Citation: 2024 BCSECCOM 12

Headnote

Multilateral Instrument 11-102 *Passport System* and National Policy 11-203 *Process for Exemptive Relief Applications in Multiple Jurisdictions – Securities Act* s.76 Prospectus Requirements - First trade relief for securities acquired under an exemption that are subject to a seasoning period – First trades will occur within a limited group of permitted transferees, such as extended family members of the founder of the issuer, their holding companies, family trusts established for their benefit, current and former directors, officers and employees of the issuer, and a charitable foundation established by extended family members of the founder of the issuer. There is no market for the securities and none is expected to develop.

Applicable Legislative Provisions

Securities Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c.418, ss. 61 and 76

January 8, 2024

In the Matter of the Securities Legislation of British Columbia and Ontario (the Jurisdictions)

and

In the Matter of the Process for Exemptive Relief Applications in Multiple Jurisdictions

and

In the Matter of Graymont Limited (Filer)

Decision

Background

¶ 1 The securities regulatory authority or regulator in each of the Jurisdictions (the Decision Maker) has received an application from the Filer for a decision under the securities legislation of the Jurisdictions (the Legislation) that trades of Graymont Shares (defined below) between Permitted Transferees (defined below) be exempt from the prospectus requirements of the Legislation (the Requested Relief), subject to certain terms and conditions.

Under the Process for Exemptive Relief Applications in Multiple Jurisdictions (for a dual application):

 (a) the British Columbia Securities Commission is the principal regulator for this application;

- (b) the Filer has provided notice that section 4.7(1) of Multilateral Instrument 11-102 Passport System (MI 11-102) is intended to be relied upon in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador, the Yukon Territory, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut; and
- (c) the decision is the decision of the principal regulator and evidences the decision of the securities regulatory authority or regulator in Ontario.

Interpretation

¶ 2 Terms defined in National Instrument 14-101 *Definitions* and MI 11-102 have the same meaning as is used in this decision, unless otherwise defined.

Representations

- ¶ 3 This decision is based on the following facts represented by the Filer:
 - 1. Graymont Limited (Graymont) is a corporation existing under the *Canada Business Corporations Act* (CBCA); Graymont's registered and head office is located at 200 - 10991 Shellbridge Way, Richmond, British Columbia, V6X 3C6;
 - 2. Graymont operates a business primarily as a producer of lime and limestone products;
 - 3. N'Oubliez Charitable Foundation is a charitable foundation existing under the *Societies Act* (BC) that exists for the sole purpose of receiving and maintaining a fund or funds and applying all or part of the principal and income therefrom, from time to time, to "qualified donees" as such term is defined in the *Income Tax Act* (Canada) (the Foundation);
 - 4. the shareholders of Graymont are:
 - (a) members of the extended Graham family, being children, grandchildren and other descendants, whether by birth or adoption, of the late F. Ronald Graham, Graymont's founder (the Extended Graham Family);
 - (b) companies of which a majority of the voting shares are owned, directly or indirectly, by or for the benefit of persons described in paragraph (a) above and their spouses, children and siblings (the Graham Family Holdcos);
 - (c) trusts established for the benefit of the persons described in paragraph (a) above (the Graham Family Trusts and, together with the Extended Graham Family and the Graham Family Holdcos, the Graham Family Shareholders);
 - (d) current or former directors, officers or employees of Graymont or its subsidiaries (Graymont Management Shareholders); and
 - (e) a trust established for the benefit of a former officer of Graymont (the Graymont Officer Trust),

(collectively, the Graymont Shareholders);

- 5. the Graham Family Shareholders, Graymont, the Foundation and Computershare Trust Company of Canada will enter into a second amended and restated shareholder agreement (the Graham Family Shareholder Agreement), pursuant to which a Graham Family Shareholder may only transfer beneficial ownership of, or a beneficial interest in, Graymont Shares to:
 - (a) the children, grandchildren or other descendants, whether by birth or adoption, of such Graham Family Shareholder;
 - (b) trusts established for the benefit of the persons described in paragraph (a) above and the spouse of such Graham Family Shareholder;
 - (c) companies of which a majority of the voting shares are owned, directly or indirectly, by or for the benefit of persons described in paragraphs (a) and (b) above;

- (d) other Graymont Shareholders;
- (e) Graymont;
- (f) the Foundation;

(collectively, the Permitted Graymont Family Transferees); or

(g) any other buyer,

- 6. each of the Graymont Management Shareholders has entered into a management shareholder agreement with Graymont, which agreements were entered into between June 3, 1994 and July 27, 2022 (collectively, the Management Shareholder Agreements); the Management Shareholder Agreements may be amended to add the Foundation as one of the Permitted Graymont Management Transferees (as defined below) in the future. Pursuant to the Management Shareholder Agreements, a Graymont Management Shareholder may only transfer beneficial ownership of, or a beneficial interest in, Graymont Shares to:
 - (a) the estate of such Graymont Management Shareholder;
 - (b) other Graymont Shareholders;
 - (c) Graymont;

(collectively, with the Foundation, the Permitted Graymont Management Transferees); or

- (d) any other buyer;
- 7. the Graymont Officer Trust has entered into a management shareholder agreement with Graymont dated March 25, 2013, and amended July 28, 2022, in form and substance substantially similar to the Management Shareholder Agreements (the Graymont Officer Trust Shareholder Agreement); the Graymont Officer Trust Shareholder Agreement may be amended to add the Foundation as one of the Permitted Graymont Officer Trust Transferees (as defined below) in the future; pursuant to the Graymont Officer Trust Shareholder Agreement, the Graymont Officer Trust may only transfer beneficial ownership of, or a beneficial interest in, Graymont Shares to:
 - (a) the beneficiary of such Graymont Officer Trust, being the former officer of Graymont and his current or former spouse and children;
 - (b) other Graymont Shareholders;
 - (c) Graymont;

(d) any other buyer;

⁽collectively, with the Foundation, the Permitted Graymont Officer Trust Transferees); or

- 8. the Permitted Graymont Family Transferees, the Permitted Graymont Management Transferees and the Permitted Graymont Officer Trust Transferees are referred to collectively as the Permitted Transferees;
- 9. the Graham Family Shareholder Agreement, the Management Shareholder Agreements and the Graymont Officer Trust Shareholder Agreement are referred to collectively as the Graymont Shareholder Agreements;
- 10. the Filer is not and has no current intention of becoming a reporting issuer in any jurisdiction of Canada;
- 11. no securities of the Filer, including debt securities, are traded on a marketplace as defined in National Instrument 21-101 *Marketplace Operation* or any other facility for bringing together buyers and sellers of securities where trading data is publicly reported; and
- 12. the Filer is not in default of any of its obligations under the Legislation.

Decision

¶ 4 Each of the Decision Makers is satisfied that the decision meets the test set out in the Legislation for the Decision Maker to make the decision.

The decision of the Decision Makers under the Legislation is that the Requested Relief is granted, provided that:

- (a) Graymont restricts the transfer of Graymont Shares to Permitted Transferees and any transfer of Graymont Shares complies with the transfer restrictions described above in the Graymont Shareholder Agreement to which the transferor of such Graymont Shares is a party;
- (b) any certificate representing Graymont Shares contains a legend stating all applicable resale and transfer restrictions;
- (c) Graymont provides each Graymont Shareholder with annual audited financial statements consisting of a statement of net assets, a statement of operations and a statement of change in assets, together with notes to such financial statements and management discussion and analysis of Graymont's operations, for each financial year of Graymont within 120 days of the end of such financial year;
- (d) Graymont provides each Graymont Shareholder with unaudited interim financial statements consisting of a statement of net assets, a statement of operations and a statement of change in assets, together with notes to such financial statements and management discussion and analysis of Graymont's operations, for each interim period of Graymont within 60 days of the end of such interim period;
- (e) prior to any transfer of Graymont Shares to a Permitted Transferee who is not a Graymont Shareholder, Graymont provides to such Permitted Transferee a copy of the financial statements described in paragraphs (c) and (d) for its most recent financial year and interim financial period; and

(f) the first trade in Graymont Shares other than to a Permitted Transferee is deemed to be a distribution.

John Hinze Director, Corporate Finance British Columbia Securities Commission