

SE News

HD Aquila urges shareholders to accept Baosteel-Aurizon takeover offer

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Aquila Resources urged its shareholders Wednesday to accept the A\$1.4 billion (\$1.3 billion) joint takeover offer from China's Baosteel Resources and Australian freight company Aurizon at A\$3.40/share, the company said Wednesday.

In light of the termination of discussions with Australia's Mineral Resources about a rival takeover bid, and Baosteel's recent announcement that it would not increase its share offer price or extend the acceptance period beyond July 11, Aquila has recommended that its shareholders accept the Baosteel and Aurizon offer, the miner said in a statement Wednesday.

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Aquila chairman Tony Poli who holds 28.92% of Aquila also said Wednesday he intends to accept the Baosteel-Aurizon offer in the absence of a superior proposal.

Baosteel already holds 19.8% of Aquila and if the deal goes through Aurizon would then hold 15% of Aquila, and Baosteel, the other 85%.

Both companies would also take control of Aquila's **stake** in the 30 **million** mt/year West Pilbara **iron ore** project — a 50:50 joint venture with American Metals & **Coal** International.

The project also requires a 282-km railway and port capacity to be built at the undeveloped Anketell Point, located west of Port Hedland.

Aquila is also developing the Eagle Downs coking **coal** project — via a 50:50 joint venture with Brazil's Vale — located south of Moranbah in the Bowen Basin, close to BHP Billiton-Mitsubishi Alliance's Peak Downs mine.

Eagle Downs is due to start production in 2017 at a rate of 4 million-5 million mt/year.

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co aqures : Aquila Resources Ltd. | baois : Shanghai Baosteel Group Corp | qrntnl : Aurizon Holdings Limited

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