

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

April 16, 2013

Via Facsimile & U.S. Mail Stuart Neuhauser, Esq. Ellenoff Grossman & Schole LLP 150 East 42nd Street New York, New York 10017

Re: Blue Wolf Mongolia Holdings Corp.
Request for Exemption from Rule 14e-5

Dear Mr. Neuhauser:

We are responding to your letter dated April 16, 2013 addressed to Michele M. Anderson and David L. Orlic, as supplemented by telephone conversations with the staff. To avoid having to recite or summarize the facts set forth in your letter, a copy of that letter is attached to this response. Unless otherwise noted, capitalized terms in this letter have the same meaning as given to them in your letter.

On the basis of the facts and representations presented in your letter, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") hereby grants an exemption from Rule 14e-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The exemption from Rule 14e-5 permits Blue Wolf to conduct the Extension Tender Offer in the manner described in your letter, notwithstanding the public announcement of the Acquisition Tender Offer on March 20, 2013.

In granting this exemption, we note in particular that:

- Blue Wolf cannot consummate the potential business combination prior to the Termination Date;
- Blue Wolf was required to publicly disclose the existence of the MOU in the Extension Tender Offer documents;
- the consideration to be paid to Blue Wolf's shareholders in the Extension Tender Offer and the Acquisition Tender Offer will be identical, and this is disclosed in the Extension Tender Offer documents;
- shareholders who do not tender their shares in the Extension Tender Offer will be permitted to tender their shares in the Acquisition Tender Offer; and

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• the Extension Tender Offer will be conducted in accordance with Rule 13e-4 and Regulation 14E under the Exchange Act, except for the exemption specifically granted herein.

The foregoing exemption is based solely on the facts presented and representations made in your letter, as supplemented by telephone conversations with the Commission staff. The exemption granted is strictly limited to the application of the rule listed above to the transactions described in your letter. You should discontinue these transactions pending further consultations with the staff if any of the facts or representations set forth in your letter change. In addition, this position is subject to modification or revocation if at any time the Commission or the Division of Corporation Finance determines that such action is necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Exchange Act.

We also direct your attention to the anti-fraud and anti-manipulation provisions of the federal securities laws, including Sections 10(b) and 14(e) of the Exchange Act, and Rule 10b-5 thereunder. The participants in the transactions contemplated by your letter must comply with these and any other applicable provisions of the federal securities laws. The Division of Corporation Finance expresses no view on any other questions that may be raised by these transactions, including but not limited to, the adequacy of disclosure concerning and the applicability of any other federal or state laws to such transactions.

Sincerely,

For the Commission, By the Division of Corporation Finance pursuant to delegated authority

Michele M. Anderson Chief, Office of Mergers and Acquisitions



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April 16, 2013

## VIA EMAIL

Michele M. Anderson, Esq., Chief David L. Orlic, Esq., Special Counsel Office of Mergers and Acquisitions Division of Corporation Finance U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission 100 F Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20549

Re: Blue Wolf Mongolia Holdings Corp.

Commission File No. 005-86340

Request for Relief from Rule 14e-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,

as amended

#### Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are writing on behalf of our client, Blue Wolf Mongolia Holdings Corp. ("Blue Wolf"), a special purpose acquisition company ("SPAC"). Blue Wolf was formed for the purpose of acquiring, engaging in a share exchange, share reconstruction and amalgamation or contractual control arrangement with, purchasing all or substantially all of the assets of, or engaging in any other similar business combination with one or more businesses or assets. In accordance with its Amended and Restated Memorandum and Articles of Association (the "Charter"), Blue Wolf has until April 20, 2013 (the "Termination Date") to consummate its initial business combination. In the event it fails to consummate such business combination, Blue Wolf must liquidate.

On March 20, 2013, Blue Wolf filed a Form 6-K with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") in which it disclosed that it had entered into a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") with Li3 Energy, Inc., a South America-based exploration stage company in the lithium mining and energy sector which files public reports with the SEC ("Li3"). Pursuant to the MOU, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Blue Wolf will merge with and into Li3 and Li3's shareholders will receive one ordinary share for every 250 Li3 shares they own upon the consummation of the transaction. BW and Li3 intend to negotiate and execute a definitive agreement in accordance with the terms of the MOU.

Blue Wolf has determined that it will not be able to consummate the business combination prior to the Termination Date. Consequently, concurrently with the announcement of the MOU, Blue Wolf also disclosed that it intended to convene a meeting of its shareholders to seek their approval to, among other things, amend the Charter to permit an additional three months (until July 22, 2013) to consummate such business combination (the "Extension"). For the reasons outlined below, Blue Wolf intends to permit its shareholders to redeem their shares for a pro rata portion of the funds in the Trust Account (as defined below) in conjunction with the shareholder vote on the Extension.

Blue Wolf understands that it is the position of the staff of the Commission (the "Staff") that such redemption offer would constitute a tender offer pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). Hence, in connection with Blue Wolf's meeting of shareholders to approve, among other things, the Extension, Blue Wolf filed with the Commission a Schedule TO,

including an Offer to Purchase (the "Extension Tender Offer") for the redemption of its shares in accordance with the tender offer rules under the Exchange Act. Assuming its shareholders approve the Extension prior to the Termination Date and a sufficient number of its shareholders do not tender in the Extension Tender Offer, Blue Wolf thereafter intends to conduct a second tender offer for the business combination pursuant to separate tender offer materials in connection therewith (the "Acquisition Tender Offer") to permit its remaining shareholders to redeem their shares for a pro rata portion of the then remaining funds held in the Trust Account, as required by the Charter. Both the Extension Tender Offer and the Acquisition Tender Offer will be conducted in accordance with Rule 13e-4 and Regulation 14E under the Exchange Act, other than the exemption requested herein, and the tender offer materials will contain all disclosures required and then available to Blue Wolf. In addition, shareholders have been provided with disclosure that the consideration for both the Extension Tender Offer and the Acquisition Tender Offer will be identical (\$9.97 per share).

Although Blue Wolf does not believe that the Extension Tender Offer described herein in further detail creates the circumstances Rule 14e-5 was promulgated to prevent, the Extension Tender Offer may be deemed to be an arrangement to purchase subject securities outside of the Acquisition Tender Offer and therefore inconsistent with Rule 14e-5. Blue Wolf therefore requests that the Staff grant an exemption under Rule 14e-5 under the Exchange Act as discussed herein.

# The Company

Blue Wolf is a foreign private issuer incorporated in the British Virgin Islands in March 2011. A registration statement (File No. 333-173419) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, for Blue Wolf's IPO was declared effective on July 14, 2011. On July 20, 2011, Blue Wolf sold 8,050,000 units at a price of \$10.00 per unit in the IPO. Each unit consisted of one ordinary share, no par value, and one warrant to purchase one ordinary share. Simultaneously with the consummation of its IPO, it consummated the private sale of 4,166,667 warrants to its sponsor for \$3.125 million. Blue Wolf's ordinary shares, warrants and units thereupon commenced trading on the Nasdaq Capital Market under the symbols "MNGL," "MNGLW" and "MNGLU."

Subsequent to the IPO, the net proceeds from the IPO and the private sale of warrants of an aggregate of approximately \$80,237,500 (\$9.97 per share), including deferred underwriting commissions of \$2,415,000, was deposited in an interest-bearing trust account (the "Trust Account") pursuant to an Investment Management Trust Agreement entered into with Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Co. (the "Trust Agreement") pending consummation of Blue Wolf's initial business combination or its liquidation.

Pursuant to the Charter, if Blue Wolf does not consummate an initial business combination by the Termination Date, it (i) is required to distribute the aggregate amount then on deposit in the Trust Account (less up to \$50,000 of the net interest earned thereon to pay dissolution expenses), pro rata, to holders of the 8,050,000 ordinary shares contained in the 8,050,000 units sold as part of its IPO by way of redemption and (ii) intends to cease all operations except for the purposes of any winding up of its affairs. This redemption of public shares from the aggregate amount then on deposit in the Trust Account would be done automatically by function of its Charter (unless amended) and prior to any voluntary winding up, although at all times subject to the BVI Business Companies Act, 2004 of the British Virgin Islands (the "Companies Act").

#### The Tender Offers

The Acquisition Tender Offer. Blue Wolf qualifies as a foreign private issuer within the meaning of Rule 3b-4 under the Exchange Act. Since Blue Wolf is a foreign private issuer and is not subject to Regulation 14A under the Exchange Act, in accordance with current guidance from the Staff, Blue Wolf must file a Schedule TO if it provides its shareholders with the opportunity to redeem their ordinary shares upon the consummation of its initial business combination pursuant to the Charter. The Charter requires redemptions to be effected at a per-share price, payable in cash, equal to the aggregate amount then on deposit in the Trust Account, including interest (net of taxes payable) divided by the number of then outstanding ordinary shares that were sold as part of the units in the IPO. Blue Wolf anticipates that the per share redemption price in the Acquisition Tender Offer will be \$9.97 per share. The Acquisition Tender Offer will be conducted in accordance with the tender offer rules under the Exchange Act. The Acquisition Tender Offer materials will be filed under cover of Schedule TO and will include full information relating to the proposed business combination, including business and financial information relating to Li3 as well as pro forma financial information, and will be subject to review and comment by the Staff.

The Extension Tender Offer. In order to permit sufficient time for the preparation of the Acquisition Tender Offer materials and entry into a definitive agreement with Li3, Blue Wolf has sent proxy materials to its shareholders to solicit their approval to amend the Charter to extend the period by which it must consummate its initial business combination until July 22, 2013 (the "Extension Amendment"). Shareholders have also been requested to approve a separate proposal to amend the Charter to remove the requirement that a business combination target have a fair market value equal to at least 80% of the value of the Trust Account (the "80% Amendment"). Finally, shareholders have also been requested to approve an amendment to the Trust Agreement to permit the withdrawal of funds from the Trust Account for the purpose of payments to shareholders tendering pursuant to the Extension Tender Offer and to extend the date on which the Trust Account must be liquidated (the "Trust Agreement Amendment" and collectively with the Extension Amendment and the 80% Amendment, the "Shareholder Proposals"). Since Blue Wolf is a foreign private issuer, its proxy materials are not required to comply with Regulation 14A under the Exchange Act and hence Blue Wolf prepared such proxy materials in compliance with the Companies Act and filed such materials with the Commission under cover of Form 6-K rather than pursuant to Schedule 14A under the Exchange Act. To honor the expectation of shareholders that funds from Blue Wolf's IPO held in the Trust Account would be returned to shareholders promptly after the Termination Date if a business combination was not consummated by that date, Blue Wolf has commenced the Extension Tender Offer to permit shareholders to redeem their shares for a pro rata portion of the funds in the Trust Account (\$9.97 per share) in conjunction with their voting on the Shareholder Proposals. The Extension Tender Offer materials include information regarding the conduct of the redemption as a tender offer in accordance with the tender offer rules under the Exchange Act.

Both the proxy materials and the Extension Tender Offer materials include a summary of the MOU and advise shareholders that Blue Wolf intends to conduct the Acquisition Tender Offer in connection with the closing of the business combination. The proxy materials solicit shareholder approval primarily to provide additional time in the Charter for Blue Wolf to negotiate and execute a definitive agreement and prepare, circulate and conduct the Acquisition Tender Offer. Blue Wolf advised shareholders in the Extension Tender Offer materials that their right to receive redemption proceeds in conjunction with the Extension Tender Offer is contingent upon shareholder approval of the Shareholder Proposals. If holders owning at least 65% of Blue Wolf's outstanding ordinary shares approve the {00242421.DOC.2}

Shareholder Proposals, a shareholder could elect to: (i) receive (via the Extension Tender Offer materials) \$9.97 per share from the Trust Account upon the successful conclusion of the Extension Tender Offer or (ii) receive at a later time (via the Acquisition Tender Offer materials) the same pro rata portion of the Trust Account, which will also be \$9.97 per share, upon the successful conclusion of the Acquisition Tender Offer and consummation of the business combination.

In the event that any of the Shareholder Proposals is not approved by Blue Wolf's shareholders, the Extension Tender Offer will be withdrawn and the subsequent Acquisition Tender Offer will not be conducted. Even if the Shareholder Proposals are approved by shareholders, there is no assurance that Blue Wolf will enter into a definitive agreement with Li3 or another target, commence the second tender offer or consummate a business combination prior to July 22, 2013. In any of the scenarios described in this paragraph, Blue Wolf will automatically liquidate in accordance with its Charter and shareholders would receive \$9.97 per share from the Trust Account.

## The Issue

Rule 14e-5(a) under the Exchange Act provides that "[a]s a means reasonably designed to prevent fraudulent, deceptive or manipulative acts or practices in connection with a tender offer ....no covered person may directly or indirectly purchase or arrange to purchase any subject securities or any related securities except as part of the tender offer." Rule 14e-5(a) further provides that this prohibition applies from the time of public announcement of the tender offer until the tender offer expires. Public announcement is defined in Rule 14e-5(c)(5) as "any oral or written communication by the offeror or any person authorized to act on the offeror's behalf that is reasonably designed to, or has the effect of, informing the public or security holders in general about the tender offer."

Blue Wolf is a covered person under Rule 14e-5 with respect to a tender offer it makes to acquire its own securities. Blue Wolf filed a Form 6-K disclosing the entry into the MOU as well as its intent to conduct the Acquisition Tender Offer in connection with the closing of the business combination. The Form 6-K, as well as the Extension Tender Offer materials, also discussed the subsequent Acquisition Tender Offer in general terms since the Acquisition Tender Offer and the existence of the MOU are material facts necessary to make the statements about the proposed transaction complete and not misleading to Blue Wolf's shareholders. Blue Wolf's solicitation of proxies to approve the Shareholder Proposals, coupled with Blue Wolf providing shareholders a right to redeem their ordinary shares for a pro rata portion of funds held in the Trust Account, may be viewed as an "arrangement" by Blue Wolf to purchase shares of Blue Wolf outside of the Acquisition Tender Offer. Consequently, absent relief from Rule 14e-5, Blue Wolf may be in violation of Rule 14e-5 due to an unavoidable conflict among its obligations to: (i) fully disclose the provisions in its Charter and the terms of the MOU, and (ii) comply with its obligations under its stock exchange listing and the Exchange Act to provide promptly material information to shareholders about the Acquisition Tender Offer and the potential business combination. Furthermore, the prohibitions of Rule 14e-5(a) would, absent relief, prevent Blue Wolf from extending its corporate existence, an option available to domestic SPACs.

## Discussion

We believe the scenario for which Blue Wolf is requesting an exemption is not the type that Rule 14e-5 was designed to prevent. The Commission in Release No. 34-42055 stated, "Rule 14e-5 will continue to protect investors by preventing an offeror from extending greater or different consideration to some security holders outside the offer, while other security holders are limited to the offer's terms."

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In the Blue Wolf scenario, whether through the Extension Tender Offer or the subsequent Acquisition Tender Offer (assuming the Extension is approved and the business combination is consummated), Blue Wolf's shareholders will be entitled to receive the same consideration. Blue Wolf's shareholders will be given the opportunity to vote with respect to the Extension and, irrespective of such vote, elect to receive a pro rata portion of the Trust Account currently or subsequently through either the Acquisition Tender Offer or upon liquidation (failing consummation of the business combination or the Extension). The Extension Tender Offer and the subsequent Acquisition Tender Offer structure do not, in Blue Wolf's view, impair the ability of Blue Wolf's shareholders to either redeem their ordinary shares for a pro rata portion of the Trust Account or participate in the proposed business combination.

In the *Apache Corporation* (October 7, 1993) no-action letter, Apache Corporation ("**Apache**") was attempting to acquire 80% of the outstanding common stock of Hadson Energy Resources Corporation ("**HERC**"). To achieve this, Apache, an acquisition subsidiary of Apache and HERC entered into a merger agreement with a concurrent tender offer of the remaining outstanding shares of HERC. The Apache tender offer would take effect only if the merger was not approved by the high vote required by the Delaware anti-takeover statute. As a result, the remaining HERC shareholders would have the opportunity to participate in both the merger and the tender offer and would receive the same consideration for their shares. Apache was concerned that the HERC proxy solicitation and the Apache tender offer could be construed to violate Rule 10b-13 (now Rule 14e-5) under the Exchange Act. In exempting the transaction from Rule 14e-5, the Commission expressly relied upon the fact that (i) the remaining HERC shareholders were all provided an opportunity to participate in both the merger and the tender offer, (ii) the consideration to be received by the remaining HERC shareholders for the shares would be the same whether the merger or the tender offer was effected, and (iii) Apache would only effect the tender offer if the merger was not consummated. See also *CoolBrands International Inc*. (July 12, 2000).

As in *Apache*, the remaining shareholders of Blue Wolf who do not chose to redeem their shares in the Extension Tender Offer will still have the opportunity to participate in the business combination and the Acquisition Tender Offer. As disclosed in the Extension Tender Offer materials, shareholders will receive the identical consideration (\$9.97 per share) upon redemption of their shares pursuant to the Acquisition Tender Offer as shareholders who elect redemption in the Extension Tender Offer. Shareholders will also receive the identical consideration (\$9.97 per share) in the event Blue Wolf is required to liquidate as a result of its failure to consummate the business combination or the Extension. In addition, the Extension Tender Offer and the Acquisition Tender Offer are mutually exclusive since shareholders are only able to tender their shares once. However, shareholders who do not tender their shares in the Extension Tender Offer will still be able to tender their shares in the Acquisition Tender Offer. Furthermore, shareholders have received all material information available to Blue Wolf. Accordingly, it is our view that any violation of Rule 14e-5 is technical and not of a nature that would be injurious to the interests of those persons that Rule 14e-5 was designed to safeguard.

## Why Exemptive Relief is Necessary

Blue Wolf has a compelling need for the exemptive relief requested. Since Blue Wolf has identified a potential business combination that it believes would benefit its shareholders, but is unable to complete the business combination in the time permitted by its Charter, Blue Wolf determined that it was in the best interests of its shareholders to seek an extension of its corporate existence. Since Blue Wolf is required pursuant to the Charter to liquidate the Trust Account and distribute to its public shareholders the pro rata portion of the then remaining funds held in the Trust Account by the Termination Date in the {00242421,DOC.2}

Michele M. Anderson, Esq. David L. Orlic, Esq. U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission April 16, 2013 Page 6

absence of a business combination, and because such requirement was described in Blue Wolf's IPO prospectus, Blue Wolf determined that it was necessary to amend the Charter and the Trust Agreement to both extend its corporate existence and to enable shareholders to receive the pro rata portion of the then remaining funds held in the Trust Account in connection with the Extension.

Since Blue Wolf (i) determined that it is in the best interests of its shareholders to extend its corporate existence and permit shareholder redemptions in connection therewith and (ii) is a foreign private issuer and thus is not subject to Regulation 14A under the Exchange Act, Blue Wolf is required to conduct a tender offer to allow its shareholders to redeem their shares without fully liquidating the Trust Account (as opposed to being permitted to do so pursuant to a proxy statement as a domestic issuer would be permitted to do). In addition, since Blue Wolf had entered into the MOU, which Blue Wolf believes is material to shareholders, Blue Wolf was required to disclose the MOU's existence in the Extension Tender Offer documents, which triggered the announcement of the Acquisition Tender Offer. Given the legal requirements applicable to it, Blue Wolf could not have extended its corporate existence other than through the Extension Tender Offer and by concurrently announcing the Acquisition Tender Offer. Therefore, Blue Wolf believes that the exemptive relief requested is appropriate.

# Request for Exemption

For the above reasons, we hereby respectfully request that the Staff provide an exemption pursuant to Rule 14e-5.

Should the Staff disagree with any of the views discussed in this letter, we would appreciate an opportunity to discuss the matter with the Staff before it issues a written response to this letter. Please contact Stuart Neuhauser at (212) 370-1300 or via email at <a href="mailto:sneuhauser@egsllp.com">sneuhauser@egsllp.com</a>, Kathleen Cerveny at (202) 540-8547 or via email at <a href="mailto:scenehauser@egsllp.com">scenehauser@egsllp.com</a>, To via email at <a href="mailto:sneuhauser@egsllp.com">sneuhauser@egsllp.com</a>, Esq. at (212) 370-1300 or via email at <a href="mailto:jenglard@egsllp.com">jenglard@egsllp.com</a>. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this matter. In accordance with footnote 68 of Release No. 33-7427 (July 1, 1997), we are transmitting a copy of this letter by email.

Very truly yours,

Ellenoff Grossman & Schole LLP

Eller Gosse & Schole CCP

cc: Lee Kraus, Chief Executive Officer
Blue Wolf Mongolia Holdings Corp.