

No. S-224444 Vancouver Registry

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C., 1985 c. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND

IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OF COMPROMISE AND ARRANGEMENT OF CANADIAN DEHUA INTERNATIONAL MINES GROUP INC.

PETITIONER

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

Name of applicant:

the Petitioner

To: the Service List (attached hereto as **Schedule "A")**

TAKE NOTICE that an application will be made by the applicant to the Honourable Mr. Justice Walker at the courthouse at 800 Smithe Street, Vancouver, BC, V6Z 2E1 on December 5, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. for the orders set out in Part 1 below.

Part 1: ORDER(S) SOUGHT

- 1. An Order substantially in the form attached hereto as **Schedule "B"**, which provides the following additional relief:
 - (a) an extension of the stay of proceedings (the "Stay of Proceedings") granted in the Initial Order up to and including February 13, 2024;
 - (b) an increase in the DIP facility and Interim's Lender's Charge by \$250,000 up to the amount of \$1,590,000.
- 2. Such other relief as this Honourable Court may deem just.

Part 2: FACTUAL BASIS

1. Pursuant to an order (the "Initial Order") of the Supreme Court of British Columbia (the "Court") made on June 3, 2022, Canadian Dehua International Mines Group Inc. ("CDI" or the "Petitioner") are granted protection under the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, as amended (the "CCAA"), and FTI Consulting Canada Inc. ("FTI") was appointed monitor (and in such capacity, the "Monitor").

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- 2. Also pursuant to the terms of the Initial Order, the Court granted:
 - (a) an initial stay of proceedings until June 9, 2022 (the "Stay Period"); and
 - (b) the Administration Charge.
- 3. Pursuant to an order issued by the Court on June 3, 2022, the Court:
 - (a) ordered that the Petitioner shall deliver further evidence to the Court regarding the contemplated transactions and/or investments relating to the Wapiti Project and the Murray River Project (the "**Project Evidence**");
 - (b) granted the Petitioner short leave to file any such Project Evidence under seal at the June 9, 2022 hearing;
 - (c) directed the Monitor to provide the Monitor's position on the prospects of preserving the Petitioner's business as a going concern in a CCAA proceeding; and
 - (d) granted the Monitor short leave to file a confidential report, if deemed necessary by the Monitor, under seal at the June 9, 2022 hearing.
- 4. On June 9, 2022, the Court amended and restated the Initial Order (the "ARIO") and:
 - (a) Extended the Stay Period to August 19, 2022;
 - (b) Approved interim financing by way of a credit facility (the "**DIP Facility**") from Qubo Liu (the "**DIP Lender**"), and granted the Interim Lender's Charge;
 - (c) Granted the Directors' and Officers' Charge; and
 - (d) Granted the Claims Process Order.
- 5. On August 18, 2022, the Court amended and restated the ARIO (the "**Second ARIO**") and;
 - (a) Extended the Stay Period to December 1, 2022;
 - (b) Approved the SISP; and
 - (c) Increased the DIP Facility and Interim Lender's Charge up to the maximum amount of \$820,000.
- 6. On November 30, 2022, the Court amended and restated the Second ARIO (the "**Third** ARIO") and;
 - (a) Extended the stay period to March 16, 2022;

- (b) Increased the DIP Facility and Interim Lender's Charge up to the maximum amount of \$1,090,000; and
- (c) Amended the SISP.
- 7. On March 9, 2023, the Court amended and restated the Third ARIO (the "**Fourth ARIO**") to extend the stay period to June 16, 2023.
- 8. On June 15, 2023, the Court amended and restated the Fourth ARIO (the "**Fifth ARIO**") and;
 - (a) Extended the stay period to September 15, 2023; and
 - (b) Increased the DIP Facility and Interim Lender's Charge up to the maximum amount of \$1,390,000.
- 9. On September 11, 2023, the Court amended and restated the Fifth ARIO (the "Sixth ARIO") to extend the stay period to November 17, 2023.
- 10. On November 14, 2023, the Court extended the stay period to December 8, 2023.

Background

- 11. The Petitioner, Canadian Dehua International Mines Group Inc. ("CDI") is a company incorporated pursuant to the laws of British Columbia.
- 12. CDI is a company that invests in, and operates, mining assets in British Columbia and elsewhere.
- 13. CDI was incorporated in 2004 in order to develop underground core mining properties.
- 14. CDI primarily cooperated on mining projects with major Chinese mining companies and steel factories as partners. However, for various reasons, a number of the projects did not proceed as planned. This has resulted in significant debt and limited revenue while CDI finds new buyers and develops new mining projects.
- The Wapiti River coal project is a large-scale underground mine at the senior exploration stage which is also located near Tumbler Ridge, British Columbia (the "Wapiti Project"). The Petitioner is the sole shareholder in the Wapiti Coking Coal Mines Corporation, the company that owns and operates the Wapiti Project.
- 16. The Murray River project involves the construction, operation and decommissioning of an underground coal mine and supporting infrastructure near Tumbler Ridge British Columbia (the "Murray River Project"). The Murray River Project would produce six million tonnes of metallurgic coal per year for an estimated life of 25 years.

- 17. CDI (indirectly holding 20.4%) and the Huiyong Holding Group (55%) are currently holding discussions with potential purchasers to sell their interests in the Murray River Coal Property.
- 18. The Pacific Iron project is a large-scale underground iron project located on Vancouver Island (the "Pacific Iron Ore Project"). CDI holds 80% of the shares of Vancouver Island Iron Ore Corporation, which owns and operates the Pacific Iron Ore Project.

Anticipated Restructuring

- 19. CDI has been addressing its insolvency through a number of steps which include:
 - (a) streamlining the go-forward operations of CDI;
 - (b) pursuing discussions with potential financiers and purchasers in order to secure long-term funding for the projects that may form the basis of CDI's go-forward business; and
 - (c) using the proceeds from such transactions to fund a plan of arrangement for CDI's creditors.

Wapiti and Murray River Purchaser

- 20. The potential purchaser, identified in the confidential supplement to Monitor's Fourth Report, arrived in Canada in May 2023 and performed due diligence at the mine sites, as is necessary under the LOI, to eventually complete the share purchase transaction for Wapiti.
- 21. The Petitioner is continuing to work with the potential purchaser of an interest in Wapiti to proceed to definitive agreements, and to that end have:
 - (a) provided background and due diligence materials to the potential purchasers;
 - (b) instructed counsel to draft preliminary definitive documents to expedite the process of finalizing a transaction for Wapiti;
 - (c) facilitated the recent project site visits and discussions with the interested party;
 - (d) engaged its accountant to prepare the updated financial statements for CDI and Wapiti; and
 - (e) ensured that the mine permits and licenses are paid and are in good standing by paying the Minister of Finance the amount of \$116,595 in respect of the Wapiti project.

- 22. During the site visit in May 2023, the potential purchaser also visited the Murray River project. It has expressed some interest in CDI's investment in that project as well.
- 23. As of August 31, 2023, the potential purchaser has completed their due diligence on the Wapiti Project.
- 24. On September 2, 2023, the potential purchaser arrived in Canada to begin a final sale visit, with the intention of entering into a binding agreement for the purchase of the Wapiti Project before September 30, 2023.
- 25. The potential purchaser also visited the Murray River project in September, 2023.
- 26. During this site visit the potential purchaser brought along representatives of a steel company that is interested in acquiring CDI's interest in the Pacific Iron Ore Project.
- 27. The potential purchaser returned to China on September 9, 2023.
- 28. The potential purchaser and CDI have continued to negotiate since the purchaser returned to China, with the intention of entering into a binding agreement or closing the sale of CDI's interest in the Murray River project.
- 29. On October 30, 2023, the potential purchaser and CDI signed a contract for the purchase of CDI's shares in HD Mines International Ltd., which hold the shares of the Murray River project.
- 30. Parallel to the Murray River transaction pursuit, the potential purchaser and CDI have also continued negotiating the terms of an agreement to purchase CDI's interest in the Wapiti Project and are continuing to advance the transaction for the purchase of CDI's interest.

Deposit Agreement with Purchaser

- On November 25, 2023, the potential purchaser and the Petitioner entered into an agreement, whereby the potential purchaser would provide a deposit in the amount of either approximately \$7,000,000 RMB (or \$1,000,000 USD) (the "Deposit") to be held pending finalization of either a transaction for either of the Murray River Project or the Wapiti Project, whichever is able to be finalized first (the "Deposit Agreement").
- 32. CDI understands that there have been some delays in finalizing either the Murray River or Wapiti transactions with the purchaser. The intention of the Deposit Agreement was to provide credibility that one or both of these transactions will proceed to completion and thereby allow the Petitioner to put forward a plan to its creditors.
- 33. The Deposit will be held by Beijing Shuailing Trading Co., Ltd., a related company to the Petitioners ("CDI RelatedCo").

- 34. CDI RelatedCo is owned and controlled by two shareholders: Fushun Liu (Naishun Liu's younger brother) and Yunmao Liu (Qubo Liu's younger brother). Fushun Liu is the legal representative entitled to sign agreements on behalf of CDI RelatedCo.
- 35. CDI RelatedCo. has been used by CDI as a vehicle to fund previous projects in Canada where funding was coming from Chinese parties. For example, CDI RelatedCo was used to hold a US\$ 20 million deposit which was advanced in connection with the Murray River project.
- 36. CDI RelatedCo will hold the Deposit in its account at the Business Department of Fangshan Sub-Branch, Lvliang, Shanxi Branch of Agricultural Bank of China. CDI is entering an agreement with CDI RelatedCo to reflect that the Deposit will be held in trust for CDI in connection with the Deposit Agreement (the "Deposit Trust Agreement").
- 37. The Deposit Agreement provides that the Deposit will be funded within 5 business days of execution. CDI expects to confirm receipt of the Deposit provide a copy of the Deposit Trust Agreement prior to the hearing in this matter.

Stay Extension

- 38. The Petitioner seeks an extension of the stay to February 13, 2024 (the "Stay Extension").
- 39. The Petitioner requires the Stay Extension to continue to advance negotiations with respect to the Wapiti Project, over which an LOI has already been entered, and the Murray River Project, which is now subject to an agreement between a potential purchaser and CDLV.
- 40. The Petitioner expects to provide further evidence concerning the Deposit and the Deposit Trust Agreement prior to the hearing concerning the Stay Extension.
- The Petitioner will require an incremental increase in the DIP Facility to provide needed liquidity through the proposed Stay Extension period.

Interim Lending

- 42. The further amended cash flow forecast provided by the Petitioner, and prepared with the assistance of the Monitor and included in the 9th Report (the "Further Amended Cash Flow Statement"), projects that the Petitioner will require up to \$1,790,000 (from the start of the proceedings) to meet its ongoing liabilities incurred up to (and including) the week ending February 11, 2024. This is an increase of \$250,000.
- The terms of the DIP Facility as set out in the DIP Commitment Letter are more favourable than those that are typically included in third party interim financing in CCAA proceedings.
- 44. The Petitioners seek an increase in the amount that can be borrowed under the DIP Facility, and a corresponding increase in the Interim Lender's Charge to permit the

Petitioner to move forward with the plans to sell its interest in Wapiti and/or Murray River, advance the claims process in preparation for a closing, and thereby fund a plan of arrangement in these proceedings.

45. The Petitioner is not aware of any other parties prepared to fund CDI or these proceedings other than the current DIP Lender.

Part 3: LEGAL BASIS

- 1. The Petitioner relies on:
 - (a) the CCAA;
 - (b) Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. B-3, as amended (the "BIA");
 - (c) Supreme Court Civil Rules, in particular Rules 8-1, 13-1, and 22-4;
 - (d) the inherent and equitable jurisdiction of this Court; and
 - (e) such further and other legal bases and authorities as counsel may advise and this Court may permit.

Extension of the Stay of Proceedings is Appropriate

- 2. Subsection 11.02(2) of the CCAA provides that the Petitioner may apply for an extension of the Stay of Proceedings for a period that a court considers necessary on any terms that a court may impose. Subsection 11.02(3) of the CCAA provides that the Court shall not make the order extending the Stay of Proceedings unless:
 - (a) the applicant satisfies the Court that circumstances exist that make the order appropriate; and
 - (b) in the case of an order under subsection (2), the applicant also satisfies the Court that the applicant has acted, and is acting, in good faith and with due diligence.

CCAA s. 11.02.

3. In determining whether the appropriate circumstances exist to extend the Stay of Proceedings, the Court should inquire whether the order sought advances the remedial purpose of the *CCAA*.

North American Tungsten Corp. (Re), 2015 BCSC 1376 at para. 25.

4. Extending the relief granted by the Initial Order, as amended and restated, including the Stay of Proceedings, is appropriate and necessary to enable the Petitioner to complete transactions for the benefit of the Petitioner's stakeholders in a future plan of arrangement.

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- 5. The Petitioner, with the assistance of the Monitor, has been moving the transactions concerning the Murray River and Wapiti Projects forward, despite a number of obstacles.
- 6. CDI has also utilized the Interim Facility funds to ensure that the licenses and permits relating to the mining assets of CDI will be maintained in good standing until a transaction can be completed and has recently obtained the Deposit Agreement to provide additional credibility that one or both of the transactions will proceed to completion and thereby allow the Petitioner to put forward a plan to its creditors.
- 7. This has all been in good faith and with due diligence to advance these CCAA proceedings in pursuit of a restructuring that will maximize value for their stakeholders.
- 8. The Petitioner submits that, in these circumstances, it is necessary and appropriate that the Stay of Proceedings be extended to February 13, 2024.

The Interim Financing Facility and Interim Financing Charge Are Appropriate

- 9. Section 11.2(4) of the CCAA vests the Court with jurisdiction to grant an interim financing charge over the assets of the debtor in priority to the claim of any secured creditor of the debtor, on notice to the secured creditors who are likely to be affected by such security or charge. In deciding whether to make an order for an interim lender's charge, the court will consider, among other factors:
 - (a) The period during which the debtor is expected to be subject to CCAA proceedings;
 - (b) How the debtor's business and financial affairs are to be managed during the proceedings;
 - (c) Whether the debtor's management has the confidence of its major creditors;
 - (d) Whether the loan would enhance the prospects of a viable compromise or arrangement being made in respect of the debtor;
 - (e) The nature and value of the debtor's property;
 - (f) Whether any creditor would be materially prejudiced as result of the security or charge; and
 - (g) The Monitor's report, if any.

CCAA s. 11.2

- 10. In order to continue the Petitioner's operations, advance the restructuring efforts, the Petitioner requires the amounts as forecasted in the Further Amended Cash-Flow Statement. Without such financing, the Petitioner will be unable to continue its operations and enter into favourable transactions all of which will be to the detriment of the Petitioner, its creditors, and other stakeholders.
- 11. Further, the Petitioner and the Monitor are of the view that the DIP Facility is on more favourable terms than any other potentially available third party financing.
- 12. The Petitioner is of the view that the increase of the DIP Facility on offer from the DIP Lender is in the best interest of the Petitioner and all of the stakeholders.

Re: Target Canada Co., 2015 ONSC 303 at paras. 67-70

13. As such, the Petitioner submits that is appropriate in these circumstances to grant the increase to the DIP Facility and the interim Lender's Charge.

Canwest Global Communication Corp., Re. 2009 CarswellOnt 6184 at paras. 44-48 ("Canwest Global")

Part 4: MATERIAL TO BE RELIED ON

- 1. The Eighth Report of the Monitor, filed November 10, 2023;
- 2. The Ninth Report of the Monitor to be filed:
- 3. Affidavit of Qubo Liu, to be filed; and
- 4. Any such further materials as counsel advises and this Honourable Court permits.

The applicant estimates that the application will take 30 minutes.

This matter is within the jurisdiction of a master.	

This matter is not within the jurisdiction of a master and Mr. Justice Walker is seized of this matter.

TO THE PERSONS RECEIVING THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION: If you wish to respond to this notice of application, you must, within 5 business days after service of this notice of application or, if this application is brought under Rule 9-7, within 8 business days after service of this notice of application,

- (a) file an application response in Form 33;
- (b) file the original of every affidavit, and of every other document, that

- (i) you intend to refer to at the hearing of this application, and
- (ii) has not already been filed in the proceeding; and
- (c) serve on the applicant 2 copies of the following, and on every other party of record one copy of the following:
 - (i) a copy of the filed application response;
 - (ii) a copy of each of the filed affidavits and other documents that you intend to refer to at the hearing of this application and that has not already been served on that person;

(iii) if this application is brought under Rule 9-7, any notice that you are required to give under Rule 9-7(9).

Dated

Signature of ☑ lawyer for filing party

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP (Jeffrey D. Bradshaw)

Lawyer for the Petitioner

To be completed by the court only:				
Order made				
in the terms requested in paragraphs of Part 1 of this notice of application				
with the following variations and additional terms:				
Date: Signature of Judge Master				
Signature of studge waster				

APPENDIX

The following information is provided for data collection purposes only and is of no legal effect.

THIS APPLICATION INVOLVES THE FOLLOWING:

	discovery: comply with demand for documents
	discovery: production of additional documents
	oral matters concerning document discovery
	extend oral discovery
	other matter concerning oral discovery
	amend pleadings
	add/change parties
	summary judgment
	summary trial
	service
	mediation
	adjournments
	proceedings at trial
	case plan orders: amend
	case plan orders: other
	experts
\boxtimes	none of the above

Schedule "A"

(Service List)

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C., 1985 c. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND

IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OF COMPROMISE AND ARRANGEMENT OF CANADIAN DEHUA INTERNATIONAL MINES GROUP INC.

PETITIONER

Service List

(Last Updated: September 7, 2023)

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP Suite 2800, Park Place 666 Burrard St. V6C 2Z7 Vancouver, BC

Attention: Colin D. Brousson and Jeffrey

D. Bradshaw

Email: colin.brousson@dlapiper.com

jeffrey.bradshaw@dlapiper.com

dannis.yang@dlapiper.com

Telephone: 604.643.6400

604.643.2941

Counsel for the Petitioner

FTI Consulting Canada Inc. Suite 1450, P.O. Box 10089 701 West Georgia St. Vancouver, BC V7Y 1B6

Attention: Craig Munro and Hailey Liu

Email: Craig.Munro@fticonsulting.com

Hailey.Liu@fticonsulting.com

Telephone: 604.757.6108 403.454.6040

Monitor

Bennett Jones

666 Burrard Street, Suite 2500 Vancouver, BC V6C 2X8

Attention: David E. Gruber

Email: gruberd@bennettjones.com

morenoe@bennettjones.com

Telephone: 604.891.5150

Counsel for the Monitor

Dentons

250 Howe St. 20th Floor Vancouver, BC V6C 3R8

Attention: Jordan Schultz and Eamonn

Watson

Email: jordan.schultz@dentons.com

eamonn.watson@dentons.com avic.arenas@dentons.com chelsea.denton@dentons.com

Telephone: 604.691.6452

604.629.4997

Counsel for China Shougang International Trade & Engineer Corporation

Harper Grey LLP

650 W Georgia St #3200 Vancouver, BC V6B 4P7

Attention: Erin Hatch and Roselle Wu

Email: ehatch@harpergrey.com

rwu@harpergrey.com

Telephone: 604.895.2818

Counsel for Canada Zhonghe Investment Ltd.

Fasken

1500 – 1055 W Georgia St. Vancouver, BC V6E 4N7

Attention: Kibben Jackson and Mihai

Tomos

Email: kjackson@fasken.com

mtomos@fasken.com

Telephone: 604.631.4786

403.261.7386

Counsel for Canadian Kailuan Dehua Mines

Co., Ltd.

Lawson Lundell LLP

Suite 1600 Cathedral Place

925 W Georgia St.

Vancouver, BC V6C 3L2

McMillan LLP

550 Burrard Street, Suite 2900

Vancouver, BC V6C 0A3

Attention: William L. Roberts

Email: wroberts@lawsonlundell.com

Telephone: 604

604.631.9163

Counsel for Accurate Court Bailiff Services

Ltd.

Attention: Bernhard Zinkhofer

Email: Bernhard.Zinkhofer@mcmillan.ca

Telephone: 604.689.9111

604.685.7084

Counsel for HBIS Group International Holding

Co., Limited

BI G Weiheng Law 1200 Waterfront Centre, 200 Burrard St., 16th Floor, Tower A, China Technology P.O. Box 48600, Vancouver, BC, Canada Trading Building No. 66 North Fourth Ring West Road, Haidian District, Beijing Attention: Ryan Laity and Jennifer Pepper Attention: Wei Heng Email: RLaity@blg.com JPepper@blg.com Email: weiheng@weihenglaw.com Telephone: 604,632,3544 Telephone: +86-10-62684688 Counsel for Huiyong Holdings (BC) Ltd. Counsel for Feicheng Mining Co., Ltd McMillan LLP Royal Centre, 1055 W. Georgia Street, Suite 1500 PO Box 11117 Vancouver, BC, Canada V6E 4N7 **Attention: Daniel Shouldice** Email: Daniel.Shouldice@mcmillan.ca Telephone: 604.691.6858 Counsel for HD Mining International Ltd. Bullmoose Mining Ltd Canada Revenue Agency 3577 West 34Th Ave C/O N.Sindu (462-11) 9755 King George Blvd. Vancouver BC, V6N 2K7 Surrey, BC, V3T 5E6 CIBC - CEBA Canadian Dehua Lyliang International Mines 400 Burrard Street Corp. 310-1155 Pender St. West Vancouver, BC V6C 3M5 Vancouver, BC V6E 2P4

Email distribution list:

colin.brousson@dlapiper.com; jeffrey.bradshaw@dlapiper.com; dannis.yang@dlapiper.com; Craig.Munro@fticonsulting.com; Hailey.Liu@fticonsulting.com; gruberd@bennettjones.com; morenoe@bennettjones.com; jordan.schultz@dentons.com; eamonn.watson@dentons.com; avic.arenas@dentons.com; chelsea.denton@dentons.com; ehatch@harpergrey.com; rwu@harpergrey.com; kjackson@fasken.com; mtomos@fasken.com; wroberts@lawsonlundell.com; Bernhard.Zinkhofer@mcmillan.ca; RLaity@blg.com; JPepper@blg.com; weiheng@weihenglaw.com; Daniel.Shouldice@mcmillan.ca;

Schedule "B"

(Draft Order)

No. S-224444 Vancouver Registry

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT.

R.S.C. 1985, C. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND

IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OF COMPROMISE AND ARRANGEMENT OF CANADIAN DEHUA INTERNATIONAL MINES GROUP INC.

PETITIONERS

ORDER MADE AFTER APPLICATION (STAY EXTENSION ORDER)

BEFORE)) THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE WALKER))))	December 5, 2023
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ON THE APPLICATION of the Petitioner coming on for hearing at 800 Smithe Street, Vancouver, BC V6Z 2E1 on November 14, 2023, and on hearing Jeffrey D. Bradshaw, counsel for the Petitioner and those other counsel listed on Schedule "A" hereto; AND UPON READING the material filed herein; AND UPON BEING ADVISED that the creditors and others who are likely to be affected by the charges created herein were given notice; AND pursuant to the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985 c. C-36 as amended (the "CCAA"), the British Columbia Supreme Court Civil Rules and the inherent jurisdiction of this Honourable Court; and further to the Initial Order pronounced by this Court on June 3, 2022 (the "Order Date") as revised, amended and restated from time to time including pursuant to the Amended and Restated Initial Order pronounced by this Court on June 9, 2022 (the "ARIO"), as amended from time to time, and including the Sixth Amended and Restated Initial Order pronounced by this Court on September 11, 2023 (the "Sixth ARIO");

THIS COURT ORDERS that:

- 1. The time for service of the Petitioner's Notice of Application dated December 1, 2023, is abridged such that this Application is properly returnable today.
- 2. The stay of proceedings set out in paragraph 15 of the Sixth ARIO granted by the Honourable Justice Walker is hereby extended up to and including February 13, 2024;

CAN: 50970670.1

- 3. The interim facility provided by the Interim Lender pursuant to the Commitment Letter, as amended, and the corresponding Interim Lender's Charge, each as defined in the Sixth ARIO, is hereby increased by \$250,000, to a maximum amount of \$1,790,000.
- 4. This Order and all of its provisions are effective as of 12:01 a.m. local Vancouver time on the Order Date.
- 5. Endorsement of this Order by counsel appearing on this application is hereby dispensed with.

THE FOLLOWING PARTIES APPROVE THE FORM OF THIS ORDER AND CONSENT TO EACH OF THE ORDERS, IF ANY, THAT ARE INDICATED ABOVE AS BEING BY CONSENT:

Signature of ☑ lawyer for the Petitioner
DLA Piper (Canada) LLP (Jeffrey D. Bradshaw)

BY THE COURT

REGISTRAR

SCHEDULE "A"

NAME OF COUNSEL	PARTY REPRESENTING	
Jordan Schultz and Eamonn Watson	China Shougang International Trade & Engineering Corporation	
David Gruber	The Monitor, FTI Consulting Canada Inc.	
Roselle Wu	Canada Zhonghe Investment Ltd.	
Kibben Jackson and Glen Nesbitt	Canadian Kailuan Dehua Mines Co., Ltd.	
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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS

ARRANGEMENT ACT,

R.S.C. 1985, C. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND

IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OF COMPROMISE AND ARRANGEMENT OF CANADIAN DEHUA INTERNATIONAL MINES GROUP INC.

PETITIONERS

ORDER MADE AFTER APPLICATION

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP Barristers & Solicitors Suite 2700, The Stack 1133 Melville St Vancouver, BC V6E 4E5

Tel. No. 604.687.9444 Fax No. 604.687.1612

File No.: 080762-00014 CDB/day

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