RIO TINTO

External Affairs
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4 January 2006

Company Announcements Office
Australian Stock Exchange Limited
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir,

The attached notice was issued to the London Stock Exchange by Rio Tinto plc on 3 January 2006.

Yours faithfully,

Ian Head
General Manager – Corporate Relations

Attach. 1

Rio Tinto Limited 55 Collins Street Melbourne 3000 Australia (ACN 004 458 404)
Postal Address: GPO Box 384D Melbourne 3001 Australia
Telephone (03) 9283 3333 Fax (03) 9283 3707

RIO
TINTO

Notice to ASX …

4 January 2006

Rio Tinto plc – Transaction in Own Shares
Purchase of own securities

Rio Tinto plc on 3 January 2006 acquired through Credit Suisse First Boston Europe Ltd 150,000 of its ordinary shares at an average price of 2686.97 pence per ordinary share. The purchased shares will all be held as treasury shares.

Following the above purchase, Rio Tinto plc holds 2,750,000 ordinary shares as treasury shares. The total number of ordinary shares in issue (excluding shares held as treasury shares) is 1,068,272,633.

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