

**SUPERIOR COURT**  
(Commercial Division)

C A N A D A

PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC  
DISTRICT OF MONTRÉAL

N°: 500-11-048114-157

DATE: August 30, 2016

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**PRESIDING: THE HONOURABLE STEPHEN W. HAMILTON J.S.C.**

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

**CLIFFS QUÉBEC IRON MINING ULC**

Petitioner

-and-

**IRON ORE COMPANY OF CANADA**

Mise-en-cause

-and-

**FTI CONSULTING CANADA INC.**

Monitor

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**APPROVAL AND VESTING ORDER**

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- [1] **ON READING** the Petitioners' *Motion for the Issuance of an Approval and Vesting Order with respect to the sale of certain assets* (the "**Motion**"), the affidavit and the exhibits in support thereof, as well as the 22nd Report of the Monitor dated August 22, 2016, (the "**Report**");
- [2] **SEEING** the service of the Motion;
- [3] **SEEING** the submissions of the Petitioner's and the Monitor's attorneys;
- [4] **SEEING** that it is appropriate to issue an order approving the transaction (the "**Transaction**") contemplated by the agreement entitled Asset Purchase Agreement (the "**Purchase Agreement**") dated as of July 22, 2016 by and between Cliffs Québec Iron Mining ULC, as vendor (the "**Vendor**") and Iron Ore Company of Canada, as

purchaser, a redacted copy of which was filed as Exhibit R-4 to the Motion, and vesting in the Purchaser all of Vendor's right, title and interest in and to all of the Purchased Assets (as defined in the Purchase Agreement).

- [5] **SEEING** that Cliffs Natural Resources Inc., as secured creditor, has consented to the sale, and that no creditor has opposed the sale;

**FOR THESE REASONS, THE COURT HEREBY:**

- [6] **GRANTS** the Motion.
- [7] **ORDERS** that all capitalized terms in this Order shall have the meaning given to them in the Purchase Agreement unless otherwise indicated herein.

**SERVICE**

- [8] **ORDERS** that any prior time period for the presentation of this Motion is hereby abridged and validated so that this Motion is properly returnable today and hereby dispenses with further service thereof.
- [9] **PERMITS** service of this Order at any time and place and by any means whatsoever.

**SALE APPROVAL**

- [10] **ORDERS AND DECLARES** that the Transaction is hereby approved, and the execution of the Purchase Agreement by the Vendor is hereby authorized and approved, *nunc pro tunc*.
- [11] **AUTHORIZES AND DIRECTS** the Monitor to hold the Deposit, *nunc pro tunc*, and to apply, disburse and/or deliver the Deposit or the applicable portions thereof in accordance with the provisions of the Purchase Agreement and this Order.

**AUTHORIZATION**

- [12] **ORDERS AND DECLARES** that this Order shall constitute the only authorization required by the Vendor to proceed with the Transaction and that no other approval or authorization, including any board or shareholder approval, shall be required in connection therewith.

**EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTATION**

- [13] **AUTHORIZES AND DIRECTS** the Vendor, Iron Ore Company of Canada and/or any of its Affiliates who is an assignee of some or all of Iron Ore Company of Canada's rights and obligations under the Purchase Agreement following an assignment pursuant to Section 10.16 of the Purchase Agreement (collectively, the "**Purchaser**") and the Monitor to perform all acts, sign all documents and take any necessary action to execute any agreement, contract, deed, provision, transaction or undertaking stipulated in or contemplated by the Purchase Agreement, with such non-material alterations, changes, amendments, deletions or additions thereto as may be agreed to but only with the consent of the Monitor, and any other ancillary document which could be required or useful to give full and complete effect thereto.

**VESTING OF THE PURCHASED ASSETS**

- [14] **ORDERS and DECLARES** that upon the issuance of a Monitor's certificate substantially in the form appended as **Schedule "A"** hereto (the "**Certificate**"), all rights, title and interest in and to the Purchased Assets shall vest free and clear, absolutely and exclusively in and with the Purchaser, from any and all rights, titles, benefits, priorities, claims (including claims provable in bankruptcy in the event that the Vendor should be adjudged bankrupt), liabilities (direct, indirect, absolute or contingent), obligations, interests, prior claims, security interests (whether contractual, statutory or otherwise), liens, charges, hypothecs, mortgages, pledges, trusts, deemed trusts (whether contractual, statutory, or otherwise), assignments, judgments, executions, writs of seizure or execution, notices of sale, options, agreements, rights of distress, legal, equitable or contractual setoff, adverse claims, levies, taxes, disputes, debts, charges, options to purchase, rights of first refusal or other pre-emptive rights in favour of third parties, restrictions on transfer of title, or other claims or encumbrances, whether or not they have attached or been perfected, registered, published or filed and whether secured, unsecured or otherwise (collectively, the "**Encumbrances**"), including without limiting the generality of the foregoing all Encumbrances created by order of this Court and all charges, security interests or charges evidenced by registration, publication or filing pursuant to the Civil Code of Québec, or any other applicable legislation providing for a security interest in personal or movable property, and, for greater certainty, **ORDERS** that all of the Encumbrances affecting or relating to the Purchased Assets, be expunged and discharged as against the Purchased Assets, in each case effective as of the applicable time and date of the Certificate.
- [15] **ORDERS and DIRECTS** the Monitor, upon receipt of (i) payment in full of the Purchase Price, Transfer Taxes (if any are payable) for remittance to the applicable taxation authorities in accordance with Applicable Law, in the amounts set out in the Conditions Certificates, and (ii) of each of the Conditions Certificates, to (a) issue forthwith its Certificate concurrently to the Vendor and the Purchaser; and (b) file forthwith after issuance thereof a copy of the Certificate with the Court.
- [16] **DECLARES** that the Monitor shall be at liberty to rely exclusively on the Conditions Certificates in issuing the Certificate, without any obligation to independently confirm or verify the waiver or satisfaction of the applicable conditions.
- [17] **AUTHORIZES and DIRECTS** the Monitor to receive and hold the Purchase Price and to remit the Purchase Price in accordance with the provisions of this Order.

**NET PROCEEDS**

- [18] **ORDERS** that any amounts payable to the Vendor in accordance with the Purchase Agreement (the "**Proceeds**") shall be remitted to the Monitor and shall, subject to the provisions of this Order, be held by the Monitor on behalf of the Vendor pending further order of the Court.
- [19] **AUTHORIZES AND DIRECTS** the Monitor, as soon as practicable after Closing, to remit to the applicable taxing authorities in accordance with Applicable Law, the Transfer Taxes (if any are payable) received by the Monitor from the Purchaser on Closing as set out in the Conditions Certificates, at the direction of, and on behalf of the Vendor.

- [20] **ORDERS** that for the purposes of determining the nature and priority of the Encumbrances, the balance of the Proceeds remaining following deduction for the Transfer Taxes (if any are payable) that are remitted by the Monitor pursuant to Paragraph 19 of this Order (the "**Net Proceeds**") shall stand in the place and stead of the Purchased Assets, and that upon the issuance of the Certificate, all Encumbrances shall attach to the Net Proceeds with the same priority as they had with respect to the Purchased Assets immediately prior to the Closing, as if the Purchased Assets had not been sold and remained in the possession or control of the person having that possession or control immediately prior to the Closing.
- [21] **ORDERS** that, following the issuance of the Certificate, the Purchaser shall have no recourse or claim of any kind against the Net Proceeds.

### **VALIDITY OF THE TRANSACTION**

- [22] **ORDERS** that notwithstanding:
- a) the pendency of the proceedings under the CCAA;
  - b) any assignment in bankruptcy or any petition for a bankruptcy order now or hereafter issued pursuant to the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* (Canada) (the "**BIA**"), and any order issued pursuant to any such petition;
  - c) any application for a receivership order; or
  - d) the provisions of any federal or provincial legislation;

the vesting of the Purchased Assets contemplated in this Order, as well as the execution of the Purchase Agreement pursuant to this Order, are to be binding on any trustee in bankruptcy or receiver that may be appointed, and shall not be void or voidable nor deemed to be a preference, assignment, fraudulent conveyance, transfer at undervalue or other reviewable transaction under the BIA or any other applicable federal or provincial legislation, as against the Vendor, the Purchaser or the Monitor, and shall not constitute oppressive or unfairly prejudicial conduct pursuant to any applicable federal or provincial legislation.

### **LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

- [23] **DECLARES** that, subject to other orders of this Court, nothing herein contained shall require the Monitor to take control, or to otherwise manage all or any part of the Purchased Assets. The Monitor shall not, as a result of this Order, be deemed to be in possession of any of the Purchased Assets within the meaning of environmental legislation, the whole pursuant to the terms of the CCAA.
- [24] **DECLARES** that no action lies against the Monitor by reason of this Order or the performance of any act authorized by this Order, except by leave of the Court. The entities related to the Monitor or belonging to the same group as the Monitor shall benefit from the protection arising under the present paragraph.

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

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- [25] **ORDERS** that the unredacted Purchase Agreement filed with the Court shall be sealed, kept confidential and not form part of the public record, but rather shall be placed, separate and apart from all other contents of the Court file, in a sealed envelope attached to a notice that sets out the title of these proceedings and a statement that the contents are subject to a sealing order and shall only be opened upon further Order of the Court.

**GENERAL**

- [26] **DECLARES** that the Vendor and the Purchaser shall be authorized to take all steps as may be necessary to effect the discharge of the Encumbrances.
- [27] **DECLARES** that this Order shall have full force and effect in all provinces and territories in Canada.
- [28] **DECLARES** that the Monitor shall be authorized to apply as it may consider necessary or desirable, with or without notice, to any other court or administrative body, whether in Canada, the United States of America or elsewhere, for orders which aid and complement this Order. All courts and administrative bodies of all such jurisdictions are hereby respectfully requested to make such orders and to provide such assistance to the Monitor as may be deemed necessary or appropriate for that purpose.
- [29] **REQUESTS** the aid and recognition of any court or administrative body in any Province of Canada and any Canadian federal court or administrative body and any federal or state court or administrative body in the United States of America and any court or administrative body elsewhere, to act in aid of and to be complementary to this Court in carrying out the terms of this Order.
- [30] **ORDERS** the provisional execution of this Order, including without limiting the general application of the foregoing, notwithstanding any appeal and without the requirement to provide any security or provision for costs whatsoever.

**THE WHOLE WITHOUT COSTS, ~~save in case of contestation.~~** *save*



**STEPHEN W. HAMILTON J.S.C.**

M<sup>re</sup> Bernard Boucher  
(Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP)  
Attorneys for the Petitioner

Hearing date: August 30, 2016