C A N A D A PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC DISTRICT OF MONTRÉAL

SUPERIOR COURT

(Commercial Division)

Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. (1985) c. C-36

No: 500-11-056550-193

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPROMISE OR ARRANGEMENT OF:

NORTH AMERICAN LITHIUM INC.

Petitioner

-and-

RAYMOND CHABOT INC.

Monitor

-and-

INVESTISSEMENT QUÉBEC

-and-

CONTEMPORARY AMPEREX TECHNOLOGY CANADA LIMITED

-and-

ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR THE PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC ON BEHALF OF THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES, MINISTÈRE DE L'ÉNERGIE ET DES RESSOURCES NATURELLES

-and-

GG ENTREPRENEUR MINIER INC.

Impleaded Parties

MOTION FOR AN ORDER EXTENDING THE STAY PERIOD AND TO INCREASE THE INTERIM FINANCING FACILITY AND THE INTERIM LENDER CHARGE

(Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. (1985) c. C-36 ("CCAA")), section 11 and 11.02

TO ONE OF THE HONOURABLE JUDGES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT, SITTING IN COMMERCIAL DIVISION FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTREAL, THE PETITIONER RESPECTFULLY STATES:

A. BACKGROUND

- 1. On May 28, 2019, the Honourable Jean-François Michaud, S.C.J., granted Norther American Lithium Inc. ("**NAL**")'s *Motion for (i) the Issuance of an Initial Order and (ii) the Granting of Administrative Charge and a Directors and Officers* and issued an initial order under the CCAA (the "**Initial Order**"¹).
- 2. Pursuant to the Initial Order, *inter alia*, Raymond Chabot Inc. was appointed as monitor (the "**Monitor**") of NAL and a stay of proceedings was granted until June 27, 2019.
- 3. The Initial Order also provided for the creation of certain charges over the Property of NAL, which, pursuant to paragraph 33 of the Initial Order, rank as follows:
 - a) First, the Administration Charge for an aggregate amount of \$500,000;
 - b) Second, the Directors' Charge for an aggregate amount of \$1,500,000.
- 4. Pursuant to an Order rendered on June 27, 2019, the Stay Period was extended until August 31, 2019.
- 5. Pursuant to an Order rendered on August 30, 2019, the Stay Period was extended until September 16, 2019.
- 6. On September 16, 2019, the Honourable Martin Castonguay granted NAL's Motion for an Order (i) Extending the Stay Period, (ii) Approving an Interim Facility and an Interim Lender Charge, (iii) Approving a Sale and Investment Solicitation Process and (iv) Amending and Restating the Initial Order, which resulted in the following:
 - a) The extension of the Stay Period until January 31, 2020; and
 - b) The issuance of an Amended and Restated Initial Order, which:
 - approved the Interim Facility in the aggregate amount of CAN\$6 million;
 - ii) approved and created the Interim Lender Charge in favour of Investissement Québec ("IQ");

Except as otherwise provided for herein, all capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the Third Amended and Restated Initial Order dated October 30, 2020 (the "Fourth Amended and Restated Initial Order").

- iii) approved the launching of the SISP in accordance with the SISP Procedures; and
- iv) extended the powers of the Monitor for the purpose of carrying out the SISP.
- 7. The Amended and Restated Order was subsequently rectified to correct a minor typographical error in the Stay Period deadline (January 31, 2019 was corrected to read January 31, 2020).
- 8. On January 31, 2020, the Honourable Martin Castonguay granted NAL's *Motion* for an Order Extending the Stay Period and to Increase the Interim Financing Facility and the Interim Lender Charge, which resulted in the following:
 - a) The extension of the Stay Period until March 13, 2020; and
 - b) The issuance of a Second Amended and Restated Initial Order:
 - i) approving a CAN\$1,000,000 increase of the Interim Facility, for total aggregate Interim Facility of CAN\$7,000,000; and
 - ii) approving an increase of the Interim Lender Charge to CAN\$8,000,000.
- 9. On March 13, 2020, the Honourable Martin Castonguay granted NAL's *Motion for* an Order Extending the Stay Period and to Increase the Interim Financing Facility and the Interim Lender Charge, which resulted in the following:
 - a) The extension of the Stay Period until May 15, 2020; and
 - b) The issuance of a Third Amended and Restated Initial Order:
 - i) approving a CAN\$1,000,000 increase of the Interim Facility, for total aggregate Interim Facility of CAN\$8,000,000; and
 - ii) approving an increase of the Interim Lender Charge to CAN\$9,000,000.
- 10. On May 15, 2020, the Honourable Martin Castonguay granted NAL's *Motion for* an *Order Extending the Stay Period*, which resulted in the Stay Period being extended until June 30, 2020.
- 11. On June 29, 2020, the Honourable Martin Castonguay granted NAL's *Motion for* an *Order Extending the Stay Period*, which resulted in the Stay Period being extended until July 31, 2020.
- 12. On July 31, 2020, the Honourable Martin Castonguay granted NAL's *Motion for* an *Order Extending the Stay Period*, which resulted in the Stay Period being extended until August 31, 2020.

- 13. On August 31, 2020, the Honourable Martin Castonguay granted NAL's *Motion for an Order Extending the Stay Period*, which resulted in the Stay Period being extended until September 30, 2020.
- 14. On September 30, 2020, the Honourable Martin Castonguay granted NAL's *Motion for an Order Extending the Stay Period*, which resulted in the Stay Period being extended until October 30, 2020.
- 15. On October 30, 2020, the Honourable Martin Castonguay granted NAL's *Motion* for an Order Extending the Stay Period and to Increase the Interim Financing Facility and the Interim Lender Charge, which resulted in:
 - a) the Stay Period being extended January 22, 2021; and
 - b) the issuance of a Fourth Amended and Restated Initial Order:
 - i) approving a CAN\$1,500,000 increase of the Interim Facility, for total aggregate Interim Facility of CAN\$9,500,000; and
 - ii) approving an increase of the Interim Lender Charge to CAN\$11,000,000.
- 16. On January 22, 2021, Honourable Martin Castonguay granted NAL's *Motion for an Order Extending the Stay Period*, which resulted in the Stay Period being extended until March 26, 2021.

B. ORDERS SOUGHT

- 17. On this Motion, NAL hereby seeks the following:
 - a) An extension of the Stay Period in respect of NAL until April 30, 2021; and
 - b) The issuance of a Fifth Amended and Restated Initial Order to:
 - i) approve a CAN\$1,000,000 increase of the Interim Facility, for total aggregate Interim Facility of CAN\$10,500,000; and
 - ii) approve an increase of the Interim Lender Charge to CAN\$12,000,000.
- 18. A draft Fifth Amended and Restated Initial Order, which includes the orders being sought on this Motion, is communicated herewith as **Exhibit P-1**. A version comparing the Fourth Amended and Restated Initial Order with the draft Fifth Amended and Restated Initial Order is communicated herewith as **Exhibit P-1A**.

C. EXTENSION OF THE STAY PERIOD AND EXTENSION OF SISP

19. Since the issuance of the Initial Order, NAL has acted, and continues to act in good faith and with due diligence.

- 20. Since the issuance of the Stay Period on January 22, 2021, NAL, with the support of the Monitor, has:
 - a) Continued care and maintenance work, including maintenance and repair work for production equipment as well as for the plant, to preserve its value;
 - b) Continued certain contracts that would promote the resumption of operations;
 - c) Taken actions to comply with environmental requirements; and
 - d) Continued to carry out the SISP.
- 21. The steps taken by the Monitor during the previous Stay Period, namely the steps taken in the context of the SISP are more fully set out in the Fourteenth Report of the Monitor that will be filed in support of this Motion (the "Monitor's Fourteenth Report"). These steps included:
 - a) The continued review and assessment of bids;
 - b) Seeking additional clarifications in respect of the bids;
 - holdings discussions with NAL, IQ and Contemporary Amperex Technology Canada Limited (together with IQ, the "Secured Creditors") and the bidders;
- 22. On March 4, 2021, the Monitor, with the support of the Secured Creditors, delivered a letter to all bidders providing them with an ultimate opportunity to revise, improve (i.e. financial terms and/or lifting conditions) and/or confirm their respective bids by no later than April 6, 2021, the whole in accordance with the SISP Procedures.
- 23. In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the extension of the Stay Period to April 30, 2021 is required to provide the Monitor, with the collaboration of NAL and its counsel and the Secured Creditors, with sufficient time to continue to carry out the Relaunched SISP, which could include:
 - a) Receive the confirmation of existing bids and/or revised bids on April 6, 2021;
 - b) Review and assessment of any revised bids;
 - c) Seeking clarifications in respect of any revised bids;
 - d) Discussions between the Monitor, the Secured Creditors and the bidders;
 - e) Acceptance of one or more bids;
 - f) Review of restructuring options, including a draft plan of compromise based on the bids submitted; and

- g) Preparation and hearing before the court of a motion to move forward in accordance with the SISP and the results in respect thereof. Potential successful bids would be submitted before the court by the Monitor for assessment.
- 24. The Monitor's Fourteenth Report includes, inter alia, the Monitor's recommendations in respect of the requested extension of the Stay Period.
- 25. The Monitor's Fourteenth Report also includes NAL's revised and extended cash flow forecast for the period ending May 1, 2021 (the "**Forecast**").
- 26. Based on the Forecast and subject to the underlying assumptions contained therein, including the approval of the requested increase to the Interim Facility, NAL believes that there is sufficient liquidity to fund these CCAA Proceedings until April 30, 2021.
- 27. It is the position of NAL that no parties will suffer any undue prejudice from the extension of the Stay Period and that the extension sought is appropriate under the present circumstances.
- 28. In light of the foregoing, NAL asks this Court to extend the Stay Period to April 30, 2021, which date shall, for the purposes of the Fifth Amended and Restated Initial Order, be the last day of the Stay Period, the whole subject to all other terms of the Fifth Amended and Restated Initial Order.

D. <u>INCREASE OF THE INTERIM FACILITY AND THE INTERIM LENDER CHARGE</u>

- 29. On March 23, 2021, IQ advised the Monitor that it is prepared to increase the Interim Facility by an amount of CAN\$1,000,000, thus bringing the aggregate amount of the Interim Facility from CAN\$9,500,000 to CAN\$10,500,000 (the "Fourth Amended Interim Facility").
- 30. The fourth amended and restated *Convention de Crédit Financement Temporaire (DIP*) (the "Fourth Amended and Restated Interim Facility Agreement") is enclosed herewith as Exhibit P-2.
- 31. The terms and conditions of the Fourth Amended and Restated Interim Facility Agreement are identical to the Third Amended and Restated Interim Facility Agreement save and except for (i) the increase in the amount of the Interim Facility, (ii) the increase of the Interim Lender Charge from CAN\$11,000,000 to CAN\$12,000,000 and (iii) the extension of the maturity date of the Interim Facility.
- 32. The Fourth Amended Interim Facility and the increase to the Interim Lender Charge are required *inter alia* for:
 - a) Conservatory measures;
 - b) Finalizing the SISP; and
 - c) Other restructuring related activities.

- 33. The Fourth Amended Interim Facility and the increase to the Interim Lender Charge should be approved considering:
 - a) The Secured creditors affected by the Interim Lender Charge support such financing;
 - b) It provides funding of a portion of the amount that is required under the Forecast;
 - c) It will allow the Monitor and NAL to finalize the SISP;
 - d) NAL's business and financial affairs will continue to be managed properly, with the assistance of the Monitor to assist with and supervise operations;
 - e) It will enhance the prospect of a viable compromise being made for the benefit of the creditors and the nature and value of NAL's property would be maintained;
 - It will enable NAL to cover conservatory expenses to maintain the value of NAL's property; and
 - g) No unsecured creditor will be materially prejudiced as a result of the security or charge requested.
- 34. The Monitor supports the Fourth Amended Interim Facility and is of the opinion that NAL's stakeholders will benefit from the granting of the Fourth Amended Interim Facility.

E. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

- 35. The service of the present Motion serves as notice pursuant to paragraph 58 of the Fourth Amended and Restated Initial Order.
- 36. Pursuant to paragraph 52 of the Fourth Amended and Restated Initial Order, that subject to further Order from this Court, all motions in these CCAA Proceedings are to be brought on not less than five (5) calendar days' notice to all Persons on the service list. Each motion must specify a date (the "Initial Return Date") and time (the "Initial Return Time") for the hearing.
- 37. Given the ongoing COVID-19 crisis and the delay in receiving instructions from the Secured Creditors, it was not possible for NAL to bring the present Motion on five (5) calendar days' notice.
- 38. The present Motion must be heard prior to March 26, 2021, considering that the current Stay Period is set to expire as of this date.
- 39. NAL therefore requests the Court to relieve it of the requirement to bring the present Motion on at least five (5) calendar days' notice and to declare that this Motion is properly returnable on its date of presentation.

40. Accordingly, any Person wishing to object to the relief sought on this Motion should also be relieved of the requirements set forth in paragraph 53 of the Third Amended and Restated Initial Order.

F. Conclusions

- 41. For the reasons set forth above, the Petitioner believes it is both appropriate and necessary that the relief being sought be granted.
- 42. The present Motion is well founded in fact and in law.

WHEREFORE, MAY THIS COURT:

- 1. **GRANT** this Motion;
- 2. **ISSUE** an order substantially in the form of the draft Fifth Amended and Restated Initial Order communicated in support of the Motion as **Exhibit P-1**;
- 3. **THE WHOLE WITHOUT COSTS**, save and except in case of contestation.

Montréal, this 23rd day of March 2021

Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP

Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP

Attorneys for the North American Lithium Inc.

Mtre Alain Riendeau

Email: ariendeau@fasken.com Phone number: +1 514 397 7678

Mtre Brandon Farber

Email: bfarber@fasken.com Phone number: +1 514 397 5179 Stock Exchange Tower 800 Victoria Square, Suite 3700 P.O. Box 242

Montréal, Quebec H4Z 1E9 Phone number: +1 514 397 5179 Fax number: +1 514 397 7600

SWORN STATEMENT

I, the undersigned, Janet Huang, acting Chief Financial Officer for North American Lithium Inc, having my professional address at 500, route du Lithium, La Corne, Québec, J0Y 1R0, do solemnly declare:

- 1. Since March 2018, I am acting as Chief Financial Officer for North American Lithium Inc. ("NAL");
- 2. I am a duly authorized representative of NAL in the present case;
- 3. I either have personal knowledge or became aware, from information obtained and reviewed in the context of my duties, of all the facts alleged in the *Motion for an Order Extending the Stay Period and to Increase the Interim Facility and the Interim Lender Charge*.

AND I HAVE SIGNED:

Janet Huang

Solemnly affirmed before me by videoconference in Montréal, on March 23, 2021

Commissioner for Oaths for Québec #86 084

NOTICE OF PRESENTATION

ADDRESSEE(S):

TO SERVICE LIST

TAKE NOTICE that the present *Motion for an Order Extending the Stay Period and to Increase the Interim Facility and the Interim Lender Charge*. will be adjudicated by the Honourable Martin Castonguay, J.S.C. without a hearing, save and except if there is a contestation. If a party wishes to contest the Motion, a written notice of objection must be communicated to the service list, with a copy to the Honorable Martin Castonguay (martin.castonguay@judex.qc.ca) by no later than March 25, 2021 at 12:00 p.m (Montreal time).

DO GOVERN YOURSELVES ACCORDINGLY.

Montréal, this 23rd day of March 2021

Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP

Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP

Attorneys for North American Lithium Inc.

Mtre Alain Riendeau

Email: ariendeau@fasken.com Phone number: +1 514 397 7678

Mtre Brandon Farber

Email: bfarber@fasken.com Phone number: +1 514 397 5179

Stock Exchange Tower

800 Victoria Square, Suite 3700

P.O. Box 242

Montréal, Quebec H4Z 1E9 Phone number: +1 514 397 5179 Fax number: +1 514 397 7600

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, RSC (1985), CH. C-36, AS AMENDED ("CCAA"):

NORTH AMERICAN LITHIUM INC.

500-11-056550-194 SERVICE LIST

(January 28, 2020)

APPLICANT	
Me Alain Riendeau Me Brandon Farber Fasken Martineau DuMoulin 800 rue du Square-Victoria # 3700 Montréal QC H4Z 1E9	
Attorneys for the Applicant North American Lithium Inc.	
Emails: ariendeau@fasken.com bfarber@fasken.com	
PROPOSED MONITOR	
Mr. Benoit Fontaine Raymond Chabot Inc 200-600 rue de la Gauchetière West Montréal, QC H3B 4L8 Email: Fontaine.Benoit@rcgt.com	
IMPLEADED PARTIES:	
Me Philippe Henri Bélanger Me Alain N. Tardif McCarthy Tétrault LLP 1000 rue de la Gauchetière West Suite 2500	Me Luc Morin Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP 1 Place Ville Marie, Suite 2500 Montréal QC H3B 1R1
Montréal QC H3B 0A2	Attorneys for Contemporary Amperex Technology Canada Limited
Attorneys for Investissement Québec Email: pbelanger@mccarthy.ca atardif@mccarthy.ca nzucker@mccarthy.ca	Email: luc.morin@nortonrosefulbright.com

Deputy Minister of Energy and Natural Resources

Ministère de l'énergie et des ressources naturelles Bureau du sous ministre

5700, 4e avenue West, Suite A301 Québec, QC G1H 6R1

Email:

Helene.giroux@mern.gouv.qc.ca Marie-Helene.Voyer@mern.gouv.qc.ca

Attorney General of Québec

Direction du contentieux - Montréal 1, rue Notre-Dame Est, bureau 8.00 Montréal (Québec) H2Y 1B6

Notification email:

bernardroy@justice.gouv.qc.ca pierre-luc.beauchesne@justice.gouv.qc.ca gabriel.lavigne@justice.gouv.qc.ca

Me Yannick Crack

Therrien Couture s.e.n.c.r.l. 1910 rue King West, Suite 320

Sherbrooke QC J1J 2E2

Attorneys for GG Entrepreneur Minier Inc.

Email:

yannick.crack@therriencouture.com

Me Neil Peden Woods s.e.n.c.r.l.

2000 McGill College Avenue Suite 1700

Montréal QC H3A 3H3

Attorneys for *Jien International Investment Ltd.*

Email: npeden@woods.qc.ca

Me Jean-Eric Guindon Bélanger, Sauvé SENCRL

125 rue des Forges Bureau 600

Trois-Rivières QC G9A 2G7

Me Marc Duchesne

Borden Ladner Gervais s.e.n.c.r.l., s.r.l.

1000 rue de la Gauchetière Ouest

Bureau 900

Montréal QC H3B 5H4

Attorneys for Outotec

Email: mduchesne@blg.com

Attorneys for Somavrac inc.

Email: jeguindon@belangersauve.com

Me Isabelle Mathieu-Millaire Ms Béatrice Stella Gagné **Ministère de la Justice Canada** 285 Wellington TSA-6027 Ottawa ON K1A 0H8

Attorney for Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Emails:

isabelle.mathieu-millaire@justice.gc.ca Beatrice-Stella.gagne@justice.gc.ca CANADA PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC DISTRICT OF MONTRÉAL

SUPERIOR COURT

(Commercial Division)

Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C.

(1985) c. C-36

No: 500-11-056550-193

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPROMISE OR ARRANGEMENT OF:

NORTH AMERICAN LITHIUM INC.

Petitioner

-and-

RAYMOND CHABOT INC.

Monitor

-and-

INVESTISSEMENT QUÉBEC

-and-

CONTEMPORARY AMPEREX TECHNOLOGY CANADA LIMITED

-and-

ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR THE PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC ON BEHALF OF THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES, MINISTÈRE DE L'ÉNERGIE ET **DES RESSOURCES NATURELLES**

-and-

GG ENTREPRENEUR MINIER INC.

Impleaded Parties

LIST OF EXHIBITS

(Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. (1985) c. C-36 ("CCAA")), section 11 and 11.02

EXHIBIT P-1: Draft Fifth Amended and Restated Initial Order.

EXHIBIT P-1A: Version comparing the Fourth Amended and Restated Initial Order

with the draft Fifth Amended and Restated Initial Order.

EXHIBIT P-2: Fourth Amended and Restated Interim Facility Agreement

Montréal, this 23rd day of March 2021

Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP

Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP

Attorneys for North American Lithium Inc.

Mtre Alain Riendeau

Email: ariendeau@fasken.com Phone number: +1 514 397 7678

Mtre Brandon Farber

Email: bfarber@fasken.com Phone number: +1 514 397 5179

Stock Exchange Tower

800 Victoria Square, Suite 3700

P.O. Box 242

Montréal, Quebec H4Z 1E9 Phone number: +1 514 397 5179 Fax number: +1 514 397 7600 N°: 500-11-056550-193

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC SUPERIOR COURT (Commercial Division) DISTRICT OF MONTRÉAL LOCALITY OF MONTRÉAL

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPROMISE OR ARRANGEMENT OF:

NORTH AMERICAN LITHIUM INC.

Petitioner

RAYMOND CHABOT INC.

Proposed Monitor

INVESTISSEMENT QUÉBEC ET AL

Impleaded Parties

10760/309753.00018

BF1339

MOTION FOR AN ORDER EXTENDING THE STAY PERIOD AND TO INCREASE THE INTERIM FINANCING FACILITY AND THE INTERIM LENDER CHARGE

(Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. (1985) c. C-36 ("CCAA")), section 11 and 11.02

SWORN STATEMENT. NOTICE OF PRESENTATION. LIST OF EXHIBITS AND EXHIBITS P-1, P-1A AND P-2

ORIGINAL

Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP

800 Victoria Square, Suite 3700 P.O. Box 242 Montréal, Quebec H4Z 1E9

 Me Alain Riendeau
 Tél. +1 514 397 7678

 ariendeau@fasken.com
 Fax. +1 514 397 7600

 Me Brandon Farber
 Tél. +1 514 397 7600

 bfarber@fasken.com
 Fax. +1 514 397 7600