ASX
AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES EXCHANGE

MARKET RELEASE

4 February 2009

EQUATORIAL COAL LTD

TRADING HALT

The securities of Equatorial Coal Limited (the "Company") will be placed in pre-open at the request of the Company, pending the release of an announcement by the Company. Unless ASX decides otherwise, the securities will remain in pre-open until the earlier of the commencement of normal trading on Friday, 6 February 2009 or when the announcement is released to the market.

Security Code: EQX

Jenny Cutri
Assistant Manager, Issuers

EQUATORIAL COAL

4 February 2009

The Issuers Advisor
Australian Stock Exchange Limited
Level 8 Exchange Plaza
2 The Esplanade
Perth WA 6000

Attention: Greg Coulson

Transmission by e-mail: greg.coulson@asx.com.au

Dear Greg

REQUEST FOR TRADING HALT

The Directors of Equatorial Coal Limited (EQX)('the Company") request an immediate halt on the trading of its securities for a period of two trading days pending an announcement regarding the operations of Alam Duta.

The Company expects to release the announcement prior to the commencement of trading on Friday 6 February 2009.

The Company is not aware of any reason why the trading halt should not be granted.

Yours Sincerely

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SCOTT MISON
COMPANY SECRETARY