Court of Appeal File No. M42068 Superior Court File No. CV-12-9667-00CL

COURT OF APPEAL FOR ONTARIO

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 OR ARRANGEMENT OF SINO-FOREST CORPORATION

Applicant

APPLICATION UNDER THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

FACTUM OF THE RESPONDENT, FTI CONSULTING CANADA INC., in its capacity as Monitor

February 22, 2013

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FACTUM OF THE RESPONDENT, FTI CONSULTING CANADA INC.

PART I - OVERVIEW

- 1. This responding factum is submitted by FTI Consulting Canada Inc. in its capacity as monitor (the "Monitor") appointed in connection with the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act ("CCAA") proceedings involving Sino Forest Corporation ("SFC" or the "Company"), in response to the motion for leave to appeal the Sanction Order (defined below) by the appellants, Invesco Canada Ltd., Northwest & Ethical Investments L.P. and Comité Syndical National de Retraite Bâtirente Inc. (collectively, the "Appellants").
- 2. The Monitor has participated in the Company's CCAA proceedings in accordance with its mandate pursuant to the CCAA and various court orders including with respect to the development of the Plan (defined below).
- On December 10, 2012, the Ontario Superior Court of Justice (the "CCAA Court") granted an order (the "Sanction Order") approving the Company's plan of compromise and reorganization dated December 3, 2012 (as amended, the "Plan"). The Plan was approved in its entirety including Article 11 of the Plan. The Plan was implemented on January 30, 2013 and substantially all of the consideration under the Plan has now been distributed.
- 4. The Appellants seek leave to appeal on a limited basis. They say that they are only challenging the Sanction Order to the extent that it approves the Plan provisions which address the settlement involving Ernst & Young LLP and its

affiliates (the "E&Y Scttlement" and "E&Y") and the plaintiffs in certain class actions.

- 5. It is the Monitor's view that the Sanction Order is the CCAA Court's approval of an integrated Plan whose provisions are not severable and that the Appellants cannot appeal (or seek leave) with respect to one aspect of the Sanction Order's effects.
- 6. It is the Monitor's further view that Morawetz, J. did not err in granting the Sanction Order and that the Appellants' motion for leave to appeal the Sanction Order should be dismissed.

PART II - THE FACTS

7. The Monitor adopts the facts summarized in the endorsement of Morawetz, J. released on December 10, 2012 (the "Sanction Order Reasons"). To the extent of any conflict between the facts as summarized in the Sanction Order Reasons and the facts stated on behalf of the Appellants, the Monitor disagrees with the facts set out in the Appellants' factum.

PART III - MONITOR'S POSITION RE: APPELLANTS' ISSUES

8. The Monitor submits that Morawetz, J. appropriately granted the Sanction Order for the reasons set out in the Sanction Order Reasons and that the Appellants' motion for leave to appeal should not be granted for the reasons set out in the following paragraphs.

- 9. From the outset of the CCAA proceedings, it was recognized by the Company and the CCAA Court that it was necessary to address the contingent litigation claims against the Company and the resulting indemnification claims by the other defendants in the context of the CCAA process itself. In that regard, numerous steps were taken by the Company and others including:
 - (a) Obtaining a claims bar order dated June 20, 2012 (the "Claims Procedure Order") which provided for, among other things:
 - (i) A call for all claims against the Company and its officers and directors, including equity claims;
 - (ii) A claims bar date of June 20, 2012 (the "Claims Bar Date"); and
 - (iii) That the plaintiffs (the "Ontario Plaintiffs") in the class action against the Company (and others) in Ontario bearing court file number CV-11-431153-00CP (the "Ontario Class Action") and the plaintiffs (the "Quebec Plaintiffs" and together with the Ontario Plaintiffs, the "Plaintiffs") in the class action against the Company (and others) in Quebec bearing court file number 200-06-000132-111 (the "Quebec Class Action" and together with the Ontario Class Action, the "Canadian Class Actions") were authorized to file representative claims in the claims process in respect of the

substance of the Ontario Class Action and the Quebec Class Action respectively;

- Obtaining a mediation order dated July 25, 2012 (the "Mediation") Order") which provided for a mediation (the "Mediation") to be conducted on September 4, 5 and, if necessary, 10, 2012. Notably:
 - (i) The "mediation parties" included the Company, its insurers, the Monitor, the ad hoc committee of Noteholders, the Plaintiffs, the other defendants in the Canadian Class Actions (other than Pöyry (Beijing) Consulting Co. Ltd.) (the "Third Party Defendants");
 - (ii) The purpose of the Mediation was to mediate a full resolution of the claims of the Plaintiffs against not only the Company but also the Third Party Defendants (the "Subject Claims"); and
 - (iii) The Mediation Order directed the mediation parties to attend with representatives with full authority to settle the Subject Claims;
- (c) Seeking direction and obtaining a decision and order (the "Equity

 Claims Decision") declaring that the claims of the Plaintiffs in

 respect of the purchase of securities and resulting indemnity claims of
 the Third Party Defendants constituted "equity claims" under section

- 2(1) of the CCAA. Certain of the Third Party Defendants subsequently appealed the Equity Claims Decision to this Court which appeal was dismissed on November 23, 2012.
- 10. In addition to the above, there was a tremendous amount of work done by the Company (and others) in the development and negotiation of the Plan and the Plan terms to ultimately reach a compromise that was either on consent or unopposed by all parties who had participated in the CCAA proceedings throughout the process. The only parties who opposed the Plan were the Appellants. Despite the very public nature of the CCAA proceedings, the Appellants waited until December 6, 2012, the day before the Sanction Hearing, to file a notice of appearance in the CCAA process.
- The Plan was approved by over 98% (in both quantum and value) of voting creditors (who voted either in person or by proxy in accordance with the plan filing and meeting order dated August 31, 2012 which provided for amendments to the Plan to be made in accordance with the terms of such Order) and was sanctioned by the CCAA Court. The Plan reflected terms that were extensively negotiated by the Company (among others) in order to reach a compromise and reorganization acceptable to its creditors and other participants in the proceedings. It is clear that the Plan is a compromise in the true sense of the word and should be read as a whole. It is the Monitor's view that Morawetz, J. correctly held:

The Plan was presented to the Meeting with Article 11 in place. This was the Plan that was the subject to the vote and this is the Plan that is the subject of this motion. The

alternative proposed by the [Appellants] was not considered at the meeting and, in my view, it is not appropriate to consider such an alternative on this motion.

- 12. Neither the Plan nor the Sanction Order, themselves, give effect to a third party release in favour of E&Y or any other "Named Third Party Defendant" under the Plan. As noted by Morawetz, J. in his Sanction Order Reasons, "it is apparent that approval of the E&Y Settlement is not before the court on this motion and no release is being provided to E&Y as a result of this motion." Instead, Morawetz, J. correctly noted that the E&Y release would only become effective if certain other conditions were met, including further court approval of the E&Y Settlement. In fact, since the granting of the Sanction Order Reasons, a motion was heard by Morawetz, J. on February 4, 2013 (the "E&Y Settlement Approval Motion") specifically seeking approval of the E&Y Settlement. The Appellants participated in and opposed the E&Y Settlement Approval Motion. Morawetz, J.'s decision on the E&Y Settlement Approval Motion is pending as of the date of this factum. Given that the public, including the Appellants, have had a separate opportunity to be fully heard on the issues of the E&Y Settlement including issues relating to opt out and releases, it cannot be said that there are issues of law (or fact) of such significance on this proposed appeal that leave should be granted.
- 13. On January 30, 2013, the Plan was implemented and substantially all of the consideration under the Plan was distributed. It is the Monitor's position that there is no basis on which to grant the Appellants' motion for leave to appeal the Sanction Order particularly in this case where, given the separate E&Y Settlement Approval

Motion (in which the Appellants participated) it cannot be said there is any prejudice to the Appellants and, on the other hand, the Plan, as a whole, has been approved by creditors, sanctioned by the CCAA Court and fully implemented.

14. As set out above, the Plan is an integrated whole. Its parts are not severable. Neither are the approvals implemented by the Sanction Order. Without the provisions addressing the E&Y Settlement, both the Plan and the positions of major stakeholder parties at the Sanction Order hearing would have been different. The Appellants cannot now seek to undue a part of these arrangements and decisions.

PART IV - ADDITIONAL ISSUES

15. The Monitor has no additional issues to raise in relation to this motion for leave to appeal.

PART V - ORDER REQUESTED

16. It is the Monitor's view that the Appellants' motion for leave to appeal the Sanction Order should be dismissed.

ALL OF WHICH IS RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 22^{nd} day of February, 2013.

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SCHEDULE A

N/A

SCHEDULE B

N/A

Court of Appeal File M42068 / Court File No.: CV-12-9667-00CL

AND IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OF COMPROMISE OR ARRANGEMENT OF SINO-FOREST CORPORATION IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c.C-36, AS AMENDED

ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE (Commercial List)

(PROCEEDING COMMENCED AT TORONTO)

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