

SE Business
 HD **Norton takeover hits Bullabulling roadblock**
 BY BARRY FITZGERALD
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Mining: Norton **Gold** Fields' \$24 **million** takeover bid for Bullabulling **Gold** remains under pressure after the target **company** revealed shareholders with 41.8 per cent of its shares had indicated they would not accept the 7c-a-share offer.

The cash offer also remains overbid on the market, with Bullabulling closing yesterday at 7.5c.

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But Bullabulling has nevertheless felt the need to warn shareholders that the 7c bid could be just the first step in a potential two-step play by Norton — majority owned by **China**'s biggest **gold** producer Zijin — to secure control of the **company** and its 3.75 **million** ounce **gold** resource, 60km from Kalgoorlie.

Because the Norton offer is not subject to a minimum acceptance condition, and because of the shareholders who have indicated that they would not accept for their collective 41.8 per cent **stake**, Bullabulling believes it is possible Norton could return in the future with a separate, follow-on offer in order to acquire 100 per cent control.

Bullabulling said it could well be that any such offer would be at a higher price than the 7c bid.

The **company** repeated previous advice that the current offer does not fairly reflect the value of the Bullabulling **gold** project, and is opportunistic as it comes before the release of a definitive feasibility study, due in the first quarter of next year.

It said the study was expected to "reveal further improvement in the Bullabulling **gold** project's development plan and economics." The Norton bid was at a 30 per cent premium to Bullabulling's share price before the offer was announced. Norton has argued the offer gives certainty in that Bullabulling will have to jump a capital hurdle to get its project in to production, Norton put the capital needs at more than \$300m.

CO cnchg : Bullabulling Gold Limited | nogof : Norton Gold Fields Ltd
 IN i2112 : Gold Ore/Silver Ore Mining | i22472 : Precious Metals | i211 : Metal Ore Mining | i22 : Primary Metals | i224 : Non-ferrous Metals | ibasicm : Basic Materials/Resources | imet : Mining/Quarrying
 NS c181 : Acquisitions/Mergers/Takeovers | cacqu : Acquisitions | c18 : Ownership Changes | cactio : Corporate Actions | ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva Filters | nfcpin : FC&E Industry News Filter
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