

**ASX**

AUSTRALIAN STOCK EXCHANGE

MARKET RELEASE

20 April 2005

Precious Metals Australia Limited**TRADING HALT**

The securities of Precious Metals Australia 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, 22 April 2005 or when the announcement is released to the market.

Security Code: PMA
PMAOB

Brendan O'Hara
Manager Companies

PMA
PRECIOUS METALS
AUSTRALIA LIMITED

20 April 2005

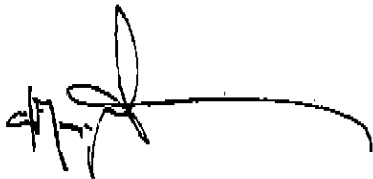
Attention: Jill Hewitt
Australian Stock Exchange Limited
Level 8, Exchange Plaza
2 The Esplanade
PERTH WA 6000

Via Facsimile: (08) 9221-2020

Dear Jill

Further to our telephone conversation, I confirm the Company's request for an immediate halt in the trading of the Company's securities pending an announcement in relation to the Xstrata litigation.

Yours sincerely
PRECIOUS METALS AUSTRALIA



Ian Macpherson
Company Secretary