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Zijin Mining Group Co., Ltd.*

紫金礦業集團股份有限公司

(a joint stock limited company incorporated in the People's Republic of China with limited liability)

(Stock code: 2899)

ANNOUNCEMENT

INDICATIVE TAKEOVER PROPOSAL FOR NORTON GOLD FIELDS LIMITED

The board of directors of Zijin Mining Group Co., Ltd.* (the “**Company**”) is pleased to announce that the Company has made an indicative, non-binding and conditional proposal to Norton Gold Fields Limited (“**Norton**”) where all Norton shareholders (except for the Company and its subsidiaries which already own shares in Norton) would be offered a cash amount of AUD0.25 per share and Norton would be able to pay a special dividend of AUD0.02 per share (“**Proposal**”).

The Proposal is subject to a number of conditions including satisfactory due diligence investigations, Australian Foreign Investment Review Board approval, approvals from regulatory authorities in the PRC and the Company achieving a minimum relevant interest in at least 50.1% of Norton’s shares.

Norton is a company incorporated with limited liability in Australia and listed on the Australian Securities Exchange under the code of NGF. Norton is principally engaged in mining and exploration of gold in Australia. For more information about Norton, please visit Norton's website: www.nortongoldfields.com.au

The Company and its subsidiaries currently hold 144,250,000 shares, representing approximately 16.98% of all the issued shares of Norton. For further information about the previous acquisition of interests made by the Company and its subsidiaries in Norton in 2011, please refer to the Company’s previous announcements dated 25 July 2011 and 5 September 2011.

As the discussions relating to the Proposal are still preliminary, the Company has not made any decisions on the terms and conditions of the Proposal and is not subject to any binding obligation to make any formal offer. Accordingly, there is no certainty as to whether any formal offer will in fact eventuate and there is no guarantee that a formal offer will ultimately

be announced or made, or made on terms that are acceptable to Norton shareholders. This announcement is not, and cannot be considered to be, an announcement of an intention to make a takeover bid for Norton.

The Company will keep the market informed in accordance with the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited should further developments take place.

This announcement is made on a voluntary basis.

Investors and shareholders are advised by the Board to exercise caution when dealing in the shares of the Company.

As at the date of this announcement, the Board of Directors of the Company comprises Messrs. Chen Jinghe (Chairman), Luo Yingnan, Lan Fusheng, Huang Xiaodong, and Zou Laichang as executive directors, Mister. Peng Jiaqing as non-executive director, and Messrs. Su Congfu, Chen Yuchuan, Lin Yongjing, and Wang Xiaojun as independent non-executive directors.

By Order of the Board of Directors
Zijin Mining Group Co., Ltd.*
Chen Jinghe
Chairman

3 April 2012, Fujian, the PRC

**The English name of the Company is for identification purpose only*