



DIVISION OF
CORPORATION FINANCE

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

September 14, 2012

Via E-mail

Mr. Tom Albanese
Chief Executive
Rio Tinto plc and Rio Tinto Limited
2 Eastbourne Terrace
London, W2 6LG
United Kingdom

**Re: Rio Tinto plc and Rio Tinto Limited
Form 20-F for Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2011
Filed March 16, 2012
File Nos. 001-10533 and 001-34121**

Dear Mr. Albanese:

We have completed our review of your filings. We remind you that our comments or changes to disclosure in response to our comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the company or the filings and the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States. We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filings to be certain that the filings include the information the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and all applicable rules require.

Sincerely,

/s/Tia L. Jenkins

Tia L. Jenkins
Senior Assistant Chief Accountant
Office of Beverages, Apparel, and
Mining