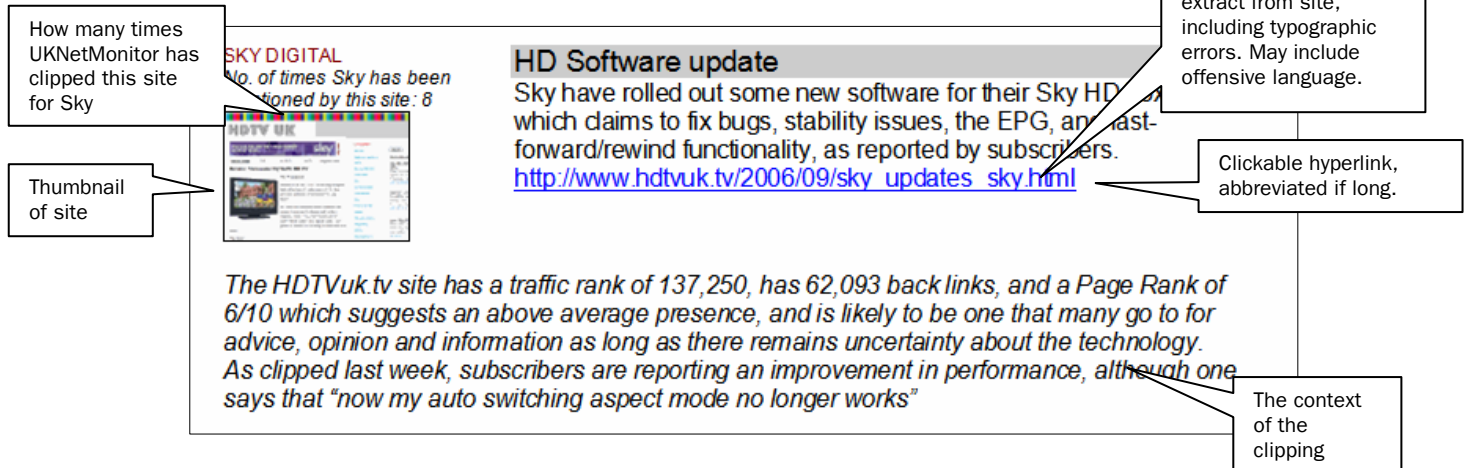




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Format of this report:



Glossary

Blog	Short for Web Log. An online diary/journal
Wiki	A web page of site that can be freely edited by anyone.
URL	Uniform Resource Location, effectively the address of a website
Back link	Also known as an inbound link. The number of other websites linking to the one you are looking at - a measure of authority
Inbound links	Also known as a back link. The number of other websites linking to the one you are looking at - a measure of authority
Domain	The main part of a web address, ie the site itself.
News feed	Not necessarily about current affairs, but software that automatically takes information and puts it on your web site/in-box
RSS or RSS feeds	Short for "Really Simple Syndication", what goes into a news feed and comes out on your website.

Traffic rank is based on three months of aggregated historical traffic data from millions of Alexa Toolbar users and is a combined measure of page views and users (reach). Alexa is a popular search engine which collects data on use.

Reach measures the number of users. Reach is typically expressed as the percentage of all Internet users who visit a given site. So, for example, if a site like yahoo.com has a reach of 28%, this means that if you took random samples of one million Internet users, you would on average find that 280,000 of them visit yahoo.com. Alexa expresses reach as number of users per million.

Page views measure the number of pages viewed by Alexa Toolbar users. The page views per user numbers are the average numbers of unique pages viewed per user per day. Page views per million indicates what fraction of all the page views by toolbar users go to a particular site. For example, if yahoo.com has 70,000 page views per million, this means that 7% of all page views go to yahoo.com.

PageRank is a numeric value that represents how important a page is on the web. Google figures that when one page links to another page, it is effectively casting a vote for the other page. The more votes that are cast for a page, the more important the page must be. Page Rank is score out of 10, 10 being the best.

Clip ref: 5323
TRADING ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 2



Africa

The world's second largest diversified miner, Rio Tinto, spent \$194-million in the first half of 2007 on exploration, up from \$113 million during the same period of 2006. Africa benefited from 16 per cent of its exploration budget. "We have increased our focus on Africa...We are looking to develop a number of projects in different parts of Africa," Rio Tinto's spokesman told Reuters."

<http://www.minesandcommunities.org/Action/press1679.htm>

Context: This website is a joint project by People against Rio Tinto and Subsidiaries, Indigenous Peoples Links (PIPlinks), and the Society of St. Columban. PageRank: 5/10 Alexa Rank: 510,798 Incoming Links: 6,236 Reuters report posted to the website's regular Africa Update.

Clip ref: 5320
TRADING ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Alcan

"As I was at work today, slaving away watching the Worlds Strongest Man competition, I noticed that the competitors were lifting huge aluminum blocks that weighed several hundred pounds. The blocks were used as an advertisement for the company that produced them.....friggin ALCAN!!!! Just thought it was cool that Ravenswood Aluminum was being lifted by such men as Mariusz Pudzianowski, Tarmo Mitt, and Magnus Samuelsson."

<http://blog.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=blog.view&friendID=60754963&blogID=321968248>

Context: Personal blog. The writer lives in Miami, Florida. The blogger also writes "It has been known as Kaiser Aluminum, Ravenswood Aluminum, Century Aluminum, and now Alcan Rolled Products. Jackson County's largest employer may soon have yet another name. Rio Tinto is now in the process of acquiring Alcan"

Clip ref: 5322
PEOPLE ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Alcan

"The old has passed away and new has come....I think I have read that somewhere! Of course I am referring to the end of Alcan and the beginning of Rio Tinto Alcan. Day 1 is now over, all employee events and communications complete and day 2 is frankly quite boring. On this historic occasion I feel like I should say something (kinda like a eugoooolie I guess) about my experience at this Canadian company. I started working at Alcan because my husband moved us to a remote community and Alcan was really the only place to work. Having said that the experience of working on a remote site is something I will never forget and value for the rest of my life. The first private company I have worked for, Alcan has taught me many things.....

- * Ensure your steel-caps fit correctly so you don't get blisters walking around site in your first week
- * There's a lot to be said for Chicken burgers
- * How to block out all the swearing when visiting the crib rooms
- * How to make a warm and fuzzy HR presentation to 50 blokes in the workshops and come out alive!
- * Hot and sweaty can be a good look but make sure you wear waterproof mascara at all times

Good-bye Alcan, I'll miss you!"

<http://blog.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=blog.view&friendID=182114096&blogID=322488995>

Context: Personal blog of an Alcan employee from Queensland Australia.

Clip ref: 5324
TRADING ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 2



Alcan

“Rio Tinto seems about to seal the knot with Alcan - making it the world’s biggest aluminium producer.

Just a month before, it had signed a contract with the Malaysian government to access hydro-power from rainforested Sarawak’s highly controversial Bakun dam for a huge aluminium smelter...

So, why aren’t people rushing to share the venture it launched in April to “you-tube” the world?

...Back in April - we assure you it wasn’t the 1st - Rio Tinto decided to get in on the act, launching its own dedicated YouTube station called RioTintoVideos to share the company’s vision with the world.

“Visitors can comment on our videos, share them with others, and insert them in blogs and other websites,” declared the mining giant on the station’s launch.

Unfortunately for Rio, the world has been somewhat less enthusiastic.

So far just one person has bothered to post a comment, a user by the name of BobMonkfish. He says Rio has “one of the most appalling international reputations”, and makes the erroneous * claim that Rio was connected with human rights atrocities in Bougainville.

Hardly the kind of feedback Rio was after.

But what’s more amusing is the choice of videos on Rio’s YouTube channel.

In among the promotional clips about mining iron ore in the Pilbara and titanium in Quebec, is one titled Yellowknife Mixed Broomball Final - Double Overtime.

And another called Yellowknife Broomball 2006-2007.

Yellowknife is a town in the Northwest Territories of Canada, about 45 kilometres from the Arctic Circle, where Rio has its headquarters for the Diavik Diamond Mine.

Broomball is an offbeat Canadian sport that’s a cross between ice hockey and curling - you use a broom instead of a stick.

It’s the kind of thing that helps pass time when you live 45 kilometres from the Arctic Circle.

Thanks to RioTintoVideos, we can inform shareholders that Fire Prevention beat Diavik Team Four in this year’s mixed broomball final in Yellowknife.

The crowd of three people seemed to really enjoy double overtime, too.

<http://www.minesandcommunities.org/Action/press1635.htm>

Context: This website is a joint project by People against Rio Tinto and Subsidiaries, Indigenous Peoples Links (PIPlinks), and the Society of St. Columban. PageRank: 5/10

Alexa Rank: 510,798 Incoming Links: 6,236

Clip ref: 5301
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Alcan

“Mr Yakabuski’s comments about Alcan’s response to the government’s proposed absolute reductions in GHG emissions rather than intensity based reductions suggest that he would rather Canada remain a country in which resource extraction is the primary industry and source of GDP rather than one with increasingly profitable secondary industries. Absolute reductions will have the effect of preventing the growth within Canada of larger manufacturing industries such as Alcan, driving them offshore to less demanding jurisdictions inspite of their serious committment to a cleaner environment. Is this what he is really proposing?”

<http://www.reportonbusiness.ca/servlet/story/RTGAM.20071101.wryakabuski01/CommentStory/robColumnsBlogs/#comments>

Context: Part of Canadian national newspaper., Globe & Mail. The Globe Web Centre boasts nearly 4,000,000 unique visitors a month. PageRank: 7/10 Alexa Rank: 2,755 Incoming Links: 2,236,399 A reader response to the Globe & Mail’s ‘Rio Tinto Alcan loses lustre over emissions’

Clip ref: 5300
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Alcan

“It sure looked to be aluminum, that shiny counter from behind which Tom and Dick - the new/old team running Rio Tinto Alcan - held court last week to celebrate Canada’s biggest foreign takeover yet. But upon closer inspection, and a few kicks, we can safely say it wasn’t made of metal.

Yes, appearances can be deceiving, and the faux aluminum stage prop wasn’t the only illusion that was shattered at this coming out. Alcan’s carefully managed image as one of the good guys in the epic battle to bring business onside on climate change also took it in the chin.

Alcan chief executive officer Dick Evans and his new boss, London-based Rio Tinto CEO Tom Albanese, still look good compared with the ostriches in the oil patch. But they lost serious brownie points with their jeremiad against hard, government-imposed targets to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

“If you look at absolute reductions as a solution, the likely consequence is that you will drive the growth of aluminum production offshore,” Mr. Evans said.

“We feel strongly that intensity-based targets are the most effective means to get [to] the ultimate end of absolute greenhouse gas emissions.”

With this statement, Mr. Evans exposed Alcan’s “green” image makeover for what it is: A concerted effort to shape government policy and public opinion, and, hence, minimize legislative limits on its activities...”

<http://climateinvest.blogspot.com/2007/11/rio-tinto-alcan-loses-lustre-over.html>

Context: Investment blog with an interest in ethical issues and climate change. This article has been posted from the Globe and Mail.

Clip ref: 5336
TRADING ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 2



Alcan

An individual discusses the merits of the Alcan deal.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W_l1RIUtkVw

Context: YouTube originally started as a personal video sharing service, and has grown into an entertainment destination with people watching more than 70 million videos on the site daily. This is a video response to another youtube video, 'Rio Tinto's \$20 billion buy'.

Clip ref: 5337
TRADING ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 2



Alcan

"Shareholders of Rio Tinto should vote NO to this purchase."

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n0yNJmW6d8>

Context: YouTube originally started as a personal video sharing service, and has grown into an entertainment destination with people watching more than 70 million videos on the site daily. 'Rio Tinto's \$20 billion buy'

Clip ref: 5316
PEOPLE ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Australia

"I joined the Liberal Party in 1989, I remain a member and I never imagined campaigning for the defeat of my own party. But a continuation of John Howard's response to climate change is also unimaginable and it's something I can't support. My politics haven't changed a great deal since 1989 but the Liberal Party's greenhouse policy sure has..

..He appointed a coal industry executive as chief scientist, even allowing him to keep working three days a week at Rio Tinto. He hired the same consultants as the carbon lobby to advise him on greenhouse without any open tender and, when he decided emissions trading was unavoidable, he let our Australia's worst polluting industries design one to their liking, even seconding the head of the AIGN to his department.

Time and again, he goes out of his way to give Australia's 'carbon club' their way. "

http://users.livejournal.com/_amaranth_/241855.html

Context: A personal weblog. LiveJournal is ranked 63 in the world, and hosts more than 10 million weblogs. It is, however, a frequent vehicle for splogging. This is an extract from a speech by Dr Guy Pearce, author of HIGH & DRY speaks at the 12th annual Sunshine Coast Environment Awards

Clip ref: 5334
PEOPLE ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Australia

"I live out in country NSW, and for half a mill you could get a 3 storey house w/ 5 bedrooms on a 5 acre block. And with Rio Tinto (where i work), Newcrest Mining and Barrick Gold each with major operations within an hour away, where the absolute base sh1t kickers earn 50k a year after tax. Screw uni, go underground, and earn 75k a year to stand and watch a machine."

<http://www.xboxworld.com.au/forum/showthread.php?t=55464&page=2>

Context: Discussion forum for enthusiasts and users of the xbox.

Clip ref: 5307
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Bougainville

“Since time immemorial, land on Bougainville has been owned on a clan basis, being passed down from mother to daughter. Land boundaries are well known, and have been respected for thousands of years. According to custom, clans hold the rights to the land, the sky above and the earth below. Disrespecting this longtime custom, corporate greed bloodied the heart and soul of Bougainville with the construction of the Panguna mine.

Once Rio Tinto set foot on their land in 1960, the villagers witnessed almost an immediate sense of loss. Their health, environmental resources and livelihood were forsaken for corporate gain.

Almost immediately, the Bougainvilleans fell sick from exposure to the mine’s toxins, chemicals and air pollutants. Upper respiratory infections such as Asthma and TB became more common, and even killed people. Children became ill with coughs, colds and chronic ear infections. Many women even died giving birth, because of the lack of basic medicine and care.

As Rio Tinto ravaged the island mining for copper, the company dumped waste rock and tailings, turning the river valleys into a virtual wasteland. Fish and whole forests died, depleting the villagers of their major food source, and eliminating their cash cropping systems. The villagers lost their property due to ongoing environmental contamination. Their water became non-potable, and they were forced to come up with other resources for survival.

Unable to live this way, the people pleaded to Rio Tinto to give them control of their own land surrounding the mine. When Rio Tinto ignored their request, the Bougainvilleans united in the name of their culture and fought for their right to their inherent resources.

The Bougainvilleans’ fight for their rights left many people dead and many more injured. Three entire principal villages were relocated, and many life-long inhabitants were forced to flee the island.

With the blockade, the Bougainvilleans were completely severed from their power of electricity. They were forced to create power from what little they had. They built an electrical repair shop where townspeople turned abandoned electrical pieces into two-way radios and generators. They turned solar energy into power for electricity. Anything that wasn’t nailed down was salvaged into resources for their survival.

With rain forests razed, and hillsides sluiced, the people had no other place to look, but to each other. Together they learned new skills and found new ways to utilize the resources they still did have. Coconuts became the most valuable resource on the island. People looked past this obvious food source, and developed a new process to separate the coconut oil from the pulp so that they could use it as a car fuel and heating resource.

Their will to survive led the Bougainvilleans to seek justice against the individuals who threatened their livelihood. Only now can they properly reclaim what is rightfully theirs.”

<http://the-truth-reveal.blogspot.com/2007/09/rio-tinto-environmental-destruction.html>

Context: Blogger based in Malaysia comments on Malaysian news and issues.

Clip ref: 5331
TRADING ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



China

“They don’t have to. Ever heard of Sony? How about Samsung or Toshiba? All their manufacturing plants are in, you guessed it, China. Heard of BHP Billiton and Rio Tinto? Want to know where they get all their heavy mining equipment made? Yup, China. It doesn’t have to be “chinese owned” to be “chinese made”. And you can guarantee that there’s not a single thing made in china that the chinese government doesn’t keep the plans for! They don’t need their own designs, they’re building everyone elses.”

<http://forum.darkness.com/index.php?showtopic=78704>

Context: Gothic-style discussion forum. Page Rank 3/10 Alexa Rank 193,307 Incoming links 30.

Clip ref: 5333
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 2



Copper – Queen Creek mine

“also involved with the Queen Creek Mine swap out (Oak Flats Campground and surrounds?) Did you know that your elected officials are willing/working on trading that whole parcel over to the Rio Tinto Mining Corp so they can turn the whole area into one giant f**king sinkhole!? to extract the copper that lies thousands of feet underground!? Cave/collapse mining or some such they call it. Trading it for some other parcels, which are already gvmint land BTW. Rick Renzi took some heat/fall for some of this, but AFAIK the deal is still making its way through.”

<http://forums.mtbr.com/showthread.php?t=349238&page=2>

Context: Forum for mountain biking enthusiasts. Page Rank 6/10 Alexa Rank 17,952 Incoming links 767.

Clip ref: 5335
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 2



Copper – Queen Creek mine

“Too bad.. that’s what they are there for to **listen** to the public. I love it how these folks fail to remember that they are PUBLIC SERVANTS Thats SOP for Flakes office, anytime I write or call, I get the same response. Thanks for your opinion, but “F” you.. we’re voting the other way with the rest of the sheep.. BAAAAAA! He’s full on in supporting the Oak Flat giveaway to Rio Tinto as well. Sucks.. I think he ran unopposed last time.

<http://forums.mtbr.com/showthread.php?t=350340&page=6>

Context: Forum for mountain biking enthusiasts. Page Rank 6/10 Alexa Rank 17,952 Incoming links 767.

Clip ref: 5325
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



CSR - Freeport McMoRan

“DODGIEST SUBSIDIARY AWARD

WINNER: Rio Tinto Group’s subsidiary: Freeport McMoRan Copper & Gold
SECTOR: Mining, Extraction

Depicted in the 80s as the ‘ugly face of multinational capitalism’[23], Rio Tinto is one of the three largest mining companies in the world. Its subsidiary Freeport[24] manages the largest copper, gold and silver mine on earth: the Grasberg mine in West Papua (formerly Irian Jaya)[25][26].

The Grasberg mine is associated with decades of serious social and environmental impacts[27]. It has been reported that Freeport is protected by a corrupt politics[28] and that the Indonesian militia, who guard the mine, have been accused of killing indigenous people[29]. Freeport freely admit they paid for armed security[30]; during 2002 the company paid \$5.6 million to the armed forces[31]. It has been suggested that the relationship between the militia and the company has led to gross human rights violations[32].

Rio Tinto is culpable for contributing to environmental devastation, displacement and killing of indigenous people[33]. In 1996, Multinational Monitor placed Freeport in the ten worst corporations of the year for polluting areas near the copper mine[34]; it’s important that ten years later the ongoing atrocities in West Papua are not forgotten[35].”

<http://www.corporatewatch.org/?lid=2872>

Context: Corporate Watch is a small independent not-for-profit research and publishing group which researches and campaigns on the social and environmental impact of large corporations, particularly multinationals. Page Rank 5/10 Alexa Rank 1,350,343 Incoming links 306. RICHARD - I cannot tell when this was added to the site except that it’s 2007.

Clip ref: 5313
CORPORATE ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



CSR

“Over the past ten years, CSR has evolved into a core business discipline as companies increasingly strive to align a powerful long-term social mission to the interests of short-term shareholders.

This has been a no-brainer for those with a compelling problem to fix - the environment destroyers; water squanderers, Child enslavers and obesity-accelerators. Maintaining their license to operate has demanded action. Step forward Shell, Coca Cola, Rio Tinto, Adidas McDonalds and the rest...”

http://stealthisbrand.blogspot.com/2007/11/sap-starting-to-get-it-on-csr_05.html

Context: A blogger who works for a corporate marketing agency and has an interest in corporate reputation.

Clip ref: 5312
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



CSR – Forest People programme

“Critics in the conservation community have voiced their concern especially when there is a parallel growth in the budgets of NGOs and the proliferation of their green logos alongside those of multinational corporations. “The huge risk in this is what I call ‘greenwash’, whereby companies clean up their image but hardly change their practice,” Marcus Colchester, director of the Britain-based Forest Peoples Program, told Tierramérica.

“I think conservation organizations risk paying too high a price for petty gains if it means them losing the trust of the public and their members,” he added. A case in point is the mining giant Rio Tinto forming partnerships with large conservation groups like the Britain-based Birdlife International. The largest mining company in the world, Rio Tinto has headquarters both in Australia and Britain and operations on all continents except Antarctica.

For years, Rio Tinto has had a reputation for being responsible for environmental and human rights violations at its mines and smelters. Accusations of corporate misdeeds include suppressing trade unions at their Australian operations, exposing workers to radiation in a uranium mine in Namibia, and negligence and complicity in the civil war in Papua New Guinea, where Conzinc Riotinto—a Rio Tinto subsidiary—used to operate a major copper mine.”

<http://www.tierramerica.info/nota.php?lang=eng&idnews=1536&olt=215>

Context: Tierramérica is a specialized information service on environment and development, produced by the international news agency, IPS. News, reports and interviews are published weekly on the website, in Spanish, English and Portuguese. Page Rank 6/10 Alexa Rank 792,245.

Clip ref: 5311
TRADING ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Ecuador

“It is widely held that most of Ecuador’s mining concessions are in violation of article 88 of the nation’s Constitution, which protects the affected communities’ right to be consulted prior to development activities being undertaken..

..Even before this latest blow, the pullout of Chilean mining company Antofagasta last month from Ascendant’s Chaucha project help to put the price of the company’s shares in a free-fall, reaching a new low of \$ 0.15 per share — 9% of its \$1.70 initial public offering price in November of 2004. At the same time, and possibly related to the company’s difficulties in Intag, Ascendant has also been unable to make any new plays based on its “strategic alliance” with global mining giant Rio Tinto, which gave it access to Rio Tinto’s historical exploration data in western Ecuador.”

http://www.miningwatch.ca/index.php?/Rio_Tinto/Chiriboga_announcem

Context: MiningWatch Canada (MWC) is a pan-Canadian initiative supported by environmental, social justice, Aboriginal and labour organisations. It monitors threats posed by mineral policies and practices in Canada and around the world. Page Rank 5/10 Alexa Rank 1,959,370 Incoming links 178. Also posted in full at

<http://www.minesandcommunities.org/Action/press1658.htm>

Clip ref: 5308
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Ecuador

“On October 30, 2006, and in spite of numerous reports linking the presence of Ascendant Copper Corporation to serious human rights violations in the Intag area of Ecuador, Rio Tinto Zinc signed an exploratory/profit-sharing agreement with Ascendant. The agreement, which included turning over to Ascendant many years worth of exploratory information gathered in Western Ecuador by Rio Tinto, also gives Rio the right to invest in future mining projects developed by Ascendant.

Rio Tinto likes to portray itself as a model corporate citizen, yet the agreement with Ascendant was signed just 2 weeks after police illegally raided the home of a well-known anti-mining activist opposed to Ascendant’s Junin project. The illegal action was linked to Ascendant Copper Corporation by a prestigious human rights organization.

The day following the signing of the agreement, approximately 50 persons, hired by a company contracted by Ascendant Copper Corporation, tried to violently enter some of Ascendant’s concessions using tear gas and attack dogs. Community members stopped the incursion, but not before several local residents- including a 6 year-old boy- was tear-gassed, and another community member was allegedly run over by a company car.

But then things got much worse.

On December 2, 2006, exactly 30 days after the first failed incursion, the same company tried again to force their way into community areas. This time the confrontation, which was filmed and photographed in high-definition digital cameras, showed how about 20 heavily armed individuals pretending to be security guards (and paid for by Ascendant) without any provocation started pepper-spraying and shooting their 38 caliber hand guns and shotguns at unarmed community members. One community member received a gunshot wound in the leg...

The persecution and harassment against anti-mining activist in the Intag area of Ecuador, however, did not stop with the use of armed ex-military groups. It deteriorated to the point where, in July of 2007, Amnesty International issued an urgent action, alerting the world of the threats and danger faced by Polivio Pérez, Mercy Catalina Torres, and “others opposed to the Intag copper mining project.”

All the above events were widely publicized, so there was no way Rio Tinto Zinc would not have known of them...

The involvement of Rio Tinto Zinc with Ascendant Copper Corporation points to a worrisome and disturbing trend behind the so-called “social-responsabilization” of large mining companies. Besides using similar publicity tactics utilized in the “greenwashing” of many of these same companies’ projects, a more worrisome pattern is emerging: the strategy of the big companies (with a reputation at stake) relying on aggressive cowboy junior companies to “clear the way for them” in troubled areas...

If responsible corporate-citizenry has any meaning whatsoever, and if corporations like Rio Tinto are serious about respecting human rights, the company would have never signed on to this very troubled project.

<http://upsidedownworld.org/main/content/view/902/68/>

Context: Founded in 2003, Upside Down World is an online magazine covering activism and politics in Latin America. Page Rank 5/10 Alexa Rank 1,006,187 Incoming links 139.

Clip ref: 5315
CORPORATE ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



European Corporate blogging summit

“Bryan Smith, Rio Tinto are a mining company who have faced issues with activists. Online reputation management - discussion of how to assess risks and decide how to respond to comments. Rio Tinto map out who talks about them and how via visualisations. Analyse where clusters of bloggers are writing about them. Watch Technorati etc. Part-time employees or those on placements can blog... and sometimes do with a potentially negative impact on the image but they are often young, gone before they appear on the radar that is tracking online reputation.

[my own thought on this... if youngsters on placements do blog like this or act irresponsibly in social media, it could impact their own future prospects... although that may be hard to explain to them at a younger age]

<http://andypiper.wordpress.com/tag/summit/>

Context: Andy Piper is a consultant working for IBM Software Services for WebSphere in the UK. Unranked. An attendee's notes from the European Corporate blogging summit.

Clip ref: 5326
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Iceland

“Rio Tinto-Alcan - Aluminium Tyrants

The gates of a geothermal power station are not where you would expect to find environmental activists. But the morning of 26th July 2007 saw the access road to Hellisheidi power station in Hengill, South-West Iceland, blockaded by a group of protestors from the campaign group ‘Saving Iceland’. After a brief demonstration, nine activists were arrested and several now face legal action.

Geothermal power in Iceland is big business. Just five plants generate 3 TWh a year – more than the annual output from all the UK’s wind turbines combined (Orkustofnun 2005; BERR 2006). Geothermal power also provides at least 85 per cent of Iceland’s homes with heat and hot water. This abundance of cheap, largely CO2-free energy has attracted energy-hungry industries to the country like sharks to a carcass. Of these, by far the most energy intensive is the aluminium industry”

<http://www.savingiceland.org/taxonomy/term/41>

Context: SavingIceland.org offer a platform for Icelanders and environmentalists to write about their concerns about foreign corporations. Page Rank 5/10 Alexa Rank 2,181,838 Incoming links 62. This article is taken from The Ecologist (Oct 07).

Clip ref: 5330
TRADING ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Iron ore

“The China Iron & Steel Association conference at the palatial Shangrila Hotel, sponsored by Brazil’s CVRD, represents the orthodox, 40-year old benchmark price negotiation system.

BHP, and probably Rio Tinto, would prefer to be wheeling and dealing with the spot market traders who have packed into the hotel’s three floors of meeting rooms and cocktail lounges, and who are spilling down the escalators and out into the street and neighbouring hotels.

These Chinese, Indian, Russian, Kazak and Iranian traders are creaming the largest windfall profits from China’s steel revolution. China’s iron ore spot trade is now worth more than the contract trade, said CVRD’s executive director Jose Carlos Martins.

He too would like a piece of it: “Collecting this \$US30 billion is a marvellous dream.”

Traders and conference goers have booked out all 563 rooms at the Shangrila and 626 rooms at the equally extravagant Furama Hotel next door. They are waving mobile phones and openly signing contracts in the foyers and over cups of Chinese tea”

http://messages.finance.yahoo.com/Stocks_%28A_to_Z%29/Stocks_D/threadview?m=tm&bn=24683&tid=40237&mid=40237&tof=1&frt=2

Context: The Finance Message board of Yahoo - the world's most popular web site. Article was originally published at

<http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/news/business/newcastles-a-dirty-word-in-china/2007/10/30/1193618884512.html>

Clip ref: 5328
TRADING ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Ivanhoe

“In October of 2006, Rio Tinto of Britain agreed to partner with Ivanhoe on the Oyu Tolgoi project in Mongolia (among the world’s largest undeveloped copper deposits) on the condition that it divest itself from Burma.

“Clearly, Myanmar was not a country that we as a company wanted to have an involvement with, so we did make it a condition that as part of the agreement with Ivanhoe that they would dispose of it,” a Rio Tinto spokesman told the Globe and Mail on October 3.

Friedland complied. In February of 2007, Ivanhoe Mines Ltd. transferred its 50 per cent stake in Monywa to an unnamed third party trust, which took control of the assets with the intention of selling them off. This move has satisfied Rio Tinto, but since July, the company has received dividend payments from the joint venture with the Burmese dictatorship, including a payment of US \$6.6 million.”

<http://theyee.ca/News/2007/10/12/BCBurmaMiners/>

Context: Website offering independent news and views for British Columbia. Page Rank 6/10 Alexa Rank 158,917 Incoming links 797.

Reader comment:

“that’s the important part to remember: “still indirectly profiting from its Burmese assets, despite Friedland’s October denunciation of the ruling Burmese junta”.

...Or “How to Look Good While Still Propping Up A Murderous Military Junta”...

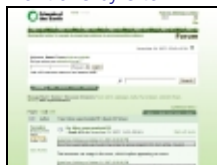
Article also posted at <http://www.business-humanrights.org/Search/SearchResults?SearchableText=%22Rio+Tinto%22&x=366&y=9>

Meanwhile the military junta aka The State “Peace” and Development Council, propped up by corporations such as the US’s Chevron pipeline project and the mines mentioned in this article can continue to bash the heads of monks and Burmese citizens into rock walls, load their bodies into trucks and deposit them half alive into secret crematoriums.

..real democracy in Burma is, and must, be viewed as a threat and an obstacle to those unchecked profits and power....and that is why Aung San Suu Kyi, despite a democratic victory remains year after sad year under house arrest.

Meanwhile, the same foreign corporate heads, mining companies’ CEO’s, (including those in Canada) hypocritically feign sympathy for her and Burma’s cause.”

Clip ref: 5305
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 4



Madagascar

It is to the credit of Rio Tinto that after many years of operations it has recognised that projects can no longer be imposed on local people and environments without taking steps to mitigate the negative impacts. The Fort Dauphin project provides Rio Tinto with a test bed for implementation of CSR measures, and so inevitably many of the ways of working have not had the benefit of experience to become as honed and responsive as they might be. This begs the question as to what extent Rio Tinto should take on development roles outside its core competence of mining. Many consulted for this report considered that it had over-extended itself, and lack of experience often showed. Two measures could improve this situation: i) that robust monitoring and evaluation is supported, preferably by independent, specialists; and that lessons learned inform development of CSR implementation strategies in future; ii) that it listens and learns from its peers in the development community to a greater extent, and gives them space and supports them in exercising their respective competencies. A major challenge for Rio Tinto is to overcome the temptation to exercise its considerable power by deferring to others where appropriate.

http://www.foe.co.uk/resource/reports/development_recast.pdf

Context: The Friends of the Earth website provides information on genetic modification (GM), corporate accountability, world trade, biodiversity, waste, chemicals, transport and climate change campaigns. Ranked just outside top 75,000 websites. Extract from 'Development recast?' A report reviewing the impact of the Rio Tinto ilmenite mine in Southern Madagascar. (Oct 2007 for Friends of the Earth)

Clip ref: 5329
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Madagascar

“Rio Tinto is disappointed about criticisms made by Friends of the Earth and the Panos Report regarding its mining project in Madagascar. While we face enormous challenges to get it right, we are satisfied that our management of the project is setting new benchmarks in responsible mining practices...”

<http://www.business-humanrights.org/Search/SearchResults?SearchableText=%22Rio+Tinto%22&x=366&y=9>

Context: This site receives over 1.5 million hits per month. It provides news and reports about companies' human rights impacts worldwide – positive and negative. PageRank: 6/10 Alexa Rank: 286,836 Incoming Links: 2,756 Links to the full statement.

Clip ref: 5309
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES

No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Madagascar

“The NGO Panos London, issued a report on the process of communication between mining company Rio Tinto and the population of South Madagascar, which is affected by the activity of the ilmenite mine, in Fort Dauphin.

According to Panos London, most of the residents weren't aware of the effects of the mining company, which has caused a social conflict which could get worse, since Rio Tinto plans to exploit the mine for the next forty years.

The community members who were interviewed by the organization said that there was lack of communication since the beginning of the project. According to Panos London, the people had a good opinion about the mine at first, because they thought that it would bring them economical benefits. However, none of their expectations came true.

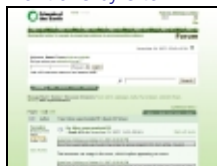
According to QIT Madagascar Mining SA itself -which is subsidiary of Rio Tinto- over 1000 people are permanently affected by the mining project, whether by losing their lands, losing the ground of their ancestors' cemeteries, or by being forced to leave their houses. This is why there have been many protests. By the end of 2006, several people blocked the construction of a new route, and demanded the payment of some kind of compensation.”

<http://www.radiomundoreal.com/rmr/?q=en/node/23987>

Context: Real World Radio (RWR) is a multilingual radio on the web, affiliated to Friends of the Earth International (FoEI). It reports on the impacts of trade liberalization on the Third World countries and acts as media for activists and grassroots social movements. Page Rank 6/10 Alexa Rank 255,322 Incoming links 132. Richard - URL should read <http://www.radiomundoreal.fm/rmr/?q=en/node/23987>.

Clip ref: 5304
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES

No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 4



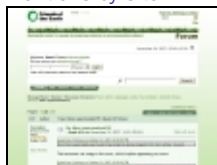
Madagascar

This briefing highlights how, contrary to the claims of Rio Tinto and the World Bank, the project is in fact creating economic insecurity, social upheaval, and environmental destruction in Madagascar, depriving local people of their land and livelihoods while yet to demonstrate any real benefits in return. It asks who really gains from this type of “development”, draws attention to major shortcomings in Rio Tinto's management of the social and environmental impacts of the project, and urges the company and the World Bank to do more to limit the environmental damage caused and ensure that local poor people are not further disadvantaged by the major project looming in their midst.

http://www.foe.co.uk/resource/media_briefing/mining_madagascar.pdf

Context: The Friends of the Earth website provides information on genetic modification (GM), corporate accountability, world trade, biodiversity, waste, chemicals, transport and climate change campaigns. Ranked just outside top 75,000 websites. The opening summary of 'Mining Madagascar – forests, communities and Rio Tinto's white wash' (Oct 07)

Clip ref: 5299
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 4



Madagascar

“A controversial mining development on the island of Madagascar, billed as a model for future mining projects, is damaging the local economy, exacerbating poverty and threatening unique biodiversity, a new report published today (Wednesday) has revealed [1].

Research carried out independently for Friends of the Earth showed that the Rio Tinto project was threatening unique forest resources and leaving local people struggling to survive in the area affected by the mine, despite commitments to provide adequate compensation and alternative jobs and to mitigate negative environmental impacts [2].

Rio Tinto started work on the controversial dredge mine in the coastal forest of Madagascar - home to thousands of unique species of wildlife - in 2006. The project has the backing of the World Bank, which claims that the development will boost Madagascar’s impoverished economy [3].

Mining companies are under increasing scrutiny for their environmental and social impacts [4]. Rio Tinto has said the Madagascar project is a “model” for future projects in Africa and the developing world [5] - but Friends of the Earth says the company is failing on its commitments to deliver environmentally and socially responsible mining and that urgent action is needed to mitigate the project’s damaging effects.

Communities who mainly rely on farming and forest resources to survive are being removed from their land to make way for a port, infrastructure and artificial lakes for the mine. These lakes will be dredged to extract the valuable ilmenite - a mineral used as a whitener in products such as paint and toothpaste - and then drained and restored.

Friends of the Earth’s Corporate Campaigner Sarah-Jayne Clifton said:

“Rio Tinto claims that the Madagascar mine development is whiter than white, designed to benefit local people and preserve the unique natural environment. But the new research tells a very different story. The reality on the ground is a murky shade of grey, with local people losing their land and livelihoods whilst receiving negligible benefits from the project in return”.

Local people told researchers they had been unfairly treated by the mining company, with traditional land rights unrecognised, and the value of the forest resources such as fruit underestimated. Some said the compensation payments were not enough to buy replacement land locally - and some were leaving the area because of rising prices. People were also angry that promises of employment and training had not materialised....

http://www.foe.co.uk/resource/press_releases/rio_tintos_madagascar_mini_22102007.html

Context: The Friends of the Earth website provides information on genetic modification (GM), corporate accountability, world trade, biodiversity, waste, chemicals, transport and climate change campaigns. Ranked just outside top 75,000 websites. Also posted at;

<http://www.theenvironmentroom.com/friends-earth-news/87844-rio-tintos-madagascar-mining-project.html>.

[Http://www.antiapathy.org/?q=aggregator/sources/1](http://www.antiapathy.org/?q=aggregator/sources/1)

[\[http://www.business-\]\(http://www.business-humanrights.org/Search/SearchResults?SearchableText=%22Rio+Tinto%22&x=366&y=9\)
\[humanrights.org/Search/SearchResults?SearchableText=%22Rio+Tinto%22&x=366&y=9\]\(http://www.business-humanrights.org/Search/SearchResults?SearchableText=%22Rio+Tinto%22&x=366&y=9\)

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Clip ref: 5321
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Madagascar

“Mean Spirited Mining in Africa (4)

New research carried out by international development agency, Panos London, shows that differences of understanding about a new mining project in Southern Madagascar have already led to mistrust and social conflict which, unless addressed, could escalate.

The report examines the communication processes between mining company Rio Tinto and local people affected by its new ilmenite (titanium dioxide ore) mining operation and reveals that many local people had little or no advance knowledge of the dramatic changes taking place and the reasons for them.

The report recognises the pivotal role of communication in forewarning people affected by such large-scale development projects of the changes that will take place, and in managing their expectations. Lack of social acceptance is one of the greatest risks to the project.”

<http://liberianature.blogspot.com/2007/10/mean-spirited-mining-in-africa-4.html>

Context: This Blog provides for an open and ongoing discussion of Natural Resources Conservation in Liberia.

Clip ref: 5302
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES

No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Madagascar

“New research carried out by international development agency, Panos London, shows that differences of understanding about a new mining project in southern Madagascar have already led to mistrust and social conflict which, unless addressed, could escalate.

The report examines the communication processes between mining company Rio Tinto and local people affected by its new ilmenite (titanium dioxide ore) mining operation and reveals that many local people had little or no advance knowledge of the dramatic changes taking place and the reasons for them.

The report argues that communication plays a vital role in forewarning people affected by such large-scale development projects of the changes that will take place, and in managing their expectations. One of the greatest risks to the project is a lack of social acceptance.

At a cost of US\$585 million, the ilmenite mine at Fort Dauphin represents the largest foreign investment in Madagascar’s history, and is set to run for at least 40 years. Run by QIT Madagascar Mining S.A. (QMM) – a subsidiary of the Rio Tinto mining company – it is the first in a series of projects planned by mining companies and the World Bank in Madagascar to exploit mineral deposits including ilmenite, nickel and bauxite.

According to QMM more than 1,000 people have been permanently affected by the mine project, which requires the removal of rare fragments of coastal littoral forest and heathland. Many have lost land to enable construction of the mine, quarry, port and roads to go ahead, while others have lost ancestral grave sites or have had to leave their homes.

Those interviewed said there had been a lack of communication about the project from the beginning. Perceptions and expectations differed dramatically, even among people living close together.

The research found that many people had positive expectations about the benefits of the mine mainly to do with employment and compensation, which have not yet been fulfilled. For example, one displaced person interviewed said, ‘There are plans to have a fishing project [and] a weaving project but we don’t know when. There are plans but nothing happens.’

And in late 2006, frustrations due to late compensation payments, compounded by a lack of information, led to displaced people blockading construction of the new port road, demanding immediate cash settlements.

‘Better communication with stakeholders could have helped to identify employment needs and opportunities, and put into perspective the limited local employment opportunities on offer,’ says Rod Harbinson, author of the report and head of Panos London’s environment programme.”

http://www.panos.org.uk/press/news_releases.asp?newsid=1547

Context: Panos London is one of a global network of eight independent charitable institutes. The network was founded 20 years ago - ‘to illuminate and provide insights from developing countries into issues facing us globally; and to stimulate informed, enlightened discussion around such issues’. Page Rank 6/10 Alexa Rank 1,313,914 Incoming links 299. Also posted in full at

<http://dtweekly.blogspot.com/2007/10/conflict-over-malagasy-mine.html>

Clip ref: 5303
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 4



Madagascar

“a new report for Friends of the Earth reveals that Rio Tinto’s Madagascar mining project is already impacting peoples lives and the environment..

Billed as a blueprint for the company’s future mining projects in Africa, the report - shows that the project is already:

- * Undermining local living standards
- * Causing social upheaval
- * Contributing to environmental destruction.

..Dredge mining is an environmentally damaging process. In Madagascar it will result in the loss of rare coastal forest and the habitats for the unique species that live there.

Rio Tinto claim that they will restore the area to it’s former glory once dredging is complete. But they plan to use non-native plants in this.

The conservation areas set up are too small and may not even be able to sustain their current species diversity in the future.

The project will threaten the delicate mix of species that have evolved on the island making it so unique.

Around 6,000 people live in the rural villages in and around the area which is to be cleared to make room for the mine.

These rural communities are subsistence farmers, growing vegetables, fishing and raising livestock to survive, and hold no formal land rights.

Communities will be removed from their land and are already being priced out of local markets.

Rio Tinto’s project in Madagascar is far from being a model of best practice.

Rio Tinto’s operations are going to go ahead, but before mining starts next year the company needs to act to ensure that:

- * Local communities are properly compensated.
- * The island’s unique biodiversity is better protected against the operations.
- * Information about the project is made more readily available.

Press for change

Email Rio Tinto and tell them that they must take action to minimise the impact of their Madagascar project on people and the environment.”

http://www.foe.co.uk/campaigns/corporates/news/mining_madagascar.html

Context: The Friends of the Earth website provides information on genetic modification (GM), corporate accountability, world trade, biodiversity, waste, chemicals, transport and climate change campaigns. Ranked just outside top 75,000 websites. Also at

<http://www.business->

[humanrights.org/Search/SearchResults?SearchableText=%22Rio+Tinto%22&x=366&y=9](http://www.business-humanrights.org/Search/SearchResults?SearchableText=%22Rio+Tinto%22&x=366&y=9)

Clip ref: 5318
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Michigan

“Many people in Michigan may not be aware that a controversial nickel mine is set to be started in a matter of months in the Upper Peninsula (“Buried Treasure: UP stands to make millions off copper and nickel, but new mine could pollute pristine wilderness,” Oct. 14). It is to be located on the headwaters of the Salmon Trout River, near Marquette and the shore of Lake Superior. The mine is to be operated by Kennecott and its parent corporation, Rio Tinto. They have a record of EPA violations and contaminations from Utah to Alaska to Australia.

One individual is in a position to stop this mine, Gov. Jennifer Granholm. The governor has pledged to protect the water of the Great Lakes and to stand up for the people of the Upper Peninsula. It is time for her to act on that promise. The approval process is a judgment call, and the individuals making that judgment are appointed by the governor. Our governor is not naïve enough to believe that our waters are not at risk when one of the top polluters in the world starts drilling next to Lake Superior.”

“Widespread reports of engineering failures at Kennecott mines are ongoing. As thorough as the 7,000-page engineering proposal is, via human error, faulty science or unplanned natural disasters, there will always be one lurking unknown scintilla of possible failure. As the cost benefit analysis is reviewed, that one scintilla is a tremendously large risk to the ecosystem.

In Marquette and Baraga Counties, 30% to 40% of the mineral rights are leased. Developed properties are removed from recreational access. There are layers of design, engineering, extraction, transportation and construction obstacles. Michigan voters have a strong record of cherishing their access to recreational lands. Don’t change access, don’t endanger the resource.”

“The Great Lakes are part of our heritage, and to put them in harm’s way for short-term political and economic gain is irresponsible. Tourism may not pay as well as mining jobs, but as long as we don’t despoil the UP, the tourist industry, unlike dubious mining ventures, will be our lasting legacy to our children, state and nation.”

“What is going to happen in eight to 10 years after Kennecott is finished? Will we still be able to enjoy swimming, fishing (and eating the fish we catch) and the unbelievable beauty of that area?

My family has been enjoying that area for approximately 30 years. We usually spend approximately \$2,000 in two weeks. I know that’s not as much as Kennecott will “spend,” but at least my family and friends will keep coming back.”

<http://www.freep.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071020/OPINION04/710200318/1068/rss06>

Context: Online presence of the Detroit Free Press, a daily and Sunday Newspaper. It has more than 2.5 million unique visitors and more than 5 million home page views per month. Page Rank 6/10 Alexa Rank 10,965 Incoming links 10,301. Reader comments.

Clip ref: 5317
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES

No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Michigan

“Flash forward to the present day when Michigan’s regulators appear poised to permit the first metallic sulfide mine in Michigan. Several years ago, my friend Dick Huey and a few others started a group called Save the Wild UP when Kennecott Minerals, a subsidiary of mining giant Rio Tinto (one of the world’s largest polluters), began the process of securing a permit for a sulfide mine north of Marquette. The proposed mine is located directly under the Salmon-Trout River on the wild and beautiful Yellow Dog Plains. This is state land, our land, and the Salmon-Trout flows just a few miles through it and then empties into Lake Superior. Over that time I’ve been working for them to maintain their web site and have learned a thing or two about “acid mining”...

Iron and copper mining are things that helped forge the character of the Upper Peninsula. You can think of traditional mining as picking the chocolate chips out of a cookie. Sulfide mining is like getting the sugar out of a cookie - a chemical rather than mechanical process that yields a dust as a by-product. If this dust mixes with water and air, it forms sulfuric acid aka battery acid. There has never been a sulfide mine with the potential to pollute ground or surface water that failed to do so. Sulfide mining has polluted 40% of the watersheds in the West, and you can read more of the facts about metallic sulfide mining at Save the Wild UP (has a nice video if you prefer).

Sulfide Mining waste from Sudbury, CanadaA process with 100% failure rate of protecting water located directly under a pristine river that flows into the largest body of freshwater in the world seems like a bad idea. When you realize that they also plan to blow the sulfide dust into the air and that there are hundreds of other prospected sites waiting in the wings, it becomes terrifying. Michigan and the UP have a lot of challenges right now, but something we do have going for us is our water and wild places and the tourism dollars and jobs they generate. The picture to the right is a result of sulfide mining from Sudbury, Ontario. Multiply that across Michigan’s Upper Peninsula and consider how many thousands of tourism jobs and millions of tourism and tax dollars might be lost.

One of the people who has considered this is a wonderful musician named Daisy May. She has donated a song called A Letter from Downstream to Save the Wild UP and I hope you take the time to listen to it and see the photos that folks have shared about what Michigan’s water means to them.”

<http://www.bloggingformichigan.com/showDiary.do?diaryId=936>

Context: Blogging For Michigan is a ‘managed progressive community.’ It provides news and commentary on issues that affect the people of Michigan. Page Rank 3/10 Alexa Rank 1,670,920. A comment posted in response

“This is a very important issue. Kennecott is pushing the fact this mine will create jobs, but those jobs will not last very long (under 10 years as I recall) and the vast majority of the profits will go to a company located outside of our state.

On the other hand, any environmental damage will be long-term, very long-term. “

Clip ref: 5332
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Michigan

“If the people of Michigan let companies like Kennecott (Rio Tinto) come into our state and just do as they please, us taxpayers will be left to clean up their mess. The proposed amount of clean-up bond money they are putting up is inadequate.

I would rather enjoy nature from the porch of my trailer, than to know I have destroyed the last spawning river in Michigan of the Coaster Brook Trout.”

“I would also like to point out that the mines you referenced in your posting are nothing like what is being proposed on the Yellow Dog Plains. If you would do your homework instead of watching the Kennecott commercials on TV you will begin to understand why so many people have come out in opposition.

If having open access to land is so important to you why aren't you upset that Kennecott has petitioned the DNR to fence off 100 acres of land for the next 3 decades?

You snub your nose at tourism by saying things like “We really don't care about the braggarts and snobs who own land up here to use it as a status symbol. Thanks for stopping by EH!” What do you think is going to happen when this mine closes in 7 years? The mines you referenced employed thousands of people. The Flambeau Mine Kennecott operated had 52 employees during operations. Don't kid yourself, Kennecott is not going to hire lots of locals to run this mine. All these folks running around thinking they are going to get a big chunk of the pie are grossly mistaken.”

“Do you care that Kennecott is a foreign company (UK)? No one in the US is going to see a dime of their profit. There is no guarantee that if some disaster happens that they won't just cut and run. “

<http://forums.freep.com/viewtopic.php?t=54125&postdays=0&postorder=asc&start=60>

Context: Online presence of the Detroit Free Press, a daily and Sunday Newspaper. It has more than 2.5 million unique visitors and more than 5 million home page views per month. Page Rank 6/10 Alexa Rank 10,965 Incoming links 10,301.

Clip ref: 5319
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



New Zealand

“Visits to the Rio Tinto Aluminium Smelter (who provide employment for lots of folks with a disability), Stadium Southland and a colleague organisation followed the next day.”

<http://twopennysblog.blogspot.com/2007/10/happy-landings.html>

Context: Personal blog written from New South Wales, Australia. The blogger is describing a business trip.

Clip ref: 5314
PEOPLE ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Nirupa Bhatt

“My friend of close on 20 years, Nirupa Bhatt, has confirmed that she is, indeed leaving Rio Tinto. Nirupa joined the then Argyle Diamonds in 1989, a couple of years after we had launched Solitaire International. She has achieved something remarkable. Beginning as an unknown outsider, she walked the beat in Mumbai’s diamond district of Opera House, meeting people, learning about diamonds, slowly but surely winning confidence and overcoming the inherent prejudices of a male-dominated business.

Above all, Nirupa has come to be trusted by the industry – clients and non-clients alike. The fact is, neither Argyle, nor its successor Rio Tinto, would never have enjoyed the kind of success that it has, without her. She understands the industry and its needs and could always be counted on to do what was good for it in the long term – never being swayed by the prospect of short-term gains. She became ‘one of the guys’. She was invited to industry meetings to discuss problems and issues when no other mining company representative would ever have been allowed anywhere near.

What is also a fact is that neither Argyle nor Rio has ever had an India-specific team that really understood India the way De Beers does. It doesn’t have one now. Nirupa was all they had. Which is probably why I, along with much of the rest of the industry, received a strange letter stating that Rio’s ‘India office remains operational’ and reaffirming Rio’s ‘commitment to India’.

She says she’s ‘taking a break’ and will consider what to do next in a while. Needless to say, half the industry is falling over itself making her offers. She doesn’t seem in a hurry to jump into anything right away. She has an unbelievable amount of goodwill.

Her going is a body blow to Rio.”

<http://solitaireinternational.wordpress.com/2007/09/13/nirupa-bhatt%E2%80%99s-departure-is-a-body-blow-for-rio/>

Context: Blogsite of Solitaire International, a bi-monthly business-to-business magazine published by India’s Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council. PageRank: 5/10

Clip ref: 5338
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Pebble Mine

“Back in January of this year global mining giant Rio Tinto assumed a 20% stake in Northern Dynasty Minerals.

What the news back in January failed to point out is that Rio Tinto’s environmental and human rights record is atrocious.

A lawsuit filed against Rio Tinto on behalf of the victims of their mining operation on the island of Bougainville is currently making its way through U.S.courts.

An excerpt from the lawsuit brief-

To build the mine, Rio chemically defoliated, bulldozed and sliced off an entire mountainside of rain forest. During the years of the mine’s operations, billions of tons of toxic mine waste was generated and dumped onto the land and into pristine waters, filling major rivers with tailings, polluting a major bay dozens of miles away, and the Pacific Ocean as well. As a result of its flagrant disregard for the environment and the people of Bougainville, Rio dispossessed the people of Bougainville from their land, destroyed their culture and polluted their environment and lifestyle. Rio destroyed previously pristine rivers and land that provided substance and a way of life for the native people and went to the heart of their local culture. The pollution is so extensive that plaintiffs and members of the class have been improperly exposed to toxic chemicals. In certain villages, the chemicals still remaining have caused the death and/or illness of residents.”

http://moldychum.typepad.com/moldy_chum/2007/10/notorious-minin.html

Context: Unranked fishing blog.

Clip ref: 5310
PEOPLE ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



Russia

“the South African government, plus major international uranium miners such as BHP Billiton, Rio Tinto and Cameco, have found themselves in negotiations for uranium projects with the Russians — without being confident of who among them has the power to follow up on their intentions .

In the case of Rio Tinto, the problem has been compounded by fierce internal divisions among Rio executives ambitious to make deals to advance themselves, but reluctant to share their limited intelligence with their colleagues.”

<http://www.businessday.co.za/weekender/article.aspx?ID=BD4A597807>

Context: South Africa's major business-oriented daily, online since 1999.

PageRank: 7/10 Alexa Rank: 65,088 Incoming Links: 31,355

Clip ref: 5306
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
COMMUNITY ISSUES
No of Rio Tinto
mentions by site: 1



South Africa

“Although news of the mining giant Rio Tinto’s interest in the possibility of coal mining within the Waterpoort farming community caused great concern amongst farmers, the message from Rio Tinto is clearly not to panic, as there is still a lot to be done before a coal mine could become a reality.

According to both Mr Mac Mashinini, community relations officer, and Mr Kuda Muchenje, technical manager of Rio Tinto involved with the Chapudi Coal project, there is still a lot more to be done with regard to exploration. They indicated that the farmers and other community members will always be kept well informed of any further activities. Mr Mashinini told the Zoutpansberger that Rio Tinto has always done everything in the open and will gladly share information with all those affected, as well as the media.

The name of the proposed coal project in Waterpoort is the Chapudi Coal Project, named after the farm where the first signs of coal were discovered some time ago with the drilling of the first borehole.

According to Mr Muchenje, the coal was discovered some 40m to 50m deep behind the Soutpansberg Mountain and stretches as far as 34 kilometres toward the Kalkbult Farm in the east.

Mr Muchenje said that the coal they were interested in was not deeper than 200 meter and was perfect for open-cast mining. If it is deeper than 200 meters, however, it will qualify for shaft mining and that is an option Rio Tinto will not easily consider, due to the risk of the ground collapsing.

In order to show Rio Tinto’s openness with regard to the public point of view, the Zoutpansberger was taken to a drill site and showed around. This drilling took place on the Grootbomen farm, east of the Chapudi project. According to Mr Muchenje, this site is within a fault, causing a dramatic downfall, which makes the coal deeper than 200 meters. Drilling still has to be done in order to determine how deep the coal is and to conduct thorough tests.

The boreholes are all part of the exploration process to determine the depth of the coal and the availability of water.

This issue is very important, considering that a power station would require a lot of water. Even more important is that there must still be enough water for the local farmers to make use of. Muchenje told the Zoutpansberger that the last thing they as Rio Tinto want to do, is to compete with farmers over the water and if it isn’t enough, water will have to be brought in from another source. Muchenje and Mashinini showed the newspaper around a drill site. It has been made safe and the necessary precautions have been taken to clear the site of all material which can cause contamination or pollution. Mr Muchenje said that the current exploration was all about doing things the right way. Sadly, there were some companies in the past who tried to take shortcuts, but Rio Tinto has standards which have to be upheld at all times. The three main aspects Rio Tinto concentrates on are general safety, the environment and the community.”

<http://www.emirror.co.za/details.asp?StoNum=5826&from=news.asp%3Ftype%3D1>

Context: Website of the South African Zoutnet group of newspapers. Page Rank 4/10 Alexa Rank 2,523,892 Incoming links 20.
