice, substantially in 1 2 the form of Exhibit S attached hereto, to these addresses with a resulting deliverability rate of 94%. 3 **Email Support** 21. Dedicated Email Address. The Settlement Administrator continues to use the 4 5 established info@crtclaims.com email address to provide email support to Class Members, including answering specific questions and requests to the Administrator. The email address is included in all 6 7 Notices and displayed on the Settlement Website. **Settlement Post Office Box** 8 22. 9 Dedicated P.O. Box. The Settlement Administrator continues to use its established 10 Post Office Box ("P.O. Box") for purposes of the Mitsubishi Electric Settlement: 11 CRT Claims c/o The Notice Company 12 P.O. Box 778 Hingham, MA 02043 13 23. Mail Service. The P.O. Box serves as a location for Class Members to submit Claim 14 Forms, exclusion request forms, and other Settlement related correspondences. The P.O. Box appears 15 on all Notices and in multiple locations on the Settlement Website. The Settlement Administrator 16 monitors the P.O. Box daily. 17 **Dedicated Toll-Free Hotline** 18 24. Telephone Service. The Settlement Administrator continues to use the established toll-19 free hotline, 1-800-649-0962, dedicated to this Settlement. The toll-free hotline is accessible 24 hours 20 per day, seven days per week and utilizes an interactive voice response ("IVR") system where Class 21 Members can obtain essential information regarding the Settlement and be provided responses to 22 frequently asked questions. Class Members have the option to leave a voicemail and receive a call 23 back from the call center representative. The toll-free hotline appeared in all Notices and in multiple 24 locations on the Settlement Website. For the period commencing on February 8, 2023, when the Notice 25 Program commenced with the Settlement Website focusing on the Mitsubishi Electric Settlement, 26 through May 3, 2023, the toll-free hotline has received 1,895 calls and 425 voicemails, totaling 15,909 27 minutes. 28

Objections and Exclusion Requests

25. <u>Exclusion Requests</u>. The deadline for Class Members to request exclusion from the Settlement was April 14, 2023. The Settlement Administrator received one (1) request for exclusion from the Settlement. A copy of the exclusion request is attached as Exhibit T.

26. <u>No Objections</u>. The deadline for Class Members to object to the Settlement was April 14, 2023. Consistent with the Court's orders, the notice documents directed that objections must be filed with the Court. The Settlement Administrator has not received notice of any objections to the Settlement.

Claim Form Submissions

27. <u>Ongoing Claim Submissions</u>. The deadline for claim submissions is June 13, 2023. Claims are continuing to be received and claim review is ongoing. A supplemental declaration will be filed with the Court once claim review is complete.

1328.Prior Claimants. As described in the Detailed Notice of Settlement and Summary14Notice of Settlement, 17 all eligible End-User claimants from the Prior Settlements were automatically15entered into the Mitsubishi Electric Settlement. As described at ¶ 9, *supra*, the Settlement16Administrator sent direct notice to these claimants and informed them of their previously-approved17quantities. If a claimant had additional units to add to their claim, they were instructed to submit a18new claim with a full report of all units claimed for the New Settlement. Once the claims deadline has19passed, the Settlement Administrator will review all claims submitted to ensure that eligible Prior20Claimants have a timely, non-duplicated claim submission.

29. <u>Claimants Represented by Third-Party Claim Submission Companies</u>. As previously noted,¹⁸ claims submitted through third-party claim submission companies or law firms accounted for approximately 95% of the dollar value of all claims submitted by claimants in the Prior Settlements. Although the claims process remains ongoing for the Mitsubishi Electric Settlement, I expect that such

- ¹⁷ See Exhibits B through E attached hereto.
- || ¹⁸ Fisher Declaration-2022 at ¶ 16.

1 claims will account for between 85% and 95% of the dollar value of claims submitted in the Mitsubishi 2 Electric Settlement.

30. Amounts Paid to Prior Claimants. As of May 3, 2023, claimants in the Prior Settlements have cashed \$402,666,291.52 of the \$410,503,806.60 net settlement fund available for distribution, with 21,114 checks remaining uncashed. In addition, a \$10 million reserve fund was withheld from high-value claims with remaining amounts to be distributed at the conclusion of the administration process. See Order Granting Motion for Order Authorizing Distribution of Settlement Funds ¶ 14 (ECF 6040).

9 31. New Claimants. New claimants have the option of submitting a paper claim via USPS or completing the online claim form available at www.CRTClaims.com. As of May 3, 2023, The 10 11 Notice Company has received 1,022,192 new claim submissions of which 135,130 have passed an 12 initial screening for validity. Table 5 below provides a summary of the claims received to date.

Table 5: Claims Statistics (as of May 3, 2023)		
Description	Volume (#)	
Total Claims Received	1,022,192	
(-) Duplicate Claims Identified	9,515	
(-) Potentially Invalid Claims: Likely Bot		
Generated	877,547	
Net Claims	135,130	

32. Claim Review. In reviewing the claims received, the Settlement Administrator has identified duplicate claims and potentially invalid claims. Duplicate claims currently identified are limited to claims where the claimant name, address, email and phone number are exact match duplicates. A broader duplicate analysis will be completed after the claims deadline.

been and are being programmatically generated and submitted by "bots" (short for robots).¹⁹ The

Settlement Administrator has been identifying characteristics of these suspected bot-generated claims

"Bot" Submissions. The Settlement Administrator suspects that many claims have

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¹⁹ See Merriam-Webster, Inc.: "bot" is defined as "(1) Robot; (2) a computer program that performs 27 automatic, repetitive, and sometimes harmful tasks; (3) a computer program or character that mimics human actions." https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/bot (last visited May 4, 2023). 28

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in order to detect potentially invalid submissions.²⁰ The Settlement Administrator promptly took the
 following three steps to minimize the impact of bot-generated submissions:

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a. A reCAPTCHA (Completely Automated Public Turing test to tell Computers and Humans Apart) ("reCAPTCHA verification") was added to the claim form and required of claimants prior to claim submission.²¹

b. Five (5) IP addresses with over 3,000 submissions each were blocked from accessing the claim form.

c. Attempts to access the Settlement Website from IP addresses located outside of the United States and Canada were presented with a challenge as a condition to gaining access to the claim form. These are dynamically-generated challenge chosen by software based on the characteristics of the request received. Challenges may be passive (completed by JavaScript in the user browser), a simple checkbox or require a short puzzle to complete.²²

To date, the Settlement Administrator has identified 877,547 potentially invalid claims that warrant
further review.

15 34. <u>Recommended Next Steps</u>. After the claims deadline passes and the conclusion of its
16 claims review, the Settlement Administrator will present a report to the Court with recommended
17 courses of action concerning bot-generated deficient or invalid claims.

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Notice and Administration Costs

19 35. <u>Settlement Administrator's Costs</u>. The Settlement Administrator has incurred
20 \$979,000 in fees and costs for completing the Notice Program. Further administration of the
21 Settlement, including claims review and issuing payments to claimants, is estimated to cost an
22 additional \$700,000 to \$950,000.

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²¹ See Google reCAPTCHA at https://www.google.com/recaptcha/about/ (last visited May 4, 2023).

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Conclusion

36. The Notice Program Satisfies Due Process Requirements. In class action notice planning, execution, and analysis, the Settlement Administrator has been guided by due process considerations as dictated by the FRCP 23. In my opinion, the above-described Notice Program satisfies the requirements of due process.

37. Reach and Frequency of the Notice Program. In total, the Notice Program delivered an 87% reach with an average frequency of 3.02.²³ The measurable reach of the Notice Program ignores unpaid or "organic" forms of notice.²⁴ The measurable reach also excludes the impact of digital newsletters and other forms of direct notice, cable TV, the Settlement Website, toll-free hotline and press release, as it is difficult to quantify the impact of such activity on the reach and frequency numbers. Those media vehicles, however, meaningfully strengthened the reach and frequency of the Notice Plan and enhanced claim submissions.

38. Best Notice Practicable. It is my opinion, based on my expertise and experience and that of my team, that the methods of notice dissemination implemented by the Notice Program provided effective notice of the Settlement, provided the best notice that is practicable, adhered to FRCP 23, is consistent with the "Procedural Guidance for Class Action Settlements" as published by 17 the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, followed the orders of the Court 18 in this action and met the requirements of due process.

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²³ As noted at footnote 10, *supra*, publication of notice in *Readers Digest* was helpful for promoting 24 claim submissions but did not factor into my analysis of the effectiveness of the Notice Program. Addition of *Readers Digest* to the notice calculation would have increased the estimated reach of the 25 Notice Program from 87% to 88% with a frequency of 3.06.

²⁴ Examples of organic contributions to notice are: (A) online searches on Google or Bing that show 26 the Settlement Website as an unadvertised search result, (B) unpaid Facebook posts that discuss or point to CRT settlements, and (C) unsolicited email blasts and website features that highlight the 27 Mitsubishi Electric Settlement; see, e.g., https://openclassactions.com/settlement_crt.php (last visited May 8, 2023).

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Executed at Hingham, Massachusetts, this 11th day of May, 2023. JOSEPH M. FISHER

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8	UNITED STATI	ES DISTRICT COURT
9	NORTHERN DIST	RICT OF CALIFORNIA
10		ND DIVISION
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12	IN RE: CATHODE RAY TUBE (CRT) ANTITRUST LITIGATION	Master File No. 07-cv-5944-JST Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST
13		MDL No. 1917
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17	This document relates to:	[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION
18	Luscher v. Mitsubishi Electric Corp., No. 17-cv-04067-JST	SETTLEMENT WITH DEFENDANT MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION
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20		Hon. Jon S. Tigar
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20	SETTLEMENT WITH MITS	ON FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION UBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST, MDL No. 1917

The Indirect Purchaser Plaintiffs' ("IPPs") have filed a Motion for Final Approval of 1 2 Class Action Settlement with Defendant Mitsubishi Electric Corporation ("Mitsubishi Electric"). 3 The Court, having reviewed the motion, the settlement agreement between IPPs and Mitsubishi 4 Electric ("Settlement Agreement"), the pleadings and other papers on file in this Action, and the 5 statements of counsel and the parties, hereby finds that the motion should be GRANTED. NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED: 6 7 1. The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this litigation, and all actions 8 within this litigation and over the parties to the Settlement Agreement, including all members of 9 the Settlement Class and Mitsubishi Electric. 10 2. For purposes of this Order, except as otherwise set forth herein, the Court adopts 11 and incorporates the definitions contained in the Settlement Agreement. 12 3. Pursuant to Rule 23(e)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, after a hearing, 13 the Court hereby finally approves and confirms the Settlement set forth in the Settlement Agreement and finds that said Settlement is, in all respects, fair, reasonable, and adequate to the 14 15 Settlement Class within the meaning of Rule 23 and directs its consummation according to its terms. Specifically: 16 17 The class representatives and counsel have vigorously represented the a. interests of the Settlement Class; 18 19 b. The Settlement Agreement was negotiated by arm's-length, informed, and 20 non-collusive negotiations between counsel for IPPs and Mitsubishi Electric under the 21 supervision of a Magistrate Judge; 22 The relief provided for the Settlement Class is adequate, considering: (i) c. the costs, risks, and delay of trial and appeal, particularly in light of the complex nature of IPPs' 23 24 case; (ii) the effectiveness and straightforwardness of the proposed claims process, which is 25 similar to the process this Court previously approved; and (iii) the reasonableness of the request 26 for an award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of litigation expenses. 27 - 1 -28 **IPROPOSEDI ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION** SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION Master File No. 07-cv-5944-JST, Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST, MDL No. 1917

d. The Settlement Agreement treats class members equitably relative to each
 other. IPPs propose to use the same weighted pro-rata plan of distribution that this Court has
 approved for the prior settlements in this case. This Court thus finds IPPs' Plan of Distribution is
 fair, reasonable, and adequate.

5 5. The Plan of Distribution set forth in the Class notice is, in all respects, fair,
adequate, and reasonable. Accordingly, the Court hereby grants final approval of the Plan of
7 Distribution.

6. The Court does hereby find, for the reasons set forth in its October 31, 2022
9 Preliminary Approval Order, ECF No. 6104, and for purposes of judgment on the Settlement
10 Agreement only, that the Settlement Class defined in that Order satisfies the requirements for
11 class certification under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(a) and 23(b)(3).

The Court hereby confirms the appointment of Mario N. Alioto and Trump,
Alioto, Trump & Prescott, LLP as Settlement Class Counsel pursuant to Rule 23(g), and finds
that these Settlement Class Counsel have protected and will continue to fairly and adequately
protect the interests of the Settlement Class.

8. The notice given to the Class of the Settlements set forth in the Settlement
Agreement and other matters set forth therein was the best notice practicable under the
circumstances. Said notice provided due and adequate notice of the proceedings and of the
matters set forth therein, including the Settlement set forth in the Settlement Agreement, to all
persons entitled to such notice, and said notice fully satisfied the requirements of Rule 23 of the
Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the requirements of due process, and all applicable state laws.

9. Ali Ratzel of Jefferson City, Missouri, the class member who made a timely
request to opt out of the Settlement, is excluded from the Settlement Class.

24 10. The Court hereby dismisses on the merits and with prejudice the claims asserted
25 by the IPPs against Mitsubishi Electric, which were certified as a settlement class in the Court's

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[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION Master File No. 07-cv-5944-JST, Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST, MDL No. 1917

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- Order Granting Final Approval, with IPPs and Mitsubishi Electric to bear their own costs and 1 2 attorneys' fees except as provided for in the Settlement Agreement.
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11. The Mitsubishi Electric Releasees are hereby and forever released and discharged with respect to any and all claims or causes of action which the Releasors had or have arising out of or related to any of the Released Claims as defined in the Settlement Agreement.

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12. The United States District Court for the Northern District of California shall retain 7 jurisdiction, which shall be exclusive to the extent permitted by law, over the implementation, 8 enforcement, and performance of the Settlement Agreement, and shall have exclusive jurisdiction 9 over any suit, action, proceeding, or dispute arising out of or relating to the Settlement 10 Agreement or the applicability of the Settlement Agreement that cannot be resolved by 11 negotiation and agreement by IPPs and Mitsubishi Electric. The Settlement Agreement shall be governed by and interpreted according to the substantive laws of the State of California without 12 13 regard to its choice of law or conflict of laws principles.

13. Without affecting the finality of the Judgment in any way, this Court hereby 14 15 retains continuing jurisdiction over: (a) any distribution to Class Members pursuant to further 16 orders of this Court; (b) disposition of the Settlement Fund; (c) hearing and determining 17 applications by IPPs for attorneys' fees, costs, expenses, interest, and incentive awards; (d) the 18 Action until the Final Judgment contemplated hereby have become effective and each and every 19 act agreed to be performed by the parties all have been performed pursuant to the Settlement 20 Agreement; (e) hearing and ruling on any matters relating to the Plan of Distribution of 21 settlement proceeds; and (f) all parties to the Action and Releasors for the purpose of enforcing 22 and administering the Settlement Agreement and the mutual releases and other documents 23 contemplated by, or executed in connection with, the Settlement Agreement.

14. 24 The Court determines under Rule 54(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, 25 that Final Judgment should be entered and further finds that there is no just reason for delay in 26 the entry of Judgment, as Final Judgment, as to the parties to the Settlement Agreement.

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[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION Master File No. 07-cv-5944-JST, Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST, MDL No. 1917

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1	15. Accordingly, the Clerk is hereby directed to enter Judgment forthwith against
2	Mitsubishi Electric.
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4	SO ORDERED this day of, 2023.
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7	Hon. Jon S. Tigar
8	United States District Judge
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28	- 4 - [PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION
	SETTLEMENT WITH MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION Master File No. 07-cv-5944-JST, Case No. 17-cv-04067-JST, MDL No. 1917