In the Matter of the Securities Act, R.S.N.S. 1989, c. 418, as amended

-and-

In the Matter of Blanket Order No. 45-514 An Exemption for Solicitations of Expressions of Interest

On April 21, 2006, the Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA) published CSA Staff Notice 47-302 Pre-marketing of underwriters' options on bought deals. The notice indicates that the exemption in Part 7 of National Instrument 44-101 Short Form Prospectus Distributions does not extend to the pre-marketing of securities underlying post-closing over-allotment options, also known as greenshoe options. The notice also indicated a willingness to consider relief to permit pre-marketing of securities underlying a greenshoe option in appropriate cases.

The Commission has decided to issue Blanket Order No. 45-514 An Exemption for Solicitations of Expressions of Interest granting blanket relief from the prospectus requirement for pre-marketing of securities underlying a greenshoe option.

The Commission understands that some other members of the CSA will also be issuing blanket orders. Others, like the Ontario Securities Commission, will grant relief on a case-by-case basis.

Ouestions

You may refer questions to

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Dated at Halifax, Nova Scotia, this 24th day of May, 2006.

Nova Scotia Securities Commission

"H. Leslie O'Brien"
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"R. Daren Baxter"

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