IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
GENERAL DIVISION
In Bankruptcy and Insolvency

Citation: *PricewaterhouseCoopers Inc. v. Canada Fluorspar (NL) Inc.*, 2022 NLSC 49
Date: March 24, 2022
Docket: 202201G0709

IN THE MATTER OF an application of Canada Fluorspar (NL) Inc. and Canada Fluorspar Inc., by their Court-Appointed Interim Receiver, Grant Thornton Limited

AND IN THE MATTER OF the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. 36, as amended

BETWEEN:

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS INC., IN ITS CAPACITY AS COURT-APPOINTED RECEIVER AND MANAGER OF BRIDGING FINANCE INC. AND BRIDGING INCOME FUND LP

APPLICANT

AND:

CANADA FLUORSPAR (NL) INC. AND CANADA FLUORSPAR INC.

RESPONDENTS

Before: Justice Alexander MacDonald
Edited Transcript of Oral Reasons for Judgment

Filed Mar.24/22 CJ

Place of Hearing:	St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador
Date of Hearing:	March 18, 2022
Date of Oral Judgment:	March 18, 2022

Appearances:

Geoffrey L. Spencer, Meghan M. King and Phil Clarke	Appearing on behalf of the Applicant, Grant Thornton Limited, Court-Appointed Interim Receiver of Canada Fluorspar (NL) Inc. and Canada Fluorspar Inc.
Darren D. O'Keefe and Allison J. Philpott	Appearing on behalf of Canada Fluorspar (NL) Inc. and Canada Fluorspar Inc.
Joseph J. Thorne, Graham Page and Liam Murphy	Appearing on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers Inc., on behalf of Bridging Finance Inc.
Robert J. Kennedy Dennis R. Wiebe and Geoffrey W.P. Davis-Abraham	Appearing on behalf of HSBC Bank Canada
James Foran	Appearing on behalf of Deloitte Restructuring Inc., financial advisor for HSBC Bank Canada
David G. Rogers and Julia Tomson	Appearing on behalf of Her Majesty in Right of Newfoundland and Labrador

Maeve A. Baird	Appearing on behalf of the Canada Revenue Agency
Sean M. Pittman	Appearing on behalf of Equipment SMS Inc., M. Rock Inc., Atlantic Explosives Limited and Lorne Tide Controls Limited
Geoffrey W. Boyd	Appearing on behalf of Pennecon Grand Banks Warehousing Inc.

Authorities Cited:

CASES CONSIDERED: *PCAS Patient Care Automation Services Inc., Re*, 2012 ONSC 2840

STATUTES CONSIDERED: *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36

REASONS FOR JUDGMENT

MACDONALD J.

INTRODUCTION

[1] Canada Fluorspar (NL) Inc., Canada Fluorspar Inc., by their court-appointed interim receiver ("Receiver"), Grant Thornton Limited ("GTL"), and on behalf of Newspar, a general partnership (collectively, the "Companies"), applied for creditor protection and other relief under the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36 ("*CCAA*").

[2] On March 11, 2021, I granted the Initial Order now filed in this Court. I set the comeback hearing for March 18, 2022, at which I would consider the Companies' request for an Amended and Restated Initial Order ("Amended Order").

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[3] For the reasons that follow, I grant the Amended Order described in Schedule "A" attached to this decision.

FACTS

[4] I explained the background of this *CCAA* proceeding, and the circumstances that gave rise to it, in my March 11, 2021, oral decision. I will not repeat all of that background today. I have filed an edited written version of that decision.

[5] The Companies operate or support operations of a fluorspar mine and related facilities, including a mill facility and marine terminal, all near St. Lawrence, NL. In early February 2022, they employed about 280 people, most of whom are in Newfoundland and Labrador. Golden Gate Capital now wholly owns Canada Fluorspar Inc., which wholly owns Canada Fluorspar (NL) Inc., which owns 99.999% of Newspar.

[6] The economics of the facility require the Companies' operations to operate at near full capacity to produce enough fluorspar to recover the costs associated with production.

[7] Mr. Phil Clarke of GTL, the Monitor I appointed under the Initial Order, and the court-appointed interim receiver of Canada Fluorspar (NL) Inc. and Canada Fluorspar Inc., says that a combination of shareholders' equity, secured creditors, capital lessors, and unsecured creditors financed the Companies' operations.

[8] Golden Gate Capital has invested approximately USD 238 million in equity financing since it acquired the Companies in 2014, including covering operating losses, but it refused to continue to provide additional financial support in February 2022. This refusal triggered the liquidity crisis, which in turn resulted in the Interim Receivership Order.

[9] As of March 4, 2022, the Companies have about $95 million in secured debt, about $10 million in capital leases, and about $23 million in unsecured debt. The secured creditors include Bridging Finance Inc. ("Bridging"), the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador ("GNL"), and HSBC Bank Canada ("HSBC").

[10] When Canada Fluorspar (NL) Inc. and Canada Fluorspar Inc. asked for the court-appointed receiver, they had approximately $1.8 million in cash and owed $800,000 to employees. On February 21, 2022, because of these financial difficulties, the Court appointed GTL as interim receiver of Canada Fluorspar (NL) Inc. and Canada Fluorspar Inc. (Interim Receivership Order).

[11] The Companies' cash flow statements filed show that during the week of February 21, 2022, Bridging lent the Companies about $1,809,000 as part of the Interim Receiver Borrowing.

[12] In additional to the orders I made in the Initial Order, the Companies had asked me to approve debtor in place financing ("DIP"), certain enhancement of the Monitor's powers, and approval of a "Sale and Investment Solicitation Process ("SISP").

[13] In my Initial Order, I limited the DIP financing to the lenders' projected advances during the 10-day period currency of the Initial Order, or $1.8 million. I also ordered that the provisions in the Interim Receivership Order relating to the $1.8 million advanced prior to the Initial Order remain in effect during the term of the Initial Order.

[14] I refused to order approval of the SISP and certain of the enhancements of the Monitor's powers. I did so on the basis that the relief I granted in the Initial Order should be limited to relief which is reasonably necessary for the continued operations of the Companies in the ordinary course of business during that period, being no more than 10 days. Wherever possible, I should maintain the *status* during this period. Therefore, I deferred these issues until today.

[15] Neither the Initial Order nor the proposed Amended Order affects HSBC's security interest in specified certain receivables. The parties had disagreed whether HSBC has a security interest over approximately $2.5 million in inventory at the Companies' facilities. The Monitor's counsel told me today that the secured creditors have agreed to allow the Monitor to sell this inventory and asked that I so order.

ISSUES

[16] The issues today are should the Court exercise its discretion to order:

(a) the "Enhancement of the Monitor's Powers" referred to in the Amended Order;

(b) an increase in the authorized borrowings under the DIP Financing Agreement secured by a priority charge;

(c) the SISP Process;

(d) continuation of the stay of proceedings; and

(e) certain other changes to the Initial Order?

ANALYSIS

Should the Court exercise its discretion to order the "Enhancement of the Monitor's Powers" referred to in the Amended Order?

[17] I will grant the Monitor's Enhancement of Powers provided in the Amended Order. I do so because:

(a) The Monitor told me, both in his reports to this Court and today in person, that in his opinion he needs these powers to meet his duties under the *CCAA*, and to this Court, to develop of plan of arrangement contemplated under the *CCAA*; and

(b) The Monitor says that these powers are especially important because the Companies' senior management and board of directors have resigned. This increases the burden on the Monitor.

[18] I agree with the Monitor. I find that these enhanced powers are necessary to allow the Monitor to perform his duties under the *CCAA* to this Court. I find that the stakeholders will not be prejudiced if I grant these powers. The stakeholders in the Court today did not object to this order. I now turn to the approval of the SISP.

Should the Court exercise its discretion to order the SISP?

[19] I hereby approve the SISP Order described in Schedule "B" attached to this decision. I am not approving any of the transactions solicited in the SISP, be it a sale

of, an investment in, or a refinancing of the business. All are possible outcomes of the SISP. Court approval of any accepted transactions will come later as is provided for in the order.

[20] The Monitor, in both his reports to this Court and today in person said he recommends the SISP. He said it is fair, reasonable, and transparent and is consistent with his obligations to the Companies, the stakeholders and the Court. He said adoption of the SISP would allow him to meet these obligations.

[21] I therefore find that:

(a) The SISP is fair and transparent;

(b) The SISP is reasonable given the cash flow crisis facing the Companies and because of the resignations of the Board of Directors and senior management;

(c) The SISP optimizes the chances of securing the best possible price of the Companies' assets; and

(d) The timetable is reasonable given the cash flow crisis and the cash flow projection that show that the Companies could exhaust DIP financing within the scheduled time to complete the SISP.

[22] I am satisfied (as was the court in *PCAS Patient Care Automation Services Inc., Re*, 2012 ONSC 2840, when it considered a SISP at paragraph 9) that this SISP is a fair, transparent, and commercially efficacious process.

[23] It should allow sufficient opportunity for interested parties to make a superior offer and thereby optimize the chances of securing the best possible price for the assets up for sale or the best possible investment in the continued operations of the Companies. I will now turn to the stay.

Should the Court exercise its discretion to order continuation of the stay of proceedings?

[24] The Monitor told me that he has no evidence that any stakeholder is not acting in good faith. I am satisfied that the schedule for the SISP process is reasonable in the circumstances. Therefore, I will continue the stay of proceedings against the Companies until July 10, 2021, or until further order of this Court.

Should the Court exercise its discretion to Order certain other changes to the Initial Order?

[25] I have also ordered certain other changes to the Initial Order. Of most significance I have:

(a) Increased the amount authorized under the DIP financing to $4.7 million which included a projected possible further advance of $2.9 during the week of April 18, 2022;

(b) ordered that the Monitor may sell the specified inventory on the Companies' worksite as is provided for in paragraph 30(b)(iv)(B) of the Amended Order;

(c) ordered that the Monitor may terminate leases as is provided for in paragraph 12 of the Amended Order. He tells me that these are mostly residential leases for company employees; and

(d) ordered that the Monitor may restructure the Companies as is provided for in paragraph 11 of the Amended Order.

DISPOSITION

[26] I grant the Amended Order described in Schedule "A" and the SISP Order described in Schedule "B".

ALEXANDER MACDONALD
Justice

SCHEDULE "A"

2022 01G 0709

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

IN BANKRUPTCY AND INSOLVENCY

IN THE MATTER OF an application of Canada Fluorspar (NL) Inc., and Canada Fluorspar Inc., by their Court Appointed Interim Receiver, Grant Thornton Limited.

AND IN THE MATTER OF the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, C. c-36, as amended

<u>AMENDED AND RESTATED</u> INITIAL ORDER

BEFORE THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE MACDONALD

THIS APPLICATION, made by Grant Thornton Limited, in its capacity as Court-Appointed Interim Receiver of Canada Fluorspar (NL) Inc., and Canada Fluorspar Inc., (the "**Interim Receiver**" or the "**Applicant**") pursuant to the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, as amended (the "**CCAA**") for an Order substantially in the form filed with the Application was heard this 11th day of March, 2022.

ON READING the affidavit of Phil Clarke sworn the 8th day of March, 2022 (the "**Clarke Affidavit**") and the Exhibits thereto, the consent of Grant Thornton Limited ("**GTL**") to act as Court-appointed monitor of Canada Fluorspar (NL) Inc. Canada Fluorspar Inc., and Newspar (a General Partnership) (in such capacity, the "**Monitor**"), and the Pre-Filing Report of GTL as Interim Receiver;

<u>**ON READING**, the report of GTL as Monitor dated the 15th day of March, 2022;</u>

ON HEARING the submissions of counsel for the Applicant, legal counsel for the Company (as defined herein), and such other counsel that were present, no one else appearing for any party although duly served as outlined in the affidavit of service dated the 10th day of March, 2022, and on reading the consent of GTL to act as Monitor;

SERVICE

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1. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the time for service of the Notice of Motion and the Materials filed, as set out in the affidavit of service is hereby deemed adequate notice so that this Application is properly returnable today and hereby dispenses with further service thereof.

APPLICATION

2. **THIS COURT ORDERS AND DECLARES** that Canada Fluorspar (NL) Inc., Canada Fluorspar Inc., and Newspar (a General Partnership) (collectively the "**Company**") is a company to which the CCAA applies.

3. Capital terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meaning ascribed to them in Schedule "A"

PLAN OF ARRANGEMENT

4. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Monitor, on behalf of the Company, shall have the authority to file and may, if deemed appropriate and subject to further order of this Court, file with this Court a plan of compromise and arrangement (hereinafter referred to as the "**Plan**".

POSSESSION OF PROPERTY AND OPERATIONS

5. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Company shall remain in possession and control of its current and future assets, undertakings and properties of every nature and kind whatsoever, and wherever situate including all proceeds thereof, save and except the Excluded Property (the "**Property**"). Subject to further Order of this Honourable Court, the Monitor on behalf of the Company, shall continue to carry on business in a manner consistent with the preservation of its business (the "**Business**") and Property. The Monitor is authorized and empowered to continue to retain and employ the employees, consultants, independent contractors, agents, experts, accountants, counsel and such other persons (collectively "**Assistants**") currently retained or employed by it, with liberty to retain such further Assistants as it deems reasonably necessary or desirable in the ordinary course of its Business or for the carrying out of the terms of this Order.

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6. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Monitor, on behalf of the Company, shall be entitled but not required to pay the following expenses whether incurred prior to or after this Order:

(a) all outstanding and future wages, salaries, employee and pension benefits, vacation pay and expenses payable on or after the date of this Order, in each case incurred in the ordinary course of business and consistent with existing compensation policies and arrangements;

(b) the fees and disbursements of any Assistants retained or employed by the Company in respect of these proceedings, at their standard rates and charges; and

(c) in consultation with the DIP Lender, amounts owing for goods and services supplied to the Company, if in the opinion of the Monitor, the supplier or vendor of such goods or services is necessary for the operation and preservation of the Business or Property.

7. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that, except as otherwise provided to the contrary herein, the Monitor, on behalf of the Company, shall be entitled but not required to pay all reasonable expenses incurred by the Company in carrying on the Business in the ordinary course after this Order, and in carrying out the provisions of this Order, which expenses shall include, without limitation:

(a) all expenses and capital expenditures reasonably necessary for the preservation of the Property or the Business including, without limitation, payments on account of insurance, maintenance and security services and lease payments for mining equipment used in the operation of the Business; and

(b) payment for goods or services actually supplied to the Company following the date of this Order.

8. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Monitor, on behalf of the Company, shall remit, in accordance with legal requirements, or pay:

(a) any statutory deemed trust amounts in favour of the Crown in right of Canada or of any Province thereof or any other taxation authority which are required to be deducted from employees' wages, including, without limitation, amounts in respect of (i) employment insurance, (ii) Canada Pension Plan, (iii) Quebec Pension Plan, and (iv) income taxes;

(b) all goods and services or other applicable sales taxes (collectively, **"Sales Taxes"**) required to be remitted by the Company in connection with the sale of goods and services by the Company, but only where such Sales Taxes are accrued or collected after the date of this Order, and

(c) any amount payable to the Crown in right of Canada or of any Province thereof or any political subdivision thereof or any other taxation authority in respect of municipal realty, municipal business or other taxes, assessments or levies of any nature or kind which are entitled at law to be paid in priority to claims of secured creditors and which are attributable to or in respect of the carrying on of the Business by the Company.

9. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that until a real property lease is disclaimed in accordance with the CCAA, the Monitor, on behalf of the Company, shall pay all amounts constituting rent or payable as rent under real property leases (including, for greater certainty, common area maintenance charges, utilities and realty taxes and any other amounts payable to the landlord under the lease) or as otherwise may be negotiated between the Company and the landlord from time to time (**"Rent"**), for the period commencing from and including the date of this Order. The Monitor, on behalf of the Company, may pay such Rent twice monthly in equal payments on the first and fifteenth day of each month, in advance (but not in arrears). On the date of the first of such payments, any Rent relating to the period commencing from and including the date of this Order shall also be paid.

10. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that, except as specifically permitted herein, the Monitor, on behalf of the Company, is hereby directed, until further Order of this Court: (a) to make no payments of principal, interest thereon or otherwise on account of amounts owing by the Company to any of its creditors as of this date; (b) to grant no security interests, trust, liens, charges or encumbrances upon or in respect of any of its Property; and (c) to not grant credit or incur liabilities except in the ordinary course of the Business.

RESTRUCTURING

11. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Monitor, on behalf of the Company shall, subject to such requirements as are imposed by the CCAA and such covenants as may be contained in the Definitive Documents (as defined hereinafter), have the right to:

(a) Permanently or temporarily cease, downsize or shut down any of its business or operations, and to dispose of redundant or non-material assets not exceeding $500,000 in any one transaction or $2,500,000 in the aggregate;

(b) Terminate the employment of such of its employees or temporarily lay off such of its employees as it deems appropriate; and

(c) Pursue all avenues of refinancing of its Business or Property, in whole or part, subject to prior approval of this Court being obtained before any material refinancing.

All of the foregoing to permit the Monitor, on behalf of the Company, to proceed with an orderly restructuring of the Business (the "**Restructuring**").

12. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Monitor, on behalf of the Company, shall provide each of the relevant landlords with notice of the Company's intention to remove any fixtures from any leased premises at least seven (7) days prior to the date of the intended removal. The relevant landlord shall be entitled to have a representative present in the leased premises to observe such removal and, if the landlord disputes the Company's entitlement to remove any such fixture under the provisions of the lease, such fixture shall remain on the premises and shall be dealt with as agreed between any applicable secured creditors, such landlord and the Monitor, on behalf of the Company, or by further Order of this Court upon application by the Monitor on at least two (2) days notice to such landlord and any such secured creditors. If the Monitor disclaims the lease governing such leased premises in accordance with Section 32 of the CCAA, it shall not be required to pay Rent under such lease pending resolution of any such dispute (other than Rent payable for the notice period provided for in Section 32(5) of the CCAA), and the disclaimer of the lease shall be without prejudice to the Company's claim to the fixtures in dispute.

13. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that if a notice of disclaimer is delivered pursuant to Section 32 of the CCAA, then (a) during the notice period prior to the effective time of the disclaimer

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[or resiliation], the landlord may show the affected leased premises to prospective tenants during normal business hours, on giving the Monitor 24 hours' prior written notice, and (b) at the effective time of the disclaimer, the relevant landlord shall be entitled to take possession of any such leased premises without waiver of or prejudice to any claims or rights such landlord may have against the Company in respect of such lease or leased premises, provided that nothing herein shall relieve such landlord of its obligation to mitigate any damages claimed in connection therewith.

NO PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE COMPANY OR THE PROPERTY

14. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that until and including the 10th day of July, 2022 or such later date as this Court may order (the "**Stay Period**"), no proceeding or enforcement process in any court or tribunal (each, a "**Proceeding**") shall be commenced or continued against or in respect of the Company or the Monitor, or affecting the Business or the Property,(save and except the Excluded Property), except with the written consent of the Monitor and the Company, or with leave of this Court, and any and all Proceedings currently under way against or in respect of the Company or affecting the Business or the Property (save and except the Excluded Property) are hereby stayed and suspended pending further Order of this Court.

NO EXERCISE OF RIGHTS OR REMEDIES

15. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that during the Stay Period, all rights and remedies of any individual, firm, corporation, governmental body or agency, or any other entities (all of the foregoing, collectively being "**Persons**" and each being a "**Person**") against or in respect of the Company or the Monitor, or affecting the Business or the Property, (save and except the Excluded Property), are hereby stayed and suspended except with the written consent of the Monitor and the Company, or leave of this Court, provided that nothing in this Order shall (i) empower the Monitor, on behalf of the Company, to carry on any business which the Company is not lawfully entitled to carry on, (ii) affect such investigations, actions, suits or proceedings by a regulatory body as are permitted by Section 11.1 of the CCAA, (iii) prevent the filing of any registration to preserve or perfect a security interest, or (iv) prevent the registration of a claim for lien.

16. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that nothing in this Order shall prevent HSBC from exercising any rights or remedies, taking any enforcement steps, actions or commencing any proceedings against the Company with respect to the Excluded Property.

NO INTERFERENCE WITH RIGHTS

17. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that during the Stay Period, no Person shall discontinue, fail to honour, alter, interfere with, repudiate, terminate or cease to perform any right, renewal right, contract, agreement, licence or permit in favour of or held by the Company, except with the written consent of the Monitor and the Company, or leave of this Court.

CONTINUATION OF SERVICES

18. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that during the Stay Period, all Persons having oral or written agreements with the Company or statutory or regulatory mandates for the supply of goods and/or services, including without limitation all computer software, communication and other data services, centralized banking services, payroll services, insurance, transportation services, utility or other services to the Business or the Company, are hereby restrained until further Order of this Court from discontinuing, altering, interfering with or terminating the supply of such goods or services as may be required by the Company, and that the Monitor, on behalf of the Company, shall be entitled to the continued use of its current premises, telephone numbers, facsimile numbers, internet addresses and domain names, provided in each case that the normal prices or charges for all such goods or services received after the date of this Order are paid by the Monitor, on behalf of the Company, in accordance with normal payment practices of the Company or such other practices as may be agreed upon by the supplier or service provider and each of the Monitor and the Company, or as may be ordered by this Court.

NON-DEROGATION OF RIGHTS

19. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that, notwithstanding anything else in this Order, no Person shall be prohibited from requiring immediate payment for goods, services, use of lease or licensed property or other valuable consideration provided on or after the date of this

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Order, nor shall any Person be under any obligation on or after the date of this Order to advance or re-advance any monies or otherwise extend any credit to the Company. Nothing in this Order shall derogate from the rights conferred and obligations imposed by the CCAA.

APPOINTMENT OF MONITOR

20. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that Grant Thornton Limited is hereby appointed pursuant to the CCAA as the Monitor, an officer of this Court, to monitor the business and financial affairs of the Company with the powers and obligations set out in the CCAA, (save and except in relation to the Excluded Property) or set forth herein and that the Company and its shareholders, officers, directors, and Assistants shall advise the Monitor of all material steps taken by the Company pursuant to this Order, and shall co-operate fully with the Monitor in the exercise of its powers and discharge of its obligations and provide the Monitor with the assistance that is necessary to enable the Monitor to adequately carry out the Monitor's functions.

21. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Monitor, in addition to its prescribed rights and obligations under the CCAA, is hereby directed and empowered to:

(a) monitor the Company's receipts and disbursements;

(b) report to this Court at such times and intervals as the Monitor or Court may deem appropriate with respect to matters relating to the Property, the Business, and such other matters as may be relevant to the proceedings herein;

(c) assist, with consultation with the Company, in its dissemination of reports and other information to the DIP Lender (as defined herein) and their respective counsel, pursuant to and in accordance with the Definitive Documents (as defined herein), or as may otherwise be reasonably requested by the DIP Lender;

(d) execute the DIP Financing Agreement (as defined herein) on behalf of the Company;

(e) advise, in consultation with the Company, in its preparation of the Company's cash flow statements and reporting required by the DIP Lender under the Definitive

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Documents, which information shall be reviewed with the Monitor and delivered to the DIP Lender and their respective counsel in accordance with the Definitive Documents;

(f) execute any and all documentation, on behalf of the Company, as reasonably necessary or required by the DIP Financing Agreement and the SISP;

(g) run the SISP pursuant to the SISP Order;

(h) advise, in consultation with the Company, in its development of the Plan and any amendments to the Plan, if applicable;

(i) have full and complete access to the Property, including the premises, books, records, data, including data in electronic form, and other financial documents of the Company, to the extent that is necessary to adequately assess the Company's business and financial affairs or to perform its duties arising under this Order;

(j) be at liberty to engage independent legal counsel or such other persons as the Monitor deems necessary or advisable respecting the exercise of its powers and performance of its obligations under this Order;

(k) engage consultants, appraisers, agents, experts, auditors, accountants, managers, counsel and such other Persons (as defined below) from time to time and on whatever basis, including on a temporary basis, to assist with the exercise of the Monitor's powers and duties, including those conferred by this Order;

(l) enter into any agreements;

(m) exercise any rights of the Company;

(n) apply for any permits, licences, approvals or permissions as may be required by any governmental authority and any renewals thereof for and on behalf of and in the name of the Company;

(o) take any and all steps of the Company authorized by any Order made in these proceedings, including making distributions or payments;

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(p) purchase or lease machinery, equipment, inventories, supplies, premises or other assets to continue the Business, or any part or parts thereof; and

(q) perform such other duties as are required by this Order or by this Court from time to time.

22. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Monitor shall not take possession of the Property but as Monitor shall take part in the management or supervision of the management of the Business and shall not, by fulfilling its obligations hereunder, be deemed to have taken or maintained possession or control of the Business, or any part thereof.

23. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that nothing herein contained shall require the Monitor to occupy or to take control, care, charge, possession or management (separately and/or collectively, "**Possession**") of any of the Property that might be environmentally contaminated, might be a pollutant or a contaminant, or might cause or contribute to a spill, discharge, release or deposit of a substance contrary to any federal, provincial or other law respecting the protection, conservation, enhancement, remediation or rehabilitation of the environment or relating to the disposal of waste or other contamination including, without limitation, the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* and regulations thereunder (the "**Environmental Legislation**"), provided however that nothing herein shall exempt the Monitor from any duty to report or make disclosure imposed by applicable Environmental Legislation. The Monitor shall not, as a result of this Order or anything done in pursuance of the Monitor's duties and powers under this Order, be deemed to be in Possession of any of the Property within the meaning of any Environmental Legislation, unless it is actually in possession.

24. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that nothing herein contained shall make the Monitor liable for any mine closure or environmental and land rehabilitation-related liabilities or obligations in respect of or in any way related to the Property (or caused by or resulting from any matter or thing originating on or coming from the Property). For greater certainty:

(a) Notwithstanding anything in any Environmental Legislation, the Monitor is not personally liable in that position for any environmental condition that arose or environmental damage that occurred:

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(i) before the Monitor's appointment; or

(ii) after the Monitor's appointment unless it is established that the condition arose or the damage occurred as a result of the Monitor's gross negligence or wilful misconduct.

(b) Nothing in sub-paragraph (a) exempts the Monitor from any duty to report or make disclosure imposed by a law referred to in that sub-paragraph.

(c) Notwithstanding anything in any Environmental Legislation, but subject to subparagraph (a) hereof, where an order is made which has the effect of requiring the Monitor to remedy any environmental condition or environmental damage affecting the Property, the Monitor is not personally liable for failure to comply with the order, and is not personally liable for any costs that are or would be incurred by any person in carrying out the terms of the order,

(i) if, within such time as is specified in the order, within 10 days after the order is made if no time is so specified, within 10 days after the appointment of the Monitor, if the order is in effect when the Monitor is appointed, or during the period of the stay referred to in clause (ii) below, the Monitor:

(A) complies with the order, or

(B) on notice to the person who issued the order, abandons, disposes of or otherwise releases any interest in any real property affected by the condition or damage;

(ii) during the period of a stay of the order granted, on application made within the time specified in the order referred to in clause (i) above, within 10 days after the order is made or within 10 days after the appointment of the Monitor, if the order is in effect when the Monitor is appointed, by,

(A) the court or body having jurisdiction under the law pursuant to which the order was made to enable the Monitor to contest the order; or

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(B) the court having jurisdiction in bankruptcy for the purposes of assessing the economic viability of complying with the order; or

(iii) if the Monitor had, before the order was made, abandoned or renounced or been divested of any interest in any real property affected by the condition or damage.

25. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Monitor shall provide any creditor of the Company and the DIP Lender with information provided by the Company in response to reasonable requests for information made in writing by such creditor addressed to the Monitor. The Monitor shall not have any responsibility or liability with respect to the information disseminated by it pursuant to this paragraph. In the case of information that the Monitor has been advised by the Company is confidential, the Monitor shall not provide such information to creditors unless otherwise directed by this Court or on such terms as the Monitor and the Company may agree.

26. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that, in addition to the rights and protections afforded the Monitor under the CCAA or as an officer of this Court, the Monitor shall incur no liability or obligation as a result of its appointment or the carrying out of the provisions of this Order, save and except for any gross negligence or wilful misconduct on its part. Nothing in this Order shall derogate from the protections afforded the Monitor by the CCAA or any applicable legislation.

27. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Monitor, counsel to the Monitor, and counsel to the Company shall be paid their reasonable fees and disbursements, in each case at their standard rates and charges, by the Company as part of the costs of these proceedings. The Company is hereby authorized and directed to pay the accounts of the Monitor, counsel for the Monitor, and counsel for the Company on a weekly basis and, in addition, the Company is hereby authorized to pay to the Monitor, counsel to the Monitor, and counsel to the Company reasonable retainers to be held by them as security for payment of their respective fees and disbursements outstanding from time to time.

28. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Monitor and its legal counsel shall pass their accounts from time to time, and for this purpose, the accounts of the Monitor and its legal counsel

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are hereby referred to a judge of the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador in Bankruptcy and Insolvency.

29. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Monitor, counsel to the Monitor, and the Company's counsel shall be entitled to the benefit of and are hereby granted a charge (the "**Administration Charge**") on the Property, (save and except the Excluded Property and Excluded Inventory), which charge shall not exceed an aggregate amount of $250,000.00 <u>(which includes the amount provided for in the Interim Receivership Order)</u>, as security for their professional fees and disbursements incurred at their respective standard rates and charges of the Monitor and such counsel, both before and after the making of this Order and the Amended and Restated Order in respect of these proceedings. The Administration Charge shall have the priority set out in paragraphs 41 and 43 herein.

ENHANCEMENT OF MONITOR'S POWERS

30. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that, without in any way limiting the powers and duties of the Monitor, the Monitor is hereby empowered and authorized, but not obligated, to do any of the following in the name and on behalf of the Company, where the Monitor considers it necessary or desirable:

(a) take any and all actions and steps to manage, operate and carry on the Business, including, without in any way limiting the generality of the foregoing:

(i) <u>any actions or steps the Monitor considers necessary or desirable to proceed with an orderly restructuring or liquidation of the Business;</u>

(i) <u>permanently or</u> temporarily ceasing, downsizing or shutting down any of the Company's operations;

(ii) terminating the employment of or temporarily laying off employees of the Company;

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(iii) pursuing all avenues of refinancing the Business or Property, except the Excluded Property, in whole or part, subject to prior approval of this Court being obtained before any material refinancing;

(iv) preparing a Plan of Compromise and Arrangement on behalf of one or more of the Applicants;

(v) settling, extending or compromising any indebtedness owing to or by the Company;

(vi) initiating, prosecuting and continuing the prosecution of any and all proceedings and defending all proceedings now pending or hereafter instituted with respect to the Company, the Business, the Property or the Monitor and to settle or compromise any such proceeding;

(vii) taking any and all corporate governance actions for the Company; and

(viii) providing instruction and direction to the advisors of the Company;

(b) preserve, protect and exercise control over the Property, (with the exception of the Excluded Property), or any parts thereof, including, without in any way limiting the generality of the foregoing:

(i) receive, collect and exercise control over all monies and accounts held by or owing to the Company; including any proceeds of the sale of any of the Property (save and except the Excluded Property);

(ii) exercise all remedies of the Company in collecting monies owed or hereafter owing to the Company and to enforce any security held by the Company;

(iii) execute, assign, issue and endorse documents of whatever nature in respect of any of the Property (save and except the Excluded Property) for any purpose pursuant to this Order;

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(iv) to market, sell convey, transfer, lease or assign the Property, including running a sales solicitation process, or any part or parts of the Property out of the ordinary course of business;

(A) without the approval of this Court, in respect of any one transaction not exceeding $500,000 or $2,500,000 in the aggregate;

(B) without the approval of this Court in respect of the sale of Fluorspar inventory; and

(C) with the approval of this Court in respect of any other transaction;

(c) to report to, meet with and discuss with such affected persons as the Monitor deems appropriate on all matters relating to the Business and the Property, and to share information, subject to such terms as to confidentiality as the Monitor deems advisable;

(d) oversee and direct the preparation and dissemination of financial and other information of the Company in these proceedings, including cash flow statements;

(e) apply to the court for advice and direction or for any further orders in these proceedings, including, without in any way limiting the generality of the foregoing, sale approval and vesting orders and orders extending or terminating the stay of proceedings;

(f) perform such other duties or take any steps reasonably incidental to the exercise of these powers;

and in each case where the Monitor takes any such actions or steps, it shall be exclusively authorized and empowered to do so, to the exclusion of all other persons, including the Company and without interference from any other person.

DUTY TO PROVIDE ACCESS AND CO-OPERATION TO THE MONITOR

31. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Company and all its current and former directors, officers, employees, agents, accountants, legal counsel and shareholders, and all other

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persons acting on their instructions or behalf shall fully co-operate with the Monitor in the exercise its powers under this Order or any other Order of the Court, including by:

(a) advising the Monitor of the existence of any Property of which such party has knowledge of;

(b) providing the Monitor with immediate and continued access to any Property in such party's possession or control;

(c) advising the Monitor of the existence of any books, documents, securities, contracts, orders, corporate and accounting records, and any other papers, records and information of any kind related to the business or affairs of the Company, and any computer programs, computer tapes, computer disks, or other data storage media containing any such information (**"Records"**) of which such party has knowledge of; and

(d) providing access to and use of the Records, including any accounting, computer, software and physical facilities relating thereto, and including providing the Monitor with instructions on the use of any computer or other system as requested by the Monitor and providing the Monitor with any and all access codes, account names and account numbers that may be required to gain access to the Records, provided however that nothing in this Order shall require the delivery of Records, or the granting of access to Records, which may not be disclosed or provided to the Monitor due to the privilege attaching to solicitor client communication or due to statutory provisions prohibiting such disclosure.

LIMITATION ON THE MONITOR'S LIABILITY

32. **THIS COURT ORDERS THAT** the Monitor is not and shall not, for any purposes, be deemed to be a director, officer, employee, receiver, receiver-manager, or liquidator of the Company.

33. **THIS COURT ORDERS THAT** the Monitor is not and shall not for the purposes of the *Income Tax Act*, R.S.C., 1985, c. 1 (5th Supp.) be deemed to be a legal representative or person to whom s. 150(3) of that Act applies.

34. **THIS COURT ORDERS THAT** that the rights, protections, indemnities, charges, priorities and other provisions in favour of the Monitor set out in the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act,* R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, any other applicable legislation, and any other Order granted in these proceedings, all shall apply and extend to the Monitor in connection with the Monitor carrying out the provisions of this Order, amended as necessary to give effect to the terms of this Order.

DIP FINANCING

35. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Monitor, on behalf of the Company, is hereby authorized and empowered to execute, enter into and deliver the DIP Facility Loan Agreement (the "**DIP Financing Agreement**") dated the 7th day of March, 2022 between, the Company, as borrower, and Bridging Finance Inc., Bridging Income Fund LP, Bridging Private Debt Institutional LP, Bridging Mid-Market Debt Fund LP, Bridging Private Debt Lending Master Fund I, LP (Cayman), Bridging SMA 1 LP. Bridging SMA 2 LP, and Her Majesty in Right of Newfoundland and Labrador, as represented by the Minister of Industry, Energy and Technology as lender (collectively the "**DIP Lender**"), and to borrow, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the DIP Financing Agreement, up to Four Million Seven Hundred Thousand ($4,700,000.00) (the "**DIP Facility**") to, among other things, fund the Company's working capital requirements, the SISP and other general corporate purposes of the Company during the Stay Period.

36. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that, in addition to the DIP Financing Agreement, the Company is also hereby authorized and empowered to execute and deliver such other credit agreements, mortgages, charges, hypothecs and security documents, guarantees and other definitive documents (collectively with the DIP Financing Agreement, the "**Definitive Documents**"), as are contemplated by the DIP Financing Agreement or as may be reasonably required by the DIP Lender pursuant to the terms thereof, and the Monitor, on behalf of the Company is hereby authorized and directed to pay and perform all of its indebtedness, interest, fees, liabilities and obligations to the DIP Lender under and pursuant to the DIP Financing Agreement and the other Definitive Documents as and when the same become due and are to be performed, notwithstanding any other provision of this Order.

37. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that, as security for the Company's obligations under the Definitive Documents, the DIP Lender shall be entitled to the benefit of and are hereby granted a charge (the "**DIP Lender's Charge**") on the Property, (save and except the Excluded Property and Excluded Inventory), which DIP Lender's Charge shall not secure an obligation that exists before this Order is made. The DIP Lender's Charge shall have the priority set out in paragraphs 41 and 43 herein. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Interim Receiver's Borrowing Charge contained in Paragraph 27 of the Interim Receivership Order, being the 1.8 Million advanced pursuant to the Interim Receivership Order, shall continue to be in full force and effect during the term of this Order. The Interim Receiver's Borrowing Charge shall rank pari passu with the DIP Lender's Charge.

38. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that, notwithstanding any other provision of this Order:

(a) the DIP Lender may take such steps from time to time as it may deem necessary or appropriate to file, register, record or perfect the DIP Lender's Charge or any of the Definitive Documents;

(b) upon the occurrence of an event of default under the DIP Financing Agreement, the other Definitive Documents or the DIP Lender's Charge, upon five (5) days notice to the Monitor and the Company, the DIP Lender may exercise any rights and remedies against the Company or the Property, (save and except the Excluded Property), under or pursuant to the DIP Financing Agreement, the other Definitive Documents and the DIP Lender's Charge, including, without limitation, to cease making advances to the Company and set off and/or consolidate any amounts that may be owing by the DIP Lender against the obligations of the Company to the DIP Lender under the DIP Financing Agreement, the other Definitive Documents or the DIP Lender's Charge, to make demand, accelerate payment and give other notices, or to apply to this Court for the appointment of a receiver, receiver and manager or interim receiver, or for a bankruptcy order against the Company and for the appointment of a trustee in bankruptcy of the Company; and

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(c) the foregoing rights and remedies of the DIP Lender shall be enforceable against any trustee in bankruptcy, interim receiver, receiver or receiver and manager of the Company or the Property (save and except the Excluded Property).

39. **THIS COURT ORDERS AND DECLARES** that the DIP Lender shall be treated as unaffected in any plan of arrangement or compromise filed by the Company under the CCAA, or any proposal filed by the Company under the BIA, with respect to any advances made under the DIP Financing Agreement and the other Definitive Documents.

40. **THIS COURT ORDERS AND DECLARES** that this Order is subject to provisional execution and that if any of the provisions of this Order in connection with the DIP Financing Agreement, the other Definitive Documents or the DIP Lender's Charge shall subsequently be stayed, modified, varied, amended, reversed or vacated in whole or in part (collectively, a "**Variation**") whether by subsequent order of this Court on or pending an appeal from this Order, such Variation shall not in any way impair, limit or lessen the priority, protections, rights or remedies of the DIP Lender, whether under this Order (as made prior to the Variation), under the DIP Financing Agreement or the other Definitive Documents with respect to any advances made or obligations incurred prior to the DIP Lender being given notice of the Variation, and the DIP Lender shall be entitled to rely on this Order as issued (including, without limitation, the DIP Lender's Charge) for all advances so made and other obligations set out in the DIP Financing Agreement and the other Definitive Documents.

VALIDITY AND PRIORITY OF CHARGES CREATED BY THIS ORDER

41. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the priorities of the Administration Charge, the DIP Lender's Charge, and the Interim Receiver's Borrowing Charge on the Property (save and except the Excluded Property and Excluded Inventory), (collectively, the "**Charges**"), as among them, shall be as follows:

First – the Administration Charge (to the maximum amount of $250,000.00);

Second– the DIP Lender's Charge and the Interim Receiver's Borrowing Charge, on a pari passu basis.

42. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the filing, registration or perfection of the Charges shall not be required, and that the Charges shall be valid and enforceable for all purposes, including as against any right, title or interest filed, registered, recorded or perfected subsequent to the Charges coming into existence, notwithstanding any such failure to file, register, record or perfect.

43. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that each of the Charges (all as constituted and defined herein) shall constitute a charge on the Property, (save and except the Excluded Property and Excluded Inventory), and such Charges shall rank in priority to all other security interests, trusts, liens, charges and encumbrances, claims of secured creditors, statutory or otherwise (collectively, "**Encumbrances**") in favour of any Person, except for any secured creditor of the Company who did not receive notice of the application for this Order. The Company shall be entitled, on a subsequent motion on notice to those Persons likely to be affected thereby, to seek priority of the Charges ahead of any Encumbrances over which the Charges have not obtained priority pursuant to this Order.

44. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that except as otherwise expressly provided for herein, or as may be approved by this Court, the Company shall not grant any Encumbrances over any Property that rank in priority to, or pari passu with, any of the Charges, unless the Company also obtains the prior written consent of the Monitor and of the applicable chargee(s) entitled to the benefit of the Charges (collectively, the "**Chargees**"), or further Order of this Court.

45. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Charges shall not be rendered invalid or unenforceable and the rights and remedies of the Chargees shall not otherwise be limited or impaired in any way by (a) the pendency of these proceedings and the declarations of insolvency made herein; (b) any application(s) for bankruptcy order(s) issued pursuant to BIA, or any bankruptcy order made pursuant to such applications; (c) the filing of any assignments for the general benefit of creditors made pursuant to the BIA; (d) the provisions of any federal or provincial statutes; or (e) any negative covenants, prohibitions or other similar provisions with respect to borrowings, incurring debt or the creation of Encumbrances, contained in any existing loan documents, lease, sublease, offer to lease or other agreement (collectively, an "**Agreement**") which binds the Company, and notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in any Agreement:

(a) Neither the creation of the Charges nor the execution, delivery, perfection, registration or performance of the DIP Financing Agreement or the other Definitive Documents shall create or be deemed to constitute a breach by the Company of any Agreement to which it is a party;

(b) None of the Chargees shall have any liability to any Person whatsoever as a result of any breach of any Agreement caused by or resulting from the Company entering into the DIP Financing Agreement, the creation of the Charges, or the execution, delivery or performance of the other Definitive Documents; and

(c) The payments made by the Company pursuant to this Order, the DIP Financing Agreement or the other Definitive Documents, and the granting of the Charges, do not and will not constitute preferences, fraudulent conveyances, transfers at undervalue, oppressive conduct, or other challengeable or voidable transactions under any applicable law.

46. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that any Charge created by this Order over leases of real property in Canada shall only be a Charge in the Company's interest in such real property leases.

SERVICE AND NOTICE

47. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Monitor shall (A) make this Order publicly available in the manner prescribed under the CCAA, (B) send, in the prescribed manner by electronic means, a notice to every known creditor who has a claim against the Company of more than $1,000, and (C) prepare a list showing the names and addresses of those creditors and the estimated amounts of those claims, and make it publicly available in the prescribed manner, all in accordance with Section 23(1)(a) of the CCAA and the regulations made thereunder.

GENERAL

48. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Monitor, on behalf of the Company, may from time to time apply to this Court for advice and directions in the discharge of its powers and duties hereunder.

49. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that nothing in this Order shall prevent the Monitor from subsequently acting as an interim receiver, a receiver, a receiver and manager, or a trustee in bankruptcy of the Company, the Business or the Property.

50. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that each of the Company and the Monitor be at liberty and is hereby authorized and empowered to apply to any court, tribunal, regulatory or administrative body, wherever located, for the recognition of this Order and for assistance in carrying out the terms of this Order, and that the Monitor is authorized and empowered to act as a representative in respect of the within proceedings for the purpose of having these proceedings recognized in a jurisdiction outside Canada.

Schedule "A"

Defined Terms

"**Excluded Inventory**" means inventory representing a value in the amount of USD2,500,000

"**Excluded Property**" means: (i) any and all Receivables and/or Financed Receivables, as such terms are defined pursuant to the RFA, together with all rights and remedies arising thereunder, insurance policies and proceeds resulting therefrom, and proceeds generally, and (ii) all Export Development Canada insurance policies or support in favor of HSBC,

"**HSBC**" means HSBC Bank Canada; and

"**RFA**" means the Trade Invoice Recourse Financing Facility Agreement between HSBC and Canada Fluorspar (NL) Inc., dated May 25, 2018, as amended.

SCHEDULE "B"

2022 01G 0709
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
IN BANKRUPTCY AND INSOLVENCY

IN THE MATTER OF an application of Canada Fluorspar Inc., and Canada Fluorspar (NL) Inc., by its Interim Receiver Grant Thornton Limited

AND IN THE MATTER OF the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, C. c-36, as amended

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ORDER APPROVING A SALE AND INVESTMENT SOLICITATION PROCESS

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[1] **CONSIDERING** the Applicant's *Application for the issuance of (i) an Initial Order, (ii) an Amended and Restated Initial Order, (iii) an Order approving the DIP Financing Agreement ;and (iv) an Order approving a Sale and Investment Solicitation Process* (the "**Application**"), the affidavit of Phil Clarke dated the 8th day of March, 2022 and the exhibits in support thereof;

[2] **CONSIDERING** the submissions of counsel;

[3] **CONSIDERING** the pre-filing report prepared by Grant Thornton Limited (the "**Monitor**");

[4] **CONSIDERING** the provisions of the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* ("**CCAA**");

THE COURT:

[5] **GRANTS** the Application.

<u>DEFINITIONS</u>

[6] **DECLARES** that all capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Bidding Procedures (as defined below).

<u>SERVICE</u>

[7] **DECLARES** that sufficient prior notice of the presentation of the Application has been given by the Applicant to interested parties, and that further service thereof is hereby dispensed with.

[8] **PERMITS** the service of the present Order (this "**Order**") at any time and place and by any means whatsoever.

SISP

[9] **APPROVES** and **RATIFIES** the Sale and Investment Solicitation Process ("**SISP**") set forth in the Procedures for the Sale and Investment Solicitation Process attached as Schedule "A" hereto (the "**Bidding Procedures**").

[10] **AUTHORIZES** the Applicant and the Company, to the extent the Company assists with the SISP, to implement the SISP and to take such steps and execute such documentation as may be necessary or incidental thereto, the whole in accordance with the Bidding Procedures.

[11] **ORDERS** that the Applicant and the Company, as well as respective affiliates, partners, directors, employees, agents and controlling persons shall have no liability with respect to any and all losses, claims, damages or liability of any nature or kind to any person in connection with or as a result of performing their duties under the SISP, except to the extent of such losses, claims, damages or liabilities resulting from gross negligence or willful misconduct of any such person or entity, as applicable, as determined by this Court.

GENERAL

[12] **ORDERS** that the Applicant and the Company, to the extent the Company assists with the SISP are authorized and permitted under applicable law to disclose and transfer to Potential Bidders and to their advisors personal information in the custody or control of the Company relating to the operation of the business, including human resources and payroll information, records pertaining to the Company's past and current employees, and information about any consumer, website visitor or other individual (collectively, "**Personal Information**"), but only to the extent necessary to negotiate, determine whether to proceed with, and attempt to complete a transaction in accordance with the SISP (a "**Transaction**"). Each Potential Bidder to whom any Personal Information is disclosed shall maintain and protect the Personal Information with security safeguards appropriate to the sensitivity of the Personal Information and as may otherwise be required by applicable federal or provincial privacy legislation and limit the use of such information to its evaluation of a Transaction, and if it does not complete a Transaction with the Applicant, shall return all such information to the Applicant, or in the alternative permanently destroy all such information.

[13] **ORDERS** that the Applicant may from time to time apply to this Court for advice and directions in the discharge of their respective powers and duties hereunder or under the SISP.

[14] **REQUESTS** the aid and recognition of any court, tribunal, regulatory or administrative body having jurisdiction in Canada, in the United States of America or elsewhere, to give effect to this Order and to assist the Applicant, as applicable, and their respective agents in carrying out the terms of this Order.

[15] **ORDERS** the provisional execution of this Order notwithstanding appeal and without any security or provision for costs whatsoever.

[16] **WITHOUT COSTS.**

Schedule "A"

Procedures for the Sale and Investment Solicitation Process

On March 7, 2022, Canada Fluorspar Inc., and Canada Fluorspar (NL) Inc., by their Interim Receiver, Grant Thornton Limited, and Newspar (a General Partnership) (collectively the "**Company**" or the "**Applicant**") commenced proceedings (the "**CCAA Proceedings**") under the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* (Canada) (the "**CCAA**") before the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador (in Bankruptcy and Insolvency) in the City of St. John's, in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador (the "**Court**") pursuant to an order granted by the Court on March 11, 2022. Said order was amended and restated by the Court on March 18, 2022 (collectively, as further amended or restated from time to time, the "**Initial Order**").

Pursuant to the Initial Order, Grant Thornton Limited was appointed as monitor in the CCAA Proceedings (in such capacity, the "**Monitor**").

On March 18, 2022, the Court granted an order (the "**Bidding Procedures Order**"), authorizing the Applicant to undertake a sale and investment solicitation process ("**SISP**") for the sale of the Company's business, property, assets and undertakings (collectively, the "**Business**"). The SISP shall be conducted by the Monitor, supported by the Company as required, in the manner set forth herein.

Among other things, the Bidding Procedures Order authorizes and directs the Monitor and the Company to conduct the SISP in accordance with the bidding procedures set out herein (the "**Bidding Procedures**") governing the solicitation of offers or proposals (each a "**Bid**") for the acquisition of the Business or some portion thereof.

Defined Terms

1. Capitalized terms used in this SISP have the meanings given thereto in Appendix A.

Bidding Procedures

Opportunity

2. The SISP is intended to solicit interest in, and opportunities for: (i) one or more sales or partial sales of all, substantially all, or certain portions of the Business; and/or (ii) for an investment in, restructuring, recapitalization, refinancing or other form of reorganization of the Company or its Business. Bids considered pursuant to the SISP may include one or more of an investment, restructuring, recapitalization, refinancing or other form of reorganization of the business and affairs of the Company as a going concern or a sale (or partial sales) of all, substantially all, or certain aspects of the Business, or a combination thereof (the "**Opportunity**").

3. All interested parties are encouraged to submit bids based on any form of Opportunity that they may elect to advance pursuant to the SISP, including as a Sale Proposal or an Investment Proposal.

4. The Bidding Procedures describe the manner in which prospective bidders may gain access to due diligence materials concerning the Company and the Business, the manner in which

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bidders may participate in the SISP, the requirement of and the receipt and negotiation of bids received, the ultimate selection of a Successful Bidder and the requisite approvals to be sought from the Court in connection therewith. The Monitor shall conduct the SISP in the manner set forth herein.

The Monitor, in consultation with the Company and the DIP Lenders, may at any time and from time to time, modify, amend, vary or supplement, whether material or immaterial the SISP or the Bidding Procedures, if necessary or useful in order to give effect to the substance of the SISP, the Bidding Procedures and the Bidding Procedures Order.

The Monitor shall post on the Monitor's website, as soon as practicable, any such modification, amendment, variation or supplement to the Bidding Procedures and inform the bidders impacted by such modifications.

In the event of a dispute as to the interpretation or application of the SISP or Bidding Procedures, the Court will have exclusive jurisdiction to hear and resolve such dispute.

5. No bidder may request or receive any form of bid protection as part of any bid made pursuant to the SISP.

As more particularly set out herein, a summary of the key dates pursuant to the SISP are as follows:[1]

Event	**Date**
1. Solicitation Letter Monitor to distribute Solicitation Letter, to potentially interested parties	By no later than March 20 2022, at 5:00 p.m. (Newfoundland Standard Time)
2. CIM and VDR Monitor to prepare and have available for parties having executed the NDA (Potential Bidders) the CIM and VDR	By no later than March 23, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. (Newfoundland Standard Time), or at such later time as the Monitor, in consultation with the Company, deems appropriate
3. Phase 1 Qualified Bidders & Bid Deadline Phase 1 Bid Deadline (for delivery of non-binding LOIs by Phase 1 Qualified Bidders in accordance with the requirement of paragraph 14 of the Bidding Procedures)	By no later than April 17, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. (Newfoundland Standard Time)

[1] All capitalized terms not already defined are defined further below. Titles in the chart are for presentation purposes only.

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Event	Date
4. Phase 1 Successful Bid Monitor to notify each Phase 1 Qualified Bidder in writing as to whether its bid constituted a Phase 1 Successful Bid	By no later than April 24, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. (Newfoundland Standard Time)
5. Phase 2 Bid Deadline & Qualified Bidders Phase 2 Bid Deadline (for delivery of definitive offers by Phase 2 Qualified Bidders in accordance with the requirement of paragraph 22 of the Bidding Procedures)	By no later than June 12, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. (Newfoundland Standard Time)
6. Auction Auction Commencement Date (if needed)	By no later than June 19, 2022
7. Selection of final Successful Bid Deadline for selection of final Successful Bid	By no later than June 19, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. (Newfoundland Standard Time)
8. Definitive Documentation Deadline for completion of definitive documentation in respect of Successful Bid	By no later than June 26, 2022
9. Approval Motion – Successful Bid Deadline for filing of Approval Motion in respect of Successful Bid	By no later than July 3, 2022
10. Closing – Successful Bid Anticipated deadline for closing of Successful Bid being the Target Closing Date	July 10, 2022 or such earlier date as is achievable
11. Outside Date – Closing Outside Date by which the Successful Bid must close	July 10, 2022

Solicitation of Interest: Notice of the SISP

6. As soon as reasonably practicable after the granting of the Bidding Procedures Order:

   (a) a notice of the SISP and such other relevant information which the Company, in consultation with the Monitor and the DIP Lenders, considers appropriate shall be published in the *National Post*, the *Telegram (NL)* and *The Globe & Mail* and such other publications as may be considered appropriate;

   (b) a press release setting out the notice and such other relevant information regarding the Opportunity as may be considered appropriate, shall be issued with *Canada Newswire* designating dissemination in Canada; and

   (c) any parties that have already reached out to the Monitor expressing their interest.

7. The Monitor shall send a letter describing the Opportunity (a "**Solicitation Letter**"), outlining the SISP and inviting recipients of the Solicitation Letter to express their interest pursuant to the SISP, for distribution to potential bidders as soon as practical.

Virtual Data Room

8. A confidential virtual data room (the "**VDR**") in relation to the Opportunity will be made available by the Company or the Monitor to Potential Bidders that have executed the NDA (as defined below) in accordance with paragraph 9 herein. The VDR will be made available as soon as practicable. Following the completion of "**Phase 1**", but prior to the completion of "**Phase 2**", additional information may be added to the VDR to enable Phase 2 Qualified Bidders to complete any confirmatory due diligence in respect of the Company and the Opportunity. The Monitor, in consultation with the Company and the DIP Lenders, may establish or cause the Company to establish separate VDRs (including "**clean rooms**"), if the Monitor reasonably determines that doing so would further the Company's and any Potential Bidders' compliance with applicable antitrust and competition laws, or would prevent the distribution of commercially sensitive competitive information. The Monitor may also, in consultation with the Company and the DIP Lenders, limit the access of any Potential Bidder to any confidential information in the VDR where the Monitor reasonably determines that such access could negatively impact the SISP, the ability to maintain the confidentiality of the information, the Business or its value.

PHASE 1: NON-BINDING LOIS

Phase 1 Qualified Bidders and Delivery of Confidential Information Memorandum

9. In order to participate in the SISP, and prior to the distribution of any confidential information to an interested party (including access to the VDR), such interested party must deliver to the Monitor at the address specified in Appendix B hereto (including by email) a Non Disclosure Agreement (an "**NDA**") which shall enure to the benefit of any Successful Bidder that closes a transaction contemplated by the Successful Bid. Pursuant to the terms of the NDA to be signed by a potential bidder (each potential bidder who has executed an NDA with the Monitor, a "**Potential Bidder**"), each Potential Bidder will be

prohibited from communicating with any other Potential Bidder regarding the Opportunity during the term of the SISP, without the consent of the Monitor. Prior to the Monitor executing an NDA with any potential bidder, any potential bidder may be required to provide evidence, reasonably satisfactory to the Monitor, in consultation with the Company, of its financial wherewithal to complete a transaction in respect of the Opportunity (either with existing capital or with capital reasonably anticipated to be raised prior to closing) and/or to disclose details of their ownership and/or investors. For the avoidance of doubt, a party who has executed an NDA or a joinder with a Potential Bidder for the purpose of providing financing to a Potential Bidder in connection with the Opportunity (such party a "**Financing Party**") shall not be deemed a Potential Bidder for purposes of the SISP, provided that such Financing Party undertakes to inform the Monitor in the event that it elects to act as a Potential Bidder.

10. A Potential Bidder that has executed an NDA and provided any additional information required pursuant to paragraph 9, will be deemed a "**Phase 1 Qualified Bidder**" and will be promptly notified of such classification by the Monitor.

11. The Monitor with the assistance of the Company and the DIP Lenders, as required, will prepare and send to each Phase 1 Qualified Bidder a confidential information memorandum providing additional information considered relevant to the Opportunity (a "**CIM**") as soon as practicable. The Monitor, the Company, the DIP Lenders and their respective advisors make no representation or warranty as to the information contained in the CIM or otherwise made available pursuant to the SISP.

12. The Monitor shall provide any person deemed to be a Phase 1 Qualified Bidder with access to the VDR. The Monitor, the Company, the DIP Lenders and their respective advisors make no representation or warranty as to the information contained in the VDR. The VDR shall contain a template letter of intent (the "**Template LOI**") and a template purchase and sale agreement ("**Template PSA**").

13. If a Phase 1 Qualified Bidder wishes to submit a bid, it must deliver a non-binding letter of intent (an "**LOI**") (each such LOI, provided in accordance with paragraph 14 below, a "**Phase 1 Qualified Bid**"), to the Monitor at the address specified in Appendix B hereto (including by email) so as to be received by the Monitor not later than 5:00 p.m. (Newfoundland Standard Time) on April 17, 2022, or such other date or time as may be agreed by the Monitor in consultation with the Company and the DIP Lenders (the "**Phase 1 Bid Deadline**"). To the extent possible, the Phase 1 Qualified Bid should follow the format as set out in the Template LOI.

14. An LOI submitted by a Phase 1 Qualified Bidder will only be considered a "**Phase 1 Qualified Bid**" if the LOI complies at a minimum with the following:

(a) it has been duly executed by all required parties;

(b) it is received by the Phase 1 Bid Deadline;

(c) it provides written evidence, satisfactory to the Monitor, in consultation with the Company and the DIP Lenders, of the ability to consummate the transaction within

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the timeframe contemplated by the SISP and to satisfy any obligations or liabilities to be assumed on closing of the transaction, including, without limitation, a specific indication of the sources of capital;

(d) it identifies all proposed material conditions to closing including, without limitation, any internal, regulatory or other approvals and any form of agreement or other document required from a government body, stakeholder or other third party, and an estimate of the anticipated timeframe and any anticipated impediments for obtaining such approvals;

(e) it: (i) identifies the Qualified Phase 1 Bidder and representatives thereof who are authorized to appear and act on behalf of the Qualified Phase 1 Bidder for all purposes regarding the contemplated transaction; and (ii) fully discloses the identity of each entity or person that will be sponsoring, participating in or benefiting from the transaction contemplated by the LOI;

(f) an outline of any additional due diligence required to be conducted in order to submit a binding offer;

(g) it clearly indicates:

   (i) that the Phase 1 Qualified Bidder is seeking to acquire all or substantially all of the Business whether through an asset purchase, a share purchase or a combination thereof (either one being, a "**Sale Proposal**") or some other portion of the Business (a "**Partial Sale Proposal**"); and/or

   (ii) whether the Phase 1 Qualified Bidder is offering to make an investment in, restructure, recapitalize, reorganize or refinance the Company or their business (an "**Investment Proposal**");

(h) it contains such other information as may be reasonably requested by the Monitor, in consultation with the Company and the DIP Lenders;

(i) it does not provide for any break fee or expense reimbursement;

(j) in the case of a Sale Proposal, it identifies or contains the following:

   (i) the purchase price or price range and key assumptions supporting the valuation and the anticipated amount of cash payable on closing of the proposed transaction;

   (ii) any contemplated purchase price adjustment;

   (iii) a description of the specific assets that are expected to be subject to the transaction and any assets or obligations expected to be excluded;

   (iv) a description of those liabilities and obligations (including operating liabilities, obligations to employees, and reclamation obligations) which the

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Phase 1 Qualified Bidder intends to assume and which such liabilities and obligations it does not intend to assume;

(v) information sufficient for the Monitor, in consultation with the Company and the DIP Lenders, to determine that the Phase 1 Qualified Bidder has sufficient ability to satisfy and perform any liabilities or obligations assumed pursuant to subparagraph (iv) above; and

(vi) any other terms or conditions of the Sale Proposal that the Phase 1 Qualified Bidder believes are material to the transaction; and

(k) in the case of an Investment Proposal, it identifies the following:

(i) a description of how the Phase 1 Qualified Bidder proposes to structure the proposed investment, restructuring, recapitalization, refinancing or reorganization;

(ii) the aggregate amount of the equity and/or debt investment to be made in the Company or their business;

(iii) the underlying assumptions regarding the *pro forma* capital structure;

(iv) a description of those liabilities and obligations (including operating liabilities, obligations to employees, and reclamation obligations) which the Phase 1 Qualified Bidder intends to assume and which such liabilities and obligations it does not intend to assume;

(v) information sufficient for the Monitor, in consultation with the Company, to determine that the Phase 1 Qualified Bidder has sufficient ability to satisfy and perform any liabilities or obligations assumed pursuant to subparagraph (iv) above; and

(vi) any other terms or conditions of the Investment Proposal that the Phase 1 Qualified Bidder believes are material to the transaction.

15. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Monitor in consultation with the Company and the DIP Lenders may waive compliance with any one or more of the requirements in paragraph 14 and deem any such non-compliant LOI to be a Phase 1 Qualified Bid, provided that doing so shall not constitute a waiver by the Monitor of the requirements of paragraph 14 or an obligation on the part of the Monitor to designate any other LOI as a Phase 1 Qualified Bid. The Monitor will be under no obligation to negotiate identical terms with, or extend identical terms to, each Phase 1 Qualified Bidder;

Assessment of Phase 1 Qualified Bids and Subsequent Process

16. The Monitor, in consultation with the Company and the DIP Lenders, may, following the receipt of any LOI, seek clarification with respect to any of the terms or conditions of such LOI and/or request and negotiate one or more amendments to such LOI prior to

determining if the LOI should be considered a Phase 1 Qualified Bid or a Phase 1 Successful Bid (as defined below).

17. Following the Phase 1 Bid Deadline, the Monitor shall determine, in accordance with the requirements of paragraph 14 and in consultation with the Company, the LOI(s) that are selected as the most favourable Phase 1 Qualified Bid(s), which Phase 1 Qualified Bid(s) shall be deemed a "**Phase 1 Successful Bid(s)**" and which Phase 1 Qualified Bidder(s) accordingly shall be deemed a "**Phase 2 Qualified Bidder(s)**". For greater certainty, there can be more than one Phase 1 Qualified Bid that may be determined as being a Phase 1 Successful Bid, and more than one Phase 1 Qualified Bidder that may be determined as being a Phase 2 Qualified Bidder.

18. Only Phase 2 Qualified Bidders – being those that have submitted a Phase 1 Successful Bid – shall be permitted to proceed to Phase 2 of the SISP.

19. The Monitor shall notify each Phase 1 Qualified Bidder in writing as to whether its Phase 1 Qualified Bid constituted a Phase 1 Successful Bid – such that it is a Phase 2 Qualified Bidder – within five (5) Business Days of the Phase 1 Bid Deadline, or at such later time as the Monitor deems appropriate, in consultation with the Company.

20. Without limiting the provisions governing amendment of the SISP set out in paragraph 33 below, and notwithstanding the process and timeline for Phase 1, the process to identify and designate Phase 2 Qualified Bidders and the terms upon which Phase 2 may be continued as described below, the Monitor may at any time before or after the Phase 1 Bid Deadline, determine that Phase 2 is not required and may proceed to execute a definitive agreement (which shall be subject to Court approval) with respect to a transaction contemplated in a Phase 1 Qualified Bid submitted at any time on or before the Phase 1 Bid Deadline.

PHASE 2: FORMAL OFFERS AND REMOVAL OF CONDITIONS

Formal Binding Offers

21. Any Phase 2 Qualified Bidder that wishes to make a formal offer with respect to his/her/its Sale Proposal or Investment Proposal shall submit a binding offer (a "**Binding Offer**"): (a) in the case of a Sale Proposal, in the form of the Template PSA provided in the VDR, along with a marked version showing edits to the original form of Template PSA provided in the VDR; or (b) in the case of an Investment Proposal, a plan or restructuring support agreement in form and substance satisfactory to the Monitor, in consultation with the Company and the DIP Lenders (each, such Binding Offer submitted in accordance with paragraph 22 below, a "**Phase 2 Qualified Bid**") in each case to the Monitor, at the address specified in Appendix B hereto (including by email) so as to be received by the Monitor not later than 5:00 p.m. (Newfoundland Standard Time) on June 12, 2022, or such other date or time as may be agreed by the Monitor in consultation with the Company and the DIP Lenders (as may be extended, the "**Phase 2 Bid Deadline**").

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22. A Binding Offer will only be considered as a Phase 2 Qualified Bid if the Binding Offer:

(a) has been received by the Phase 2 Bid Deadline;

(b) is a Binding Offer: (i) to purchase all, substantially all, or a portion of the Business; and/or (ii) to make an investment in, restructure, recapitalize, reorganize or refinance the Company or their business, on terms and conditions reasonably acceptable to the Company and the DIP Lenders;

(c) identifies all executory contracts of the Company that the Phase 2 Qualified Bidder will assume and clearly describes, for each contract or on an aggregate basis, how all monetary defaults and non-monetary defaults will be remedied, as applicable;

(d) is not subject to any financing conditionality;

(e) is unconditional, other than upon the receipt of the Approval Order(s) (as defined below) and satisfaction of any other conditions expressly set forth in the binding offer;

(f) includes acknowledgments and representations of the Phase 2 Qualified Bidder that it: (i) has had an opportunity to conduct any and all due diligence regarding the Opportunity prior to making its Binding Offer; (ii) has relied solely upon its own independent review, investigation and/or inspection of any documents and/or the Business in making its Binding Offer; (iii) did not rely upon any written or oral statements, representations, warranties, or guarantees whatsoever, whether express, implied, statutory or otherwise, regarding the Opportunity or the completeness of any information provided in connection therewith, other than as expressly set forth in the Binding Offer or other transaction document submitted with the Binding Offer; and (iv) promptly will commence any governmental or regulatory review of the proposed transaction by the applicable competition, antitrust or other applicable governmental authorities;

(g) the Binding Offer must be accompanied by a letter that confirms that the Binding Offer: (i) may be accepted by the Monitor by countersigning the Binding Offer, and (ii) is irrevocable and capable of acceptance until the earlier of (A) two business days after the date of closing of the Successful Bid; and (B) the Outside Date;

(h) does not provide for any break fee or expense reimbursement;

(i) is accompanied by a deposit in the amount of not less than **5%** of the cash purchase price payable on closing or total new investment contemplated, as the case may be (the "**Deposit**"), along with acknowledgement that if the Phase 2 Qualified Bidder is selected as the Successful Bidder (as defined below), that the Deposit will be non-refundable subject to approval of the Successful Bid (as defined below) by the Court and the terms described in paragraph 32 below;

(j) contemplates and reasonably demonstrates a capacity to consummate a closing of the transaction set out therein on or before July 10 2022, or such earlier date as is practical for the parties to close the contemplated transaction, following the satisfaction or waiver of the conditions to closing (the "**Target Closing Date**") and in any event no later than July 10, 2022 (the "**Outside Date**"); and

(k) contains an agreement that the Phase 2 Qualified Bidder submitting such bid, if not chosen as the Successful Bidder, shall serve, without modification to such bid, as a Backup Bidder (as defined below), in the event the Successful Bidder fails to close.

23. The Monitor shall not purport to waive strict compliance with any one or more of the requirements specified above (for greater certainty, other than paragraph 22(c) above and paragraph 32 below and deem any such non-compliant Binding Offer to be a Phase 2 Qualified Bid.

Selection of Successful Bid

24. The Monitor, in consultation with the Company and the DIP Lenders, may, following the receipt of any Binding Offer, seek clarification with respect to any of the terms or conditions of such Binding Offer and/or request and negotiate one or more amendments to such Binding Offer prior to determining if the Binding Offer should be considered a Phase 2 Qualified Bid.

25. The Monitor, in consultation with the Company and the DIP Lenders, will: (a) review and evaluate each Phase 2 Qualified Bid; and (b) identify the highest or otherwise best bid (the "**Successful Bid**", and the Phase 2 Qualified Bidder making such Successful Bid, the "**Successful Bidder**") pursuant to the paragraphs below. Any Successful Bid shall be subject to approval by the Court.

26. In the event there is at least two Phase 2 Qualified Bids, the Successful Bid shall be identified through an Auction.

27. Auction: In the event that an auction (the "**Auction**") is required in accordance with the terms of this SISP, it shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in this paragraph:

(a) The Auction shall commence at a time to be designated by the Monitor, no later than June 19, 2022, and may, in the discretion of the Monitor, be held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic via videoconference, teleconference or such other reasonable means as the Monitor deems appropriate. The Monitor and the Company shall work in good faith with the parties entitled to attend the Auction to arrange for the Auction to be so held. The Monitor reserves the right to cancel or postpone the Auction in the consultation with the DIP Lenders.

(b) The identity of each Phase 2 Qualified Bidder participating in the Auction will be disclosed, on a confidential basis, to each other Phase 2 Qualified Bidder participating in the Auction.

(c) Except as otherwise permitted in the Monitor's discretion, only the Company, the Dip Lenders, the Monitor and the Phase 2 Qualified Bidders, and, in each case, their respective professionals shall be entitled to attend the Auction. Only a Phase 2 Qualified Bidder is eligible to participate in the Auction.

(d) Phase 2 Qualified Bidders shall appear at the Auction, or through a duly authorized representative.

(e) Except as otherwise set forth herein, the Monitor, in consultation with the Company and the DIP Lenders, may waive and/or employ and announce at the Auction additional rules, including rules to facilitate the participation of parties participating in an aggregated bid, that are reasonable under the circumstances for conducting the Auction, provided that such rules are: (i) not inconsistent with the Initial Order, the SISP, the Bidding Procedures, the DIP, the CCAA, or any order of the Court entered in connection with the CCAA Proceedings; (ii) disclosed to each Phase 2 Qualified Bidder; and (iii) designed, in the Monitor's business judgment, to result in the highest and otherwise best offer.

(f) The Monitor will arrange for the actual bidding at the Auction to be transcribed or recorded. Each Phase 2 Qualified Bidder participating in the Auction shall designate a single individual to be its spokesperson during the Auction.

(g) Each Phase 2 Qualified Bidder participating in the Auction must confirm on the record, at the commencement of the Auction and again at the conclusion of the Auction, that it has not engaged in any collusion with the Company or any other person regarding the SISP that has not been disclosed to all other Phase 2 Qualified Bidders.

(h) Prior to the Auction, the Monitor shall identify, in consultation with the Company and the DIP Lenders, the highest and best of the Phase 2 Qualified Bids received and such Phase 2 Qualified Bid shall constitute the opening bid for the purposes of the Auction (the "**Opening Bid**"). Subsequent bidding will continue in minimum increments valued at not less than **$[250,000]** cash in excess of the Opening Bid. For the purposes of facilitating bidding, the Monitor may ascribe a monetary value to non-cash considerations, including by way of example, to different levels of conditionality to closing. Each Phase 2 Qualified Bidder shall provide evidence of its financial wherewithal and ability to consummate the transaction at the increased purchase price, if so requested by the Monitor. Further, in the event that an Aggregated Bid qualifies to participate in the Auction, modifications to the bidding requirements may be made by the Monitor to facilitate bidding by the participants in the Aggregated Bid.

(i) All Phase 2 Qualified Bidders shall have the right to, at any time, request that the Monitor announce, subject to any potential new bids, the then-current highest and best bid and, to the extent requested by any Phase 2 Qualified Bidder, use reasonable efforts to clarify any and all questions such Phase 2 Qualified Bidder

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may have regarding the Monitor's announcement of the then-current highest and best bid.

(j) Each participating Phase 2 Qualified Bidder shall be given reasonable opportunity to submit an overbid at the Auction to any then-existing overbids. The Auction shall continue until the bidding has concluded and there is one remaining Phase 2 Qualified Bidder that the Monitor, in consultation with the Company and the DIP Lenders, determine has submitted the highest and otherwise best Phase 2 Qualified Bid of the Auction. At such time and upon the conclusion of the bidding, the Auction shall be closed and the final remaining Phase 2 Qualified Bidder shall be the Successful Bidder.

(k) Upon selection of a Successful Bidder, the Monitor shall require the Successful Bidder to deliver as soon as practicable an amended and executed transaction document that reflects its final bid and any other modifications submitted and agreed to during the Auction, prior to the filing of the application material for the hearing to consider the Approval Motion (as defined below).

(l) The Monitor shall not consider any bids submitted after the conclusion of the Auction.

28. The final Successful Bid and the Backup Bid (as defined below) shall be selected by no later than June 19, 2022 and the definitive documentation in respect of the Successful Bid must be finalized and executed no later than June 26, 2022, which definitive documentation shall be conditional only upon the receipt of the Approval Order(s) and the express conditions set out therein and shall provide that the Successful Bidder shall use all reasonable efforts to close the proposed transaction by no later than the Target Closing Date, or such longer period as shall be agreed to by the Monitor in consultation with the Company, the DIP Lenders and the Successful Bidder. In any event, the Successful Bid must be closed by no later than the Outside Date, unless with the authorization of the DIP Lenders, acting reasonably.

29. Notwithstanding anything in the SISP to the contrary, if an Auction is conducted, the Phase 2 Qualified Bidder with the next highest or otherwise best Phase 2 Qualified Bid at the Auction, as determined by the Monitor will be designated as the backup bidder (the "**Backup Bidder**"). The Backup Bidder shall be required to keep its initial Phase 2 Qualified Bid (or if the Backup Bidder submitted one or more overbids at the Auction, the Backup Bidder's final overbid) (the "**Backup Bid**") open until the earlier of: (A) two business days after the date of closing of the Successful Bid; and (B) the Outside Date.

Approval of Successful Bid

30. The Monitor shall apply to the Court (the "**Approval Motion**") for one or more orders: (i) approving the Successful Bid and the Backup Bid (as applicable) and authorizing the taking of such steps and actions and completing such transactions as are set out therein or required thereby; and (ii) granting a vesting order and/or reverse vesting order to the extent that such relief is contemplated by the Successful Bid or the Backup Bid, as applicable, so

as to vest title to any purchased assets in the name of the Successful Bidder or the Backup Bidder (as applicable) and/or vesting unwanted liabilities out of one or more of the Company (collectively, the "**Approval Order(s)**"). The Approval Motion will be held on a date to be scheduled by the Monitor and confirmed by the Court upon application by the Monitor, who shall use their best efforts to schedule the Approval Motion on or before July 3, 2022, subject to Court availability. The Approval Motion may be adjourned or rescheduled by the Monitor without further notice, by an announcement of the adjourned date at the Approval Motion or in a notice to the service list of the CCAA Proceedings prior to the Approval Motion.

31. All Phase 2 Qualified Bids (other than the Successful Bid) shall be deemed rejected on and as of the date of the closing of the Successful Bid, with no further or continuing obligation of the Monitor to any unsuccessful Phase 2 Qualified Bidders.

Deposits

32. The Deposit(s):

(a) shall, upon receipt from the Phase 2 Qualified Bidder(s), be retained by the Monitor and deposited in a non-interest-bearing trust account.

(b) received from the Successful Bidder, shall:

(i) be applied to the purchase price to be paid by the applicable Successful Bidder whose Successful Bid is the subject of the Approval Order(s), upon closing of the approved transaction; and

(ii) shall otherwise be held and refundable in accordance with the terms of the definitive documentation in respect of any Successful Bid, provided that all such documentation shall provide that the Deposit shall be retained by the Monitor and forfeited by the Successful Bidder, if the Successful Bid fails to close by the Outside Date, and such failure is attributable directly to any failure or omission of the Successful Bidder to fulfil its obligations under the terms of the Successful Bid;

(c) received from the Backup Bidder, unless it is subsequently selected as the Successful Bidder, shall be fully refunded, to the Backup Bidder on or before the earlier of: (i) two (2) Business Days after the date of the closing to the Successful Bid; or (ii) July 17, 2022; and

(d) received from the Phase 2 Qualified Bidder(s) that are not the Successful Bidder or the Backup Bidder shall be fully refunded, to the Phase 2 Qualified Bidder(s) that paid the Deposit(s) as soon as practical following the selection of the Successful Bidder and in any event no later than July 17, 2022.

Amendment

33. The Monitor shall have the right at any time, in consultation with the Company and the DIP Lenders, to: (i) make material amendments to the SISP (including by extending the Phase 1 Bid Deadline or the Phase 2 Bid Deadline); and (ii) make non-material amendments to the SISP, in each case if, in the Monitor's reasonable judgment in consultation with the Company and/or the DIP Lenders, such material or non-material amendment will enhance the procedure for conducting the SISP or maximize the value of a transaction pursuant to the SISP. The Monitor shall advise the Service List in the CCAA Proceedings of any material amendment to the SISP. Without limiting the foregoing and notwithstanding the process and timeline for Phase 1 and the continuation of the SISP into Phase 2, the Monitor may at any time during Phase 1 or Phase 2: (i) subject to Court approval, enter into a stalking horse agreement involving a transaction with respect to some or all of the Business with a party identified through the SISP or otherwise; or (ii) subject to Court approval, enter into a definitive agreement with respect to a transaction involving some or all of the Business with a party identified through the SISP or otherwise and suspend or terminate the SISP.

"As is, Where is"

34. Any sale (or sales) of the Business will be on an "**as is, where is**" basis except for representations and warranties that are customarily provided in purchase agreements for a company subject to CCAA proceedings and any such representations and warranties provided for in the definitive documents shall not survive closing.

Free of Any and All Claims And Interests

35. In the event of a sale, to the extent permitted by law, all of the rights, title and interests of the Company in and to the Business to be acquired will be sold free and clear of all pledges, liens, security interests, encumbrances, claims, charges, options, and interests thereon and there against (collectively, the "**Claims and Interests**") pursuant to section 36(6) of the CCAA, such Claims and Interests to attach to the net proceeds of the sale of such Business (without prejudice to any claims or causes of action regarding the priority, validity or enforceability thereof), except to the extent otherwise set forth in the relevant transaction documents with a Successful Bidder.

Credit Bidding

36. Any party or parties holding a valid, enforceable, and properly perfected security interest in the Business may, subject in all respects to such party's compliance with the Bidding Procedures, credit bid the amount of debt secured by such lien as part of any transaction contemplated by the Bidding Procedures; provided, however, that such transaction shall also provide for the indefeasible and irrevocable repayment in full in cash on the date of closing of any such transaction of any and all obligations: (i) owing to the DIP Lenders; (ii) owing pursuant to any charges granted by the Court in the CCAA Proceedings; and (iii) secured by a security interest in the Business that is to be acquired under such transaction that is senior to the security interest held in such Business by the party

submitting such credit bid unless the holder or indenture trustee or agent of any such senior security interest otherwise agrees. Nothing contained in this paragraph 36 is intended to, or shall, alter or amend the rights, terms or obligations under any intercreditor agreement or other form of agreement in respect of existing indebtedness of the Company.

Confidentiality

37. For greater certainty other than as shall be required in connection with any Auction or Approval Motion, neither the Company nor the Monitor will share: (i) the identity of any Potential Bidder, or Phase 1 Qualified Bidder; or (ii) the terms of any bid, LOI, Phase 1 Qualified Bid, Sale Proposal, Investment Proposal or Phase 2 Qualified Bid, with any other bidder without the consent of such party (including by way of email).

Further Orders

38. At any time during the SISP, the Monitor may apply to the Court for advice and directions with respect to any aspect of this SISP and the Bidding Procedures including, but not limited to, the continuation of the SISP or with respect to the discharge of its powers and duties hereunder.

Additional Terms

39. In addition to any other requirement of these Bidding Procedures:

(a) The Monitor, as applicable, shall at all times prior to the selection of a Successful Bid use commercially reasonable efforts to facilitate a competitive bidding process in the SISP including, without limitation, by actively soliciting participation by all persons who would be customarily identified as high potential bidders in a process of this kind or who may be reasonably proposed by any of the Monitor, the DIP Lenders or the Company's stakeholders as a high potential bidder.

(b) Any consent, approval or confirmation to be provided by the Company and/or the Monitor is ineffective unless provided in writing and any approval required pursuant to the terms hereof is in addition to, and not in substitution for, any other approvals required by the CCAA or as otherwise required at law in order to implement a Successful Bid. For the avoidance of doubt, a consent, approval or confirmation provided by email shall be deemed to have been provided in writing for the purposes of this paragraph.

(c) All Phase 1 Qualified Bidders and Phase 2 Qualified Bidders shall at all times be granted information, access and facilitation that is no less complete and timely than is granted by the Monitor, or their representatives, to other Phase 1 Qualified Bidders and Phase 2 Qualified Bidders pursuant to the SISP. This shall include, without limitation, reasonable access to the Company's books, records, financial information, management, advisors and business partners. The Monitor shall review all information and materials provided by the Company or its representatives to the DIP Lenders or their representatives pursuant to the DIP and, to the extent that the Monitor, in consultation with the Company, is of the view that any such information or materials are materially relevant to a Potential Bidder or Phase 1 Qualified Bidder or Phase 2 Qualified Bidder, then such information or materials shall be promptly posted to the VDR or otherwise made available to all Potential Bidders, Phase 1 Qualified Bidders and Phase 2 Qualified Bidders. Nothing in this paragraph creates binding obligations of third parties.

(d) Nothing in this SISP shall require that a Successful Bid, Backup Bid or any other bid must be approved by the Court. The Court at all times retains the discretion to direct the clarification, termination, extension or modification of the SISP and Bidding Procedures on application of any interested party.

(e) Prior to the seeking of Court approval for any transaction or bid contemplated by this SISP, the Monitor will provide a report to the Court on the SISP process, parts of which may be filed under seal, including in respect of any and all bids received.

APPENDIX A
DEFINED TERMS

"Applicant" shall have the meaning set forth in the preamble.

"Approval Motion" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 30.

"Approval Order(s)" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 30.

"Auction" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 27.

"Backup Bid" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 29.

"Backup Bidder" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 29.

"Bid" shall have the meaning set forth in the preamble.

"Bidding Procedures" shall have the meaning set forth in the preamble.

"Bidding Procedures Order" shall have the meaning set forth in the preamble.

"Binding Offer" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 21.

"Business" shall have the meaning set forth in the preamble.

"Business Day" means a day on which banks are open for business in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador but does not include a Saturday, Sunday or statutory holiday in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

"CCAA" shall have the meaning set forth in the preamble.

"CCAA Proceedings" shall have the meaning set forth in the preamble.

"CIM" "shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 11.

"Claims and Interests" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 35.

"Court" shall have the meaning set forth in the preamble.

"Deposit" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 22(i).

"DIP" means the DIP Financing Agreement dated March 7, 2022 among Grant Thornton Limited, as the Monitor/Interim Receiver of the Company and the lenders party thereto from time to time providing for DIP financing.

"DIP Lenders" means, collectively, Bridging Finance Inc. and/or an affiliate to be named, and Her Majesty in Right of Newfoundland and Labrador, as represented by the Minister of Industry, Energy and Technology, each in its capacity as lender under the DIP.

"**Financing Party**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 9.

"**Initial Order**" shall have the meaning set forth in the preamble.

"**Investment Proposal**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 14(g)(ii).

"**LOI**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 13.

"**Monitor**" shall have the meaning set forth in the preamble.

"**NDA**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 9.

"**Opening Bid**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 27(h)27(h).

"**Opportunity**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 2.

"**Outside Date**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 22(j).

"**Partial Sale Proposal**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 14(g)(i).

"**Phase 1**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 8.

"**Phase 1 Bid Deadline**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 13.

"**Phase 1 Qualified Bid**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 13.

"**Phase 1 Qualified Bidder**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 10.

"**Phase 1 Successful Bid**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 17.

"**Phase 2**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 8.

"**Phase 2 Bid Deadline**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 21.

"**Phase 2 Qualified Bid**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 21.

"**Phase 2 Qualified Bidder**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 17.

"**Potential Bidder**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 9.

"**Sale Proposal**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 14(g)(i).

"**SISP**" shall have the meaning set forth in the preamble.

"**Successful Bid**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 25.

"**Successful Bidder**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 25.

"**Target Closing Date**" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 22(j).

"Solicitation Letter" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 7.

"Template LOI" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 12.

"Template PSA" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 12.

"VDR" shall have the meaning set forth in paragraph 8.

APPENDIX B

TO the Company:

<u>**Canada Fluorspar Inc., Canada Fluorspar (NL) Inc, and Newspar (a General Partnership)**</u>

with a copy to:

<u>**Cox & Palmer**</u>

Attention: **Darren O'Keefe and Allison Philpott**
Email: dokeefe@coxandpalmer.com and aphilpott@coxandpalmer.com

TO THE MONITOR:

<u>**Grant Thornton Limited**</u>

Attention: **Phil Clarke and Sean MacNeil**
Email: phil.clarke@ca.gt.com and sean.macneil@ca.gt.com

with a copy to:

<u>**McInnes Cooper**</u>

Attention: **Meghan King and Geoff Spencer**
Email: meghan.king@mcinnescooper.com and geoffrey.spencer@mcinnescooper.com