Hunt International cancels Sunshine Mining Co. tender

Hunt International Resources Corp., the former Denver-based Great Western United Corp., called off its fight to gain control of Sunshine Mining Co. of Kellogg, Idaho, Monday.

The Texas company, which collected 28 percent of the Sunshine stock in a 1977 tender offer, had agreed at that time to offer not less than $15 a share for the remaining stock in the company.

The latest tender offer apparently was an attempt by Hunt International to comply with the agreement because it made its latest offer also at $15 a share while Sunshine stock was selling on the open market for more than that amount.

The stock didn’t open for trading Monday on the New York Stock Exchange, but it closed Friday at $16.125, down 3/8% from the previous day’s close.

Sunshine executives had said previously they would consider an offer of $22 to $23 a share as a serious one.

Thad Finley, general counsel for Hunt International, said the company decided to terminate the offer after the latest court suit was announced.

The suit, filed in Delaware Chancery Court, on behalf of all holders of Sunshine stock and convertible debentures, sought to prevent Hunt International from continuing the offer.

“The filing of that action brings to six the number of state and federal forums in which proceedings brought or inspired by Sunshine management are now pending,” Finley said.

He added, “In the face of those proceedings, our management has decided that the effort and expense which would be required to complete the offer are not justified and that continuation of the offer would not be in the best interests of Hunt International shareholders.”

The shares that were tendered under the offer will be returned to their owners, he said. Under testimony earlier in the tender offer, Hunt International said that three shareholders had tendered less than 300 shares.

Sunshine management had urged stockholders to disregard the offer, calling it ridiculous.

G. Michael Boswell, formerly executive vice president of Great Western United and presently president of Sunshine Mining, reminded Sunshine shareholders that the price of silver rose from $4.62 an ounce in October 1977 to $7.71 an ounce in February, a 66 percent increase.

At the same time, he added, the company’s reserves rose from $122 million to $246 million.

The firm also polled shareholders about the tender offer and 90 percent said they would reject it.

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Great Western Sugar Wins 1979 Pennant

The 1979 GW Pennant for sugarmaking efficiency for Great Western Non-Steffen class factories will be presented Thursday, April 12, to this year’s winner, Goodland.

Presentation of the massive silver and ebony trophy will take place at an evening dinner-dance for year-around employees at the Goodland Elks Club.

Donald H. Morris, manager of the Goodland factory, will act as master of ceremonies, and Daniel A. Muller, vice president of Goodland Sugar Manufacturing, will make the award presentation.

All employees with 12 months continuous company service immediately prior to April 1, 1978, and on the payroll as of that date are eligible for the full pennant award, the equivalent of a week’s pay. Employees with less than 12 months service will receive the award prorata.

For the past 59 years, the Great Western Sugar Co. has sponsored the pennant competition to honor demonstrated efficiency among GW factories. This is the second time the pennant has been won by the Goodland factory. The second place winner was Sterling, followed by Greeley, the third place winner.