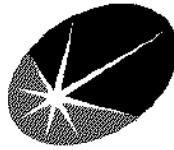


rimfire



rimfire pacific mining nl
a.c.n. 006 911 744

floor 13
379 queen street
brisbane Q 4000

telephone +61 3211 7177
facsimile +61 3211 7166
e-mail rimfire@rimfire.com.au
website www.rimfire.com.au

20 December 2002

The Manager
Company Announcements Office
Australian Stock Exchange

RE: SHARE PURCHASE SCHEME – EXTENSION OF CLOSING DATE

The Board of Rimfire Pacific Mining NL ("the Company") is pleased to announce an extension of the application period under the Company's Share Purchase Scheme ("the Scheme").

The Scheme provides eligible shareholders with the opportunity to purchase up to \$3,000 ordinary shares in the Company at a fifteen percent (15%) discount to the trading price (during a five (5) day trading period from 7 October 2002 to 11 October 2002) of the Company shares. Under the current terms of the Scheme applications are required to be received by the Company by today (20 December 2002).

To ensure each eligible shareholder is afforded sufficient opportunity to consider and participate in the Scheme, the Board of the Company has agreed to extend the closing date of the Scheme until Friday 17 January 2003 ("the Closing Date").

To participate in the Scheme eligible shareholders must complete the Scheme Application Form (which has been previously sent to shareholders) and lodge the same with the Company or the Company's Share Registry by no later than 5.00pm Brisbane time on the Closing Date.

Under the Scheme terms a maximum of 15,000,000 Company shares are to be issued under the Scheme. Accordingly, eligible shareholders are encouraged to complete the Scheme Application Form as soon as possible.

Any shareholder needing further information on the Scheme including the Scheme Terms and Conditions should contact the Company on:

Phone: 07 3211 7177

Fax: 07 3211 7166

Upon request, the Company shall arrange for the Scheme Terms and Conditions (including an Application Form) to be sent free of charge to any eligible shareholder.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Norbert Calabro', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

NORBERT CALABRO
CHAIRMAN