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April 28 2010

Senator Harry Reid
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate
Washington, DC

Dear Senator Reid,

On behalf of Rio Tinto, the largest diversified mining company in the United States, I would like to urge the US Senate and the Administration to continue to make climate legislation a top priority for this year. We commend Senators Kerry, Graham, and Lieberman for their efforts in carrying out extensive outreach and consultation over many months in preparing their proposal. All indications are that the Senators' heavy lifting has taken us significantly farther towards a balanced and comprehensive policy solution. Neglecting its promise will not only delay the actions necessary to address the climate imperative, but will increase, rather than reduce, the uncertainties for businesses like Rio Tinto as we face a more rigid and expensive regulatory process under the Clean Air Act.

Rio Tinto will continue to support and participate in the Congressional process and work to positively shape US energy and climate policy. We urge the Senate and the Administration to seize the opportunity before them, setting the country on a path to developing and deploying the low-emissions technologies that we need, maintaining our global industrial competitiveness, and leading other nations to sustainable policy solutions.

Sincerely,



Preston Chiaro,
Group Executive for Technology and Innovation

CC: Senator John Kerry
Senator Lindsey Graham
Senator Joseph Lieberman
Carol Browner