

RIO TINTO

External Affairs

Telephone: +61 3 9283 3360

Facsimile: +61 3 9283 3216

16 October 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 13 October 2006.

Yours faithfully,



Ian Head
General Manager – Corporate Relations

Attach. 1

RIO TINTO

Notice to ASX ...

16 October 2006

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

Rio Tinto plc on 13 October 2006 acquired through Credit Suisse Securities (Europe) Ltd 100,000 of its ordinary shares at an average price of 2,685.88 pence per ordinary share. The purchased shares will all be held as treasury shares.

Following the above purchase, Rio Tinto plc holds 40,743,996 ordinary shares as treasury shares. The total number of ordinary shares in issue (excluding shares held as treasury shares) is 1,031,542,727.