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SRIKALAHASTHI PIPES LIMITED

REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE OF SRIKALAHASTHI PIPES LIMITED RECOMMENDING AMALGAMATION OF SRIKALAHASTHI PIPES LIMITED WITH ELECTROSTEEL CASTINGS LIMITED

1. **Background**

- 1.1. A meeting of the Audit Committee of Srikalahasthi Pipes Limited ("SPL" or "the Company" or "Transferor Company") was held on 5 October, 2020 to consider and, if thought fit, recommend the proposed Scheme of Amalgamation of the Company with Electrosteel Castings Limited ("ECL" or "Transferee Company") and their respective shareholders and creditors on a going concern basis under sections 230 to 232 and other applicable provisions of the Companies Act 2013 ("the Act") read with Rules framed thereunder ("the Scheme"). The Scheme inter-alia provides for amalgamation of SPL with ECL and issue of equity shares as a consideration for amalgamation by ECL to the shareholders of SPL. The appointed date for amalgamation under the Scheme is 1st October, 2020 ("Appointed Date").
- 1.2. As on date, ECL and the Company are under the control of common promoter group. ECL along with its promoter group of companies are in a position to and do exercise control over the Company.
- 1.3. The Scheme of Amalgamation is in compliance with Section 2(1B) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 and the SEBI Circular number CFD/DIL3/CIR/2017/21 dated 10 March 2017, as amended from time to time (referred to as "**SEBI Circular**").
- 1.4. While deliberating on the Scheme, the Audit Committee has considered inter-alia, and has taken on record, the following documents:
 - (a) the draft Scheme, duly initialed by the Chairman of the Meeting for the purpose of identification;
 - (b) the Valuation Report dated 3rd October 2020, (i) jointly issued by M/s Sharp & Tannan, an Independent Chartered Accountants and R V Shah & Associates, an Independent Chartered Accountants and (ii) issued by Ms. Rashmi Shah, FCA, Registered Valuer ("Valuer"), describing inter-alia, the methodology adopted by them in arriving at the share exchange ratio ("Share Exchange Ratio") for the proposed Amalgamation ("Valuation Report"); and







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(c) Fairness Opinion dated 3rd October, 2020 issued by Ashika Capital Limited, an Independent SEBI Registered Merchant Banker, providing fairness opinion on the Share Exchange Ratio ("**Fairness Opinion**").

2. Proposed Scheme of Amalgamation

- 2.1. The Audit Committee noted the rationale and the benefits of the Scheme, which, *interalia*, were as follows:
 - (a) The Transferor Company and Transferee Company are under the control of common promoter group. The Transferee Company along with its promoter group of companies are in a position to and do exercise control over the Transferor Company. The Transferor Company and Transferee Company are engaged in the same line of business, i.e., manufacture and sale of ductile iron pipes and both have common economic objective and strategic goals. It would be advantageous to combine the activities and operations in a single company leading to strong capability in effectively meeting future challenges of competitive business environment.
 - (b) The Amalgamation will enable both the companies to streamline their business activities into a single combined entity, thereby resulting in economies of scale and avoidance of undue duplication in work, reduction in common expenditure otherwise incurred by the two entities within common group, better and more productive utilization of financial, human and other resource and enhancement of overall business efficiency.
 - (c) The Amalgamation will result in significant reduction in multiplicity of legal and regulatory compliances which at present is required to be made separately by the Companies.
 - (d) The Amalgamation will result in simplification of the group structure and management structure with only one listed company in group leading to better administration and reduction in administrative and other costs from more focused operational efforts, rationalization, standardization and simplification of business processes.
 - (e) The Amalgamation will enable the combined entity to leverage their consolidated resources to: (i) increase production capacities; (ii) undertake research and development initiatives to improve manufacturing processes and final product; (iii) serve the needs of a larger customer base leading to overall business domestically as







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well as overseas, (v) improved alignment of debt repayments with cash flow, and (iv) improved credit rating.

- (f) The synergies that exist between the two companies in terms of services and resources can be put to the best advantage of all stakeholders.
- (g) The Scheme is envisaged to be in the best interests of the shareholders, employees and the creditors of the Transferor Company and the Transferee Company.

Thus, the Scheme of Amalgamation, as envisaged, would enable seamless access to strong business relationships, closer and better focused attention being given to the businesses which would get integrated, aligned and streamlined, leading to achievement of their full business and growth potential.

The term "Amalgamation" means amalgamation of the Transferor Company with the Transferee Company, on a going concern basis in accordance with Sections 230 to 232 of the Act and Section 2(1B) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961, in terms of Chapter 2 of the Scheme.

2.2. The Audit Committee reviewed the Valuation Report submitted (i) jointly by M/s Sharp & Tannan, an Independent Chartered Accountants and R V Shah & Associates, an Independent Chartered Accountants and (ii) by Ms. Rashmi Shah, FCA, Registered Valuer and tabled at the Meeting. The Audit Committee noted that in the Valuation Report, recommended the Share Exchange Ratio for Amalgamation as under:

ECL shall issue its equity shares to the shareholders of SPL, in accordance with a Share Exchange Ratio of 59:10, such that upon this Scheme becoming effective, the shareholders of SPL (except ECL) shall be entitled to receive 59 fully paid up equity shares of Rs 1/each of ECL for every 10 equity shares in SPL of Rs 10/- each."

2.3. Further, the Audit Committee noted that the Fairness Opinion from Ashika Capital Limited, an Independent SEBI registered Merchant Banker has confirmed that the Share Exchange Ratio as per the Valuation Report (i) jointly issued by M/s Sharp & Tannan, an Independent Chartered Accountants and R V Shah & Associates, an Independent Chartered Accountants and (ii) issued by Ms. Rashmi Shah, FCA, Registered Valuer is fair to the shareholders of the Company.

3. Recommendation of the Audit Committee

The Audit Committee, after taking into consideration the provisions, rationale and benefits of the Scheme along with the Valuation Report, and the Fairness Opinion recommend the draft Scheme to the Board of Directors of the Company for approval and for favorable











consideration by the Stock Exchange(s) and Securities and Exchange Board of India, National Company Law Tribunal and any other regulatory authority as may be required.

By Order of the Audit Committee Srikalahasthi Pipes Limited

(G KODANDA PANI)

Secretary to the Audit Committee

Date: 05.10.2020 Place: Rachagunneri.

