

that if the evidence establishes that NSK Ltd. manufactured the 5313 bearings at issue, NSK Ltd. would not contest personal jurisdiction. However, NSK Ltd.'s position is that the 5313 bearings are counterfeit. If the evidence establishes that they are counterfeit, then NSK will pursue its jurisdictional defense. The Court's ruling on the pending motions will be forthcoming.

Counsel provided an update regarding discovery, communicating that expert depositions of the parties' twenty-three experts will begin this week and should be completed by the end of May. In addition, counsel advised that the Plaintiffs' verification process was 90% complete. Counsel also informed the Court that Defendants would be seeking medical evaluations of some Bellwether Plaintiffs who maintained that they had continuing health effects. Finally, counsel advised the Court that mediation is scheduled for July 12th and 13th.

The Court reminded counsel that discovery should not be filed on the docket and will be stricken.

The Court will schedule the next status conference for early May.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Signed on April 3, 2023, at Houston, Texas.



Dena Hanovice Palermo
United States Magistrate Judge