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*Honesty, Integrity, Compassion*

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VIA EMAIL: [economics.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:economics.sen@aph.gov.au)

The Committee Secretary  
Senate Economics Committee  
Department of the Senate  
P O Box 60100  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir or Madam,

**SENATE INQUIRY INTO FOREIGN INVESTMENT**

Australia continues to make the same mistakes that it has been making for the last sixty years in allowing the take over of crucial Australian industries and infrastructure by foreigners.

**1. Rio Tinto**

There is no way that the Government should allow the Chinese Government and their subsidiaries to acquire major interests in Rio Tinto or its mining leases in Australia. Whilst Rio Tinto argue that their future viability relies upon this investment, they ignore their own stupidity in rejecting what, especially in hind sight, was an extremely generous takeover offer from BHP Billiton. No doubt BHP Billiton would still be interested in the takeover all be it not on such generous terms. They are in a situation completely of their own making.

Under no circumstances should any foreign government and in particular the Chinese Government be allowed to purchase Australian resources and infrastructure.

**2. NSW Power Privatisation**

I find it completely objectionable that any Government, be it State or Federal, are privatising essential public infrastructure, whether it be electricity, water, prisons, hospitals or railways. It is even worse when these assets are being sold to overseas corporations and now we have the news that NSW Government are trying to flog off the Electricity Retailers to Chinese Government owned Corporations. This should be stopped at all costs.

**3. The Future Fund.**

This Government Corporation should be encouraged and allowed to diversify its investments away from the ailing Telstra Shares which it was lumped with and be allowed to take major interests in infrastructure and Australian resources. For example it could acquire a major interest in Rio Tinto rather than the Chinese Government.

**4. Superannuation Fund Investments.**

Australian Superannuation Funds should be restricted in their ability to invest in foreign assets and be made or encouraged instead to invest in major Australian infrastructure and resource development of projects.

Yours truly,

Keith J. Graham  
Solicitor