

ISS PROXY ADVISORY SERVICES AND GLASS LEWIS & CO. RECOMMEND CONSOLIDATED THOMPSON IRON MINES LIMITED SHAREHOLDERS VOTE IN FAVOUR OF THE ACQUISITION BY CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC.

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MONTRÉAL, Feb. 18 /CNW/ --
TSX:CLM

MONTRÉAL, Feb. 18 /CNW/ - Consolidated Thompson Iron Mines Limited (TSX: CLM) ('CLM' or the 'Corporation') today announced that ISS Proxy Advisory Services (formerly Riskmetrics) and Glass Lewis & Co., leading independent providers of proxy research and voting recommendations, have each published a report recommending that their subscribers vote 'FOR' the special resolution approving the acquisition by Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. ('Cliffs') of all of the outstanding common shares of the Corporation by way of plan of arrangement (the 'Arrangement') for cash consideration of \$17.25 per common share.

The Arrangement will be considered by shareholders of the Corporation at a special meeting (the 'Meeting') to be held on February 25, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) at the Toronto Board of Trade, 1 First Canadian Place, 77 Adelaide Street West, Toronto, ON M5X 1C1. The completion of the Arrangement is subject, among other things, to the approval of at least 66 2/3% of the votes cast at the Meeting. Shareholders are urged to carefully read the information circular mailed to them in connection with the proposed Arrangement. A copy of the information circular and the form of proxy are available at www.sedar.com. Regardless of the number of shares that a shareholder holds, each vote is important. Proxies must be received no later than 10:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) on February 23, 2011.

For further information, please contact Georgeson Shareholder Communications Canada Inc., the Corporation's proxy solicitation agent, by (i) telephone (toll-free in North America) at 1-866-374-9879, or (ii) email to askus@georgeson.com.

About Consolidated Thompson Iron Mines Limited

Consolidated Thompson Iron Mines Limited is a mining company with mineral exploration and development activities focused on iron ore. Based in Montréal, Canada, it has iron ore rich mining properties in the well known Labrador Trough that spans North-Eastern Québec and

Western Newfoundland and Labrador. It is currently operating the Bloom Lake mine and moving towards an initial production rate of 8.0 million tonnes per year of high quality iron ore concentrate. CLM is listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol 'CLM' and is part of several S&P/TSX indices including the S&P/TSX Composite Index.

About Cliffs Natural Resources Inc.

Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. is an international mining and natural resources company. A member of the S&P 500 Index, Cliffs is the largest producer of iron ore pellets in North America, a major supplier of direct-shipping lump and fines iron ore out of Australia and a significant producer of high and low volatile metallurgical coal. With core values of environmental and capital stewardship, Cliffs' personnel across the globe endeavor to provide all stakeholders operating and financial transparency as embodied in the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) framework. Cliffs is organized through three geographic business units:

The North American business unit is comprised of six iron ore mines owned or managed in Michigan, Minnesota and Canada and six coal mines located in West Virginia and Alabama. The Asia Pacific business unit is comprised of two iron ore mining complexes in Western Australia and a 45% economic interest in a coking and thermal coal mine in Queensland, Australia. The Latin American business unit includes a 30% interest in the Amapá Project, an iron ore project in the state of Amapá in Brazil.

Other projects under development include a biomass production plant in Michigan and Ring of Fire chromite properties in Ontario, Canada. Over recent years, Cliffs has been executing a strategy designed to achieve scale in the mining industry and focused on serving the world's largest and fastest growing steel markets.

Forward-Looking Information Cautionary Notice

Except for statements of historical fact relating to the Corporation, certain information contained herein constitutes "forward-looking information" under Canadian securities legislation. Forward looking information includes, but is not limited to, statements with respect to the transactions referred to above, the receipt of all necessary approvals and the expected time of closing. Generally, forward-looking information can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "plans", "expects" or "does not expect", "is expected", "budget", "scheduled", "estimates", "forecasts", "intends", "anticipates" or "does not anticipate", or "believes", or variations of such words and phrases or statements that certain actions, events or results "may", "could", "would", "might" or "will be taken", "occur" or "be achieved". Forward-looking statements are based on the opinions and estimates of management as of the date such statements are made. Forward-looking information is subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results, level of activity, performance or achievements of the Corporation to be materially different from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking information, including but not limited to the time required to consummate the proposed transactions, the satisfaction or waiver of conditions in the

Arrangement Agreement, material adverse changes in the affairs of Consolidated Thompson, any actions or omissions by Consolidated Thompson or its board of directors, any necessary actions to obtain required regulatory or other third-party approvals and consents, and other risks described in the Corporation's Annual Information Form posted under its profile on SEDAR at www.sedar.com. Although Management has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in forward-looking information, there may be other factors that could cause results not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended. There can be no assurance that such statements will prove to be accurate, as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking information. The Corporation does not undertake to update any forward-looking information, except in accordance with applicable securities laws.

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