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The Directors  
Billiton (UK) Limited  
84 Fenchurch Street  
London  
EC3M 4BY

Our ref ab/cn/569

Contact Anne Bedford  
0171 311 4754

12 June 1998

Dear Sirs

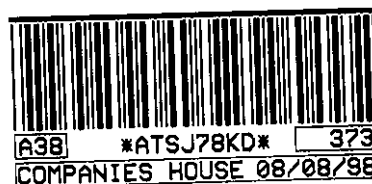
**Statement to the directors of Billiton (UK) Limited (no. 2897874) on ceasing to hold office as auditors**

In accordance with section 394 of the Companies Act 1985, we confirm that there are no circumstances connected with our ceasing to hold office that we consider should be brought to the attention of the company's members or creditors.

Yours faithfully

KPMG

KPMG



Member firm of  
KPMG International

KPMG is registered  
to carry on audit work and  
authorised to carry on  
investment business

by the Institute of  
Chartered Accountants in  
England and Wales. The  
principal place of

business is 8 Salisbury  
Square, London EC4Y 8BB  
where a list of partners'  
names is open to inspection.