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7
 8 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 9 FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

10 London Bridge Resort, LLC, an Arizona
 11 limited liability company,
 12 Plaintiff,
 13 v.
 14 Illinois Union Insurance Company, Inc.,
 an Illinois corporation,
 15 Defendant.

No. 3:20-cv-08109-GMS

**DEFENDANT ILLINOIS UNION
 INSURANCE COMPANY’S
 MOTION TO DISMISS
 PLAINTIFF’S COMPLAINT
 PURSUANT TO FRCP 12(B)(6)**

16
 17 Defendant Illinois Union Insurance Company (“Illinois Union”), hereby moves to
 18 dismiss Plaintiff London Bridge Resort, LLC’s (“London Bridge”) Complaint for failure to
 19 state a claim upon which relief can be granted pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure
 20 (“FRCP”) 12(b)(6). In support of its Motion, Illinois Union states the following.

21 **PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

22 In this Action, London Bridge seeks insurance coverage from Illinois Union for
 23 business income losses London Bridge has allegedly sustained as a result of the COVID-19
 24 pandemic. At issue is a Premises Pollution Liability Policy issued to London Bridge by
 25 Illinois Union. London Bridge seeks coverage under the insuring agreement of the Policy
 26 which, subject to all of its terms and conditions, provides coverage for “loss” resulting from
 27 “first-party claims” arising out of a “pollution condition” on, at, under or migrating from a
 28

1 “covered location.” London Bridge’s Complaint fails to state a viable claim for coverage
2 for two distinct reasons.

3 First, COVID-19 does not constitute a “pollution condition” under the Illinois Union
4 policy. The term “pollution condition,” as defined by the policy, is limited to traditional
5 environmental pollution, and does not include a communicable disease caused by a virus,
6 like COVID-19. Because there is no “pollution condition,” London Bridge’s Complaint
7 fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted under FRCP 12(b)(6).

8 Second, even if COVID-19 did constitute a “pollution condition,” there still must be
9 “loss” resulting from “first-party claims” arising out of a “pollution condition” on, at, under
10 or migrating from a “covered location” in order for the insuring agreement to be triggered.
11 London Bridge’s Complaint does not contain an allegation that COVID-19 was on, at, under
12 or migrating from the “covered location” identified by the Illinois Union policy as the resort
13 owned and operated by London Bridge in Lake Havasu City, Arizona. Because London
14 Bridge has not claimed or alleged that COVID-19 was located at the London Bridge resort,
15 it cannot satisfy the insuring agreement of the Illinois Union policy irrespective of whether
16 COVID-19 is a “pollution condition.” The Complaint fails to state a claim upon which
17 relief can be granted for this reason as well.

18 Because London Bridge does not and cannot state a viable claim upon which relief
19 can be granted against Illinois Union, pursuant to FRCP 12(b)(6) its Complaint must be
20 dismissed with prejudice.

21 **BACKGROUND**

22 **A. Allegations of the Complaint**

23 In its Complaint, London Bridge alleges that it is a destination resort in Arizona (the
24 “Resort”) and that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, its guests have either canceled prior
25 reservations at the Resort or have elected not to travel there, severely impacting London
26 Bridge’s revenue. Complaint at ¶¶ 9-10.

27 The Complaint alleges that Illinois Union issued Premises Pollution Liability
28 Insurance Policy number PPL G71205162 002 (the “Policy”) to London Bridge for the

1 policy period of November 15, 2019 to November 15, 2020, providing coverage in relevant
 2 part for “business interruption loss” up to \$1 million arising out of a “pollution condition.”
 3 *Id.* at ¶¶ 11-12. The Complaint further alleges that the Policy provides coverage for
 4 “business interruption loss” resulting from certain acts of civil authority arising out of a
 5 “pollution condition,” which the Policy identifies as “government action” and
 6 “environmental law.” *Id.* at ¶ 13. London Bridge alleges that COVID-19 constitutes a
 7 “pollution condition” under the Policy, and that certain acts by various governmental
 8 agencies with respect to COVID-19 constitute a “claim” under the Policy, which has caused
 9 London Bridge to suffer approximately \$2 million in “business interruption losses.” *Id.* at
 10 ¶¶ 14-16, 18-162.

11 Count I of the Complaint alleges breach of contract. London Bridge alleges that the
 12 COVID-19 pandemic has caused a covered “pollution condition” under the Policy for which
 13 coverage should be afforded. *Id.* at ¶¶ 164-172. Count II is for declaratory relief, seeking
 14 a declaration of coverage under the Policy. *Id.* at ¶¶ 174-177.

15 **B. The Policy**

16 Illinois Union issued the Policy, designated as Premises Pollution Liability Insurance
 17 Policy number PPL G71205162 002, to London Bridge, providing claims made and
 18 reported coverage with a “policy period” from November 15, 2019 through November 15,
 19 2020. (A true and correct copy of the Policy is attached hereto as Exhibit “A” bates labeled
 20 IUC000001-42). As is relevant to this case,¹ the Policy has a limit of liability of
 21 \$1,000,000 per “pollution condition” and a \$1,000,000 total policy and program aggregate
 22 for all “pollution conditions”, subject to a self-insured retention of \$100,000 per “pollution
 23 condition.” *Id.* at IUC000002.

24 Coverage A of the Policy provides, in pertinent part, that it will pay “loss” in excess
 25 of the “self-insured retention” for:

26
 27
 28 ¹ Subject to all of its terms and conditions, the Policy also provides coverage for an “indoor
 environmental condition,” which is not at issue in the Claim or the Complaint.

1 “Claims” and “first-party claims” arising out of: 1) a “pollution condition” on, at,
 2 under or migrating from a “covered location”... provided the “claim” is first made,
 3 or the “insured” first discovers the “pollution condition” ... that is the subject of such
 4 “first-party claim”, during the “policy period”. Any such “claim” or “first-party
 5 claim” must be reported to the Insurer, in writing, during the “policy period” or
 6 within thirty (30) days after the expiration of the “policy period”, or during any
 applicable “extended reporting period”.

7 *Id.* at IUIC000006. Importantly, the Insuring Agreement not only requires the discovery
 8 during the policy period of a “pollution condition” as that term is defined, the “pollution
 9 condition must be “on, at, under or migrating from a ‘covered location.’” (Emphasis
 10 added). *Id.* There is one “covered location,” which is the Resort located at 1477 Queens
 11 Bay, Lake Havasu City, Arizona. *Id.* at IUIC000002.

12 A “pollution condition” is defined as:

13 The discharge, dispersal, release, escape, migration, or seepage of any solid, liquid,
 14 gaseous or thermal irritant, contaminant, or pollutant, including soil, silt,
 15 sedimentation, smoke, soot, vapors, fumes, acids, alkalis, chemicals,
 16 electromagnetic fields (EMFs), hazardous substances, hazardous materials, waste
 17 materials, “low-level” radioactive waste”, “mixed waste” and medical, red bag,
 infectious or pathological wastes, on, in, into, or upon land and structures thereupon,
 the atmosphere, surface water, or groundwater.

18 *Id.* at IUIC000014-15.

19 If the requirements of the Insuring Agreement and all other terms and conditions
 20 have been met, the Policy will pay covered “loss.” “Loss” includes “remediation costs”
 21 “emergency response costs”, and, as is relevant to this case, “business interruption loss.”

22 *Id.* at IUIC000013. The Policy defines “business interruption” as:

23 [T]he necessary partial or complete suspension of the “insured’s” operations at a
 24 “covered location” for a period of time, which is directly attributable to a “pollution
 25 condition” or “indoor environmental condition” to which Coverage A. of this Policy
 26 applies. Such period of time shall extend from the period of time that the operations
 27 are necessarily suspended and end when such “pollution condition” or “indoor
 28 environmental condition” has been remediated to the point at which the “insured’s”
 normal operations could reasonably be restored.

1 *Id.* at IUIIC000009. “Business interruption loss” includes (1) “business income”; (2)
2 “extra expense”; and (3) “delay expense”, as those terms are defined in the Policy. *Id.*

3 ARGUMENT

4 A. Standard on Motion to Dismiss

5 Under FRCP 12(b)(6), a court must dismiss a complaint if it fails to “raise a right to
6 relief above the speculative level.” *Bell Atl. Corp. v. Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 555 (2007).
7 Dismissal “can be based on the lack of a cognizable legal theory or the absence of sufficient
8 facts alleged under a cognizable legal theory.” *Balistreri v. Pacifica Police Dep’t*, 901 F.2d
9 696, 699 (9th Cir. 1988). Although the court must accept the plaintiff’s well-pled factual
10 allegations as true and in a light most favorable to the plaintiff, *North Star Int’l v. Arizona*
11 *Corp. Comm’n*, 720 F.2d 578, 580 (9th Cir. 1983), dismissal is warranted where it appears
12 the plaintiff cannot prove any “set of facts in support of the claim that would entitle it to
13 relief.” *Williamson v. Gen. Dynamics Corp.*, 208 F.3d 1144, 1149 (9th Cir. 2000). The
14 Court “[is] not bound to accept as true a legal conclusion couched as a factual allegation”
15 in the plaintiff’s complaint. *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 680 (2009). In addition, mere
16 “conclusory allegations of law and unwarranted inferences are not sufficient to defeat a
17 motion to dismiss.” *Pareto v. F.D.I.C.*, 139 F.3d 696, 699 (9th Cir. 1998).

18 “A court may take judicial notice of ‘matters of public record’ without converting a
19 motion to dismiss into a motion for summary judgment.” *Lee v. City of Los Angeles*, 250
20 F.3d 668, 689 (9th Cir. 2001). In addition, “documents whose contents are alleged in a
21 complaint and whose authenticity no party questions, but which are not physically attached
22 to the pleading, may be considered in ruling on a Rule 12(b)(6) motion to dismiss.” *Tunac*
23 *v. United States*, 897 F.3d 1197, 1207 (9th Cir. 2018) (alteration in original). The Policy
24 qualifies as a document whose contents are alleged in the Complaint and whose authenticity
25 is not in question. Accordingly, the Court may consider the Policy on Illinois Union’s
26 Motion to Dismiss.

1 **B. Arizona Law Applies**

2 A federal court sitting in diversity will apply the choice of law rules of the forum.
 3 *Nelson v. Int'l Paint Co.*, 716 F.2d 640, 643 (9th Cir. 1983). Arizona applies the most
 4 significant relationship test under the Restatement (Second) of Conflict of Laws, absent a
 5 contractual choice-of-law provision. *Cardon v. Cotton Lane Holdings, Inc.*, 173 Ariz. 203,
 6 207 (1992). “[T]he location of the insured risk should be given the greatest weight when
 7 determining which state’s law applies, so long as the risk can be located, at least principally,
 8 in a single state.” *Labertew v. Chartis Prop. Cas. Co.*, 363 F. Supp.3d 1031, 1036 (D. Ariz.
 9 2019). In addition, “Arizona has a strong interest in applying Arizona law.” *Beckler v.*
 10 *State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, 195 Ariz. 282, 289 (Ct. App. 1999).

11 The Policy does not contain a choice of law provision, so the Restatement’s most
 12 significant relationship will apply to determine choice of law. London Bridge is
 13 headquartered in Arizona and the Resort is located there. In addition, the Policy was issued
 14 to London Bridge in Arizona. Since the most significant relationship is with Arizona,
 15 Arizona law applies to the determination of coverage and whether London Bridge’s
 16 Complaint states a viable claim for relief under FRCP 12(b)(6).

17 **C. Arizona Rules of Insurance Policy Interpretation**

18 Under Arizona rules of insurance policy interpretation, London Bridge has the
 19 burden to establish that it is entitled to coverage under Insuring Agreement A of the Policy.
 20 *Keggi v. Northbrook Prop. & Cas. Ins. Co.*, 199 Ariz. 43, 46 (Ct. App. 2000) (“Generally,
 21 the insured bears the burden to establish coverage under an insuring clause, and the insurer
 22 bears the burden to establish the applicability of any exclusion.”); *757BD LLC v. Nat’l*
 23 *Union Fire Ins. Co. of Pittsburgh, PA*, 330 F. Supp. 3d 1143, 1149 (D. Ariz. 2018) (same).

24 Arizona courts “interpret an insurance policy according to its plain and ordinary
 25 meaning, examining it from the viewpoint of an individual untrained in law or business.”
 26 *Desert Mountain Props. Ltd. P’ship v. Liberty Mut. Fire Ins. Co.*, 225 Ariz. 194, 200 (Ct.
 27 App. 2010). Any ambiguities are construed against the insurer. *Id.* “Undefined terms of
 28 an insurance policy ... must be construed in their plain, ordinary and everyday sense and the

1 parameters of the definition should reflect the legal characteristics most frequently
 2 attributed to the word.” *Fall v. First Mercury Ins. Co.*, 225 F. Supp.3d 842, 847 (D. Ariz.
 3 2016) (alteration in original). When interpreting an insurance contract, Arizona courts must
 4 “harmonize all parts of the contract ... by a reasonable interpretation in view of the entire
 5 instrument.” *Aztar Corp. v. U.S. Fire Ins. Co.*, 223 Ariz. 463, 475 (Ct. App. 2010) (alteration
 6 in original).

7 **D. The Complaint Fails To Allege a “Pollution Condition” Under the Policy**

8 A “pollution condition” under the Policy is defined as the “*discharge, dispersal,*
 9 *release, escape, migration, or seepage* of any solid, liquid, gaseous or thermal irritant,
 10 contaminant, or pollutant... on, in, into, or upon land and structures thereupon, the
 11 atmosphere, surface water, or groundwater.” (Ex. A at IUC000014-15) (emphasis added).

12 While no Arizona court has addressed coverage under a premises pollution liability
 13 policy like the Policy at issue here, the terms contained in the Policy’s definition of
 14 “pollution condition” have been addressed by Arizona courts in the context of an absolute
 15 pollution exclusion in a commercial general liability policy and have been found to be
 16 unambiguous. In *Keggi v. Northbrook Prop. & Cas. Ins. Co.*, 13 P.3d 785, 786-87 (Ariz.
 17 Ct. App. 2000), which involved application of such an absolute pollution exclusion, the
 18 insured, a mixed-use residential and golf community, sought coverage under a commercial
 19 general liability policy for a lawsuit brought by a golfer who became ill after ingesting
 20 bacteria-contaminated water. In relevant part, the policy excluded coverage for bodily
 21 injury “arising out of the actual, alleged or threatened discharge, dispersal, seepage,
 22 migration, release or escape of pollutants.” *Id.* at 788. The policy defined “pollutants” as
 23 “any solid, liquid, gaseous or thermal irritant or contaminant, including smoke, vapor, soot,
 24 fumes, acids, alkalis, chemicals and waste. Waste includes materials to be recycled,
 25 reconditioned or reclaimed.” *Id.* at 789. The court recognized that terms such as
 26 “discharge,” “dispersal,” “release,” and “escape,” are “*terms of art in environmental law*
 27 *which generally are used with reference to damage or injury caused by improper disposal*
 28 *or containment of hazardous waste.*” *Id.* at 790 (emphasis added). The court also

1 recognized the historical purpose of the absolute pollution exclusion, which was to
2 eliminate coverage for traditional environmental pollution. *Id.* at 791. As such, the court
3 found that the policy’s pollution exclusion did not apply to exclude coverage for bacteria,
4 since bacteria was not a “pollutant.” *Id.* at 792.

5 Similarly, in *Starr Surplus Lines Ins. Co. v. Star Roofing, Inc.*, 2019 WL 5617575
6 (Ariz. Ct. App. Oct. 31, 2019), the court recognized that “the terms used in the [pollution]
7 exclusion clause, such as ‘discharge,’ ‘dispersal,’ ‘release’ and ‘escape,’ are terms of art in
8 environmental law and are generally used to refer to damage or injury resulting from
9 environmental pollution.” (Emphasis added). As such, the court held the policy’s pollution
10 exclusion did not exclude coverage for injuries sustained due to inhalation of fumes from
11 roofing materials. *Id.* at *3. See also, *Nat’l Fire Ins. Co. of Hartford v. James River Ins.*,
12 162 F. Supp. 3d 898, 908 (D. Ariz. 2016) (with respect to pollution exclusion, the terms
13 “must be read in light of the historical purpose of the pollution exclusionary clause—as
14 interpreted by the Arizona Court of Appeals—to preclude coverage for ‘traditional
15 environmental pollution.’”); *MacKinnon v. Truck Ins. Exch.*, 73 P.3d 1205, 1216 (Cal.
16 2003) (court held that the pollution exclusion’s scope was limited to “environmental
17 pollution ... consistent with the choice of terms ‘discharge, dispersal, release or escape.’”);
18 *Am. States. Ins. Co. v. Koloms*, 687 N.E.2d 72, 81 (Ill. 1997) (Illinois Supreme Court limited
19 the scope of the absolute pollution exclusion to traditional environmental pollution); *Nav-*
20 *Its, Inc. v. Selective Ins. Co. of Am.*, 183 N.J. 110 (2005) (absolute pollution exclusion
21 applies to traditional environmentally related damages; *Belt Painting Corp. v. TIG Ins. Co.*,
22 100 N.Y.2d 377 (2003) (same); *Nautilus Ins. Co. v. Jabar*, 188 F.3d 27 (1st Cir. 1999)
23 (same).

24 In fact, insurance policies such as environmental impairment and pollution liability
25 policies, that are specifically issued to cover environmental contamination, were intended
26 to fill coverage gaps created by the absolute pollution exclusion’s exclusion of coverage for
27 traditional environmental pollution. See *Masonite Corp. v. Great Am. Surplus Lines Ins.*
28 *Co.*, 224 Cal. App. 3d 912, 916–17 (Ct. App. 1990) (environmental impairment liability

1 policy filled the gap in coverage resulting from the pollution exclusion in general liability
2 policy to protect insured for damage caused by gradual pollution); *Viacom Int'l, Inc. v.*
3 *Admiral Ins. Co.*, No. L-1739-99, 2006 WL 1060504, at *2 (N.J. Super. Ct. App. Div. Apr.
4 21, 2006). (“Environmental Impairment Liability (EIL) policies respond to loss arising from
5 pollution. EIL policies are often viewed as filling the coverage gap created by the pollution
6 exclusion clauses in CGL policies.”); *Olin Corp. v. Ins. Co. of N. Am.*, 986 F. Supp. 841,
7 844 (S.D.N.Y. 1997) (“a substitute form of insurance appeared in the marketplace
8 specifically designed to fill in the gap created by the pollution exclusions in the CGL
9 policies. This new form of insurance was environmental impairment liability (EIL)
10 insurance.”) While no Arizona court has addressed coverage under an environmental
11 impairment or premises pollution liability policy, a court in the neighboring state of
12 California has considered the question. In *Essex Walnut Owner L.P. v. Aspen Specialty Ins.*
13 *Co.*, 335 F. Supp. 3d 1146 (N.D. Cal. 2018), the U.S. District Court for the Northern District
14 of California analyzed the term “pollutant” within the context of a coverage grant in an
15 environmental legal liability policy. The insured sought coverage under the policy for costs
16 incurred to remove debris buried in the insured’s excavation site where it intended to build
17 a mixed-use development. *Id.* at 1149. “The debris consisted of wood, concrete, glass,
18 metal, tires, and large, buried tree trunks.” *Id.* However, the court found that pollution
19 coverage was limited to “environmental pollution.” The policy at issue contained the
20 following relevant definitions:

21 Pollution condition means the discharge, emission, seepage, migration, dispersal,
22 misdelivery, release or escape, or illicit abandonment by a third-party without the
23 insured’s consent of any pollutant into or upon land, or any structure on land, the
24 atmosphere or any watercourse or body of water including groundwater, provided
25 such pollutant is not naturally present in the environment in the concentration or
26 amounts discovered.

27 Pollutant means any solid, liquid, gaseous or thermal irritant or contaminant,
28 including without limitation smoke, vapors, soot, silt, sediment, fumes, acids, alkalis,
29 chemicals, hazardous substances, petroleum hydrocarbons, low level radioactive
30 matter or waste, microbial matter, legionella pneumophila, medical, infectious or

1 pathological waste or waste materials, methamphetamines, electromagnetic fields,
2 biological agent or nanotechnology matter

3 Clean-up cost means reasonable and necessary expense incurred with the insurer's
4 prior written consent, including legal expense and restoration cost, to investigate,
5 abate, contain, treat, remove, remediate, monitor, neutralize or dispose of
6 contaminated soil, surface water or groundwater or other contamination caused by a
7 pollution condition but only: (i) to the extent required by environmental law

8 *Id.* at 1148-49.

9 The court found the same general principles from *MacKinnon, supra*, 73 P.3d at
10 1205, applied to limit pollution coverage to “environmental pollution”:

11 [T]he basic teaching of *MacKinnon*—namely, that “pollutant” should be understood
12 to mean something that is commonly thought of as pollution, i.e., environmental
13 pollution—logically applies even in the context of the case at bar. *MacKinnon's*
14 interpretation comports fully with the title of the insurance policy here—
15 “Environmental Legal Liability Policy”. It is also consistent with the examples of
16 “pollutant” provided in the policy (e.g., smoke, hazardous substances) and with other
17 policy provisions; in particular, the policy provides that Aspen will pay for “clean-
18 up cost” which the policy defines as an expense incurred to, e.g., address
19 contamination caused by a pollution condition “to the extent required by
20 *environmental law*” or “as determined reasonable and necessary by an *environmental*
21 professional.” Since Aspen’s liability under the policy is tied to “environmental”
22 matters, it is only logical that “pollutant” likewise be defined as relating to
23 environmental matters.

24 *Id.* at 1152-53 (citations omitted). Accordingly, although the dispositive issue before the
25 court on summary judgment was whether “clean-up costs” were incurred, the court
26 nevertheless posited: “The question is thus whether the kind of debris allegedly found here
27 in the soil is commonly thought of as environmental pollution.” *Id.* at 1153.

28 Arizona law is clear that the unambiguous terms “discharge,” “dispersal,” “release,”
“escape” and similar terms contained in the definition of “pollution condition” in the Policy
relate solely to traditional environmental contamination, and do not cover a virus such as
COVID-19. This is wholly consistent with the evolution of pollution liability coverage.
This interpretation also gives effect to the definition of “pollution condition” in its plain,
ordinary and everyday sense, with “the parameters of the definition ... reflect[ing] the legal

1 characteristics most frequently attributed to the word[s].” *Fall v. First Mercury Ins. Co.*,
 2 225 F. Supp.3d at 847.

3 Moreover, this interpretation is also consistent with the Arizona rule of insurance
 4 policy interpretation requiring the court to give effect to all provisions of the Policy. *Aztar*
 5 *Corp. v. U.S. Fire Ins. Co.*, *supra*, 223 Ariz. at 475. Similar to the pollution policy at issue
 6 in *Essex Walnut*, *supra*, 335 F. Supp. 3d 1146, the Policy’s other terms and definitions
 7 demonstrate that coverage is limited to environmental contamination, and there is no
 8 coverage for a virus like COVID-19. For example, the Policy defines “remediation costs”
 9 as “expenses incurred to investigate, quantify, monitor, remove, dispose, treat, neutralize,
 10 or immobilize ‘pollution conditions’ ... to the extent required by ‘environmental law’”.
 11 “Environmental law” is in turn defined as “any Federal, state, commonwealth, municipal or
 12 other local law, statute, ordinance, rule, guidance document, regulation, and all amendments
 13 thereto (collectively Laws), including voluntary cleanup or risk-based corrective action
 14 guidance, or the direction of an ‘environmental professional’ acting pursuant to the
 15 authority provided by any such Laws, along with any governmental, judicial or
 16 administrative order or directive, governing the liability or responsibilities of the ‘insured’
 17 with respect to a ‘pollution condition’”. These definitions relate to traditional
 18 environmental pollution and do not encompass a virus like COVID-19. Accordingly,
 19 London Bridge has not met its burden to show that there is a “pollution condition” under
 20 the Policy’s insuring agreement, and its Complaint must be dismissed with prejudice under
 21 FRCP 12(b)(6).

22 **E. The Complaint Fails To Allege A Pollution Condition On, At, Under or**
 23 **Migrating From a “Covered Location”**

24 Notwithstanding that COVID-19 is not a “pollution condition,” the Complaint does
 25 not allege a cognizable claim for coverage under the Policy. Separate and apart from the
 26 requirement that there be a “pollution condition,” the “pollution condition” must be *on, at,*
 27 *under or migrating from a ‘covered location.’* (Ex. A at IUIIC000014-15) (Emphasis
 28

1 added). This requirement that the “pollution condition” be tied to the “covered location” is
2 an essential part of the coverage afforded by a pollution liability policy. See *Jane St.*
3 *Holding, LLC v. Aspen Am. Ins. Co.*, 2014 WL 28600, at *7 (S.D.N.Y. Jan. 2, 2014), *aff’d*,
4 581 F. App’x 49 (2d Cir. 2014) (no business personal property coverage for flood damage
5 done to electric generator located in basement when policy’s Schedule Location
6 Endorsement limited coverage to 33rd floor of building); *Dilmar Oil Co. v. Federated Mut.*
7 *Ins. Co.*, 986 F. Supp. 959, 978 (D.S.C. 1997) (no coverage for “voluntary clean-up costs”
8 because they were not incurred at the “insured site”, as required by the insuring agreement);
9 accord *Penton Media, Inc. v. Affiliated FM Ins. Co.*, 245 F. App’x 495, 500 (6th Cir. 2007)
10 (civil authority provision of business interruption policy, which covered loss due to
11 prohibition of access to “described locations,” did not cover losses arising from insured’s
12 postponement of trade show at Javits Center; the court found that the Javits Center, a
13 property not owned by the insured, was not a “described location” contemplated by the civil
14 authority provision).

15 However, the Complaint does not contain a single allegation that COVID-19 was
16 discovered “on, at, under, or migrating from” the “covered location,” which is the Resort in
17 Arizona. Instead, the Complaint alleges that London Bridge’s business has suffered as a
18 result of various governmental actions in Arizona and throughout the United States in
19 response to the pandemic that have affected travel to the Resort.

20 Specifically as to Arizona, the Complaint alleges that the Governor of Arizona issued
21 Executive Order 2020-09 on March 19, 2020 in response to the global pandemic, the State
22 of Emergency declared by President Trump, and updated guidance from the United States
23 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and Arizona Department of Health
24 Services (“ADHS”) regarding social gatherings and in-person restaurant dining.
25 (Complaint at ¶ 19). The Complaint alleges that Executive Order 2020-09 required that, by
26 the close of business on March 20, 2020, all restaurants, bars, and indoor gyms and fitness
27 clubs in counties within Arizona with confirmed cases of COVID-19 to close access to in-
28 person dining. *Id.* at ¶ 20.

1 The Complaint also alleges that by Executive Order 2020-18 dated March 30, 2020,
2 the Governor of Arizona issued another executive order instituting a “stay at home” policy
3 for Arizona and requiring businesses that remained open to implement rules and procedures
4 to facilitate social distancing. *Id.* at ¶ 23. London Bridge alleges that, “[a]s a consequence
5 of the Pandemic (including specifically damage to property caused by the coronavirus),
6 Executive Order 2020-09, Executive Order 2020-18, and “Closure Orders” (defined below)
7 in other states, London Bridge has suffered Covered Losses under the Policy.” *Id.* at ¶ 23.

8 The Complaint fails to allege that COVID-19 was discovered on, at, under or
9 migrating from the Resort. The general presence of COVID-19 in the same county where
10 the Resort is located, in Arizona, or elsewhere in the United States does not meet the
11 Insuring Agreement’s requirement of a “pollution condition” at, on, under or migrating
12 from a “covered location.” As such, London Bridge cannot satisfy its burden of
13 establishing coverage under Insuring Agreement A of the Policy, which is fatal to its
14 Complaint. *Aztar Corp. v. U.S. Fire Ins. Co.*, *supra*, 223 Ariz. at 475.

15 Even more, giving effect to all provisions of the Policy as required by Arizona law,
16 *Aztar Corp. v. U.S. Fire Ins. Co.*, *supra*, 223 Ariz. at 475, there is no coverage for London
17 Bridge’s alleged “business interruption” loss. “Business interruption” coverage is afforded
18 under the Policy for “the necessary partial or complete suspension of the ‘insured’s’
19 operations at a ‘covered location’ for a period of time, which is *directly attributable to a*
20 *‘pollution condition’ ... to which Coverage A. of this Policy applies.*” (Ex. A at
21 IUI000009) (Emphasis added). The “business interruption” period under the Policy
22 extends from the “time that the operations are necessarily suspended and end *when such*
23 *‘pollution condition’ ... has been remediated* to the point at which the “insured’s” normal
24 operations could reasonably be restored.” *Id.* (Emphasis added). Coverage A is confined to
25 the discovery of “a ‘pollution condition’ *on, at, under or migrating from a ‘covered*
26 *location.’*” The Complaint identifies no discovery of COVID-19 on, at, under or migrating
27 from a “covered location,” absent which Coverage A does not apply. Nor does the
28 Complaint identify any “remediation costs”, absent which there can be no covered “business

1 interruption,” because coverage for “business interruption” is confined to the period of time
2 during which the insured’s normal business operations are suspended because a “pollution
3 condition” on, at, under or migrating from a “covered location” must be remediated.

4 Accordingly, the Complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted
5 for this reason as well.

6 **CONCLUSION**

7 For all of the foregoing reasons, Illinois Union requests that its Motion to Dismiss
8 Plaintiff’s Complaint for failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted under
9 FRCP 12(b)(6) be granted, and that Plaintiff’s Complaint be dismissed with prejudice.

10 DATED this 2nd day of July, 2020.

11 FORAN GLENNON PALANDECH
12 PONZI & RUDLOFF PC

13
14 By: s/ Amy M. Samberg
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CERTIFICATE OF CONFERAL

The undersigned hereby certifies that, pursuant to D. Ariz. L.R.Civ. 12.1(c), that prior to filing this Motion, counsel for Illinois Union Insurance Company, Inc. notified Plaintiff of the issues asserted in the foregoing motion and that the parties were unable to agree that the pleading was curable in any part by an amended pleading.

FORAN GLENNON PALANDECH
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By: s/ Amy M. Samberg
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on July 2, 2020, I electronically transmitted the foregoing document to the Clerk’s Office using the CM/ECF System for filing and transmittal of a Notice of Electronic Filing to the following CM/ECF registrants:

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