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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

Progress in relation to the takeover bid for Norton Gold Fields Limited

Reference is made to the announcements (the “**Announcements**”) of Zijin Mining Group Co., Ltd.* (the “**Company**”) dated 3 April 2012 in relation to the Company’s indicative takeover proposal for the ASX-listed Australian company Norton Gold Fields Limited (“**Norton**”), dated 31 May 2012 in relation to entering into a definitive bid implementation deed for a A\$0.25 per share cash offer (the “**Offer**”) with Norton, dated 13 July 2012 in relation to approvals by FIRB and Beijing Municipal Commission of Development and Reform in relation to the Offer, and dated 18 July 2012 in relation to Zijin’s wholly-owned subsidiary Jinyu (H.K.) International Mining Company Limited (“**Jinyu**”) (being the offeror under the Offer) lodging and dispatching its Bidder’s Statement in respect of the Offer. Unless otherwise defined herein, capitalised terms used in this announcement shall have the same meanings as those defined in the Announcements.

The Company is pleased to announce that the Zijin Group has together obtained a relevant interest in approximately 48.29% of Norton Shares (including the 16.98% interest owned by the Zijin Group before the Offer) as a result of acceptances of the Offer. As a result of the Zijin Group having a relevant interest in more than 45% of Norton Shares, the change in control provisions contained in Norton's existing Secured Note Facility have been triggered. Norton has today announced to the ASX that it intends to repay the Secured Note Facility by drawing down on existing cash reserves and a new A\$38 million Unsecured Loan Facility provided by Jinyu.

In addition, the Company is pleased to announce that Jinyu has declared the Offer to be free from all of its Defeating Conditions (as defined in the Bidder's Statement) and has announced that the Offer is unconditional. Accordingly, Jinyu has given to Norton and the ASX a notice under section 650F of the Australian Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) in relation to the Offer.

This announcement is made by the Company on a voluntary basis.

Investors and shareholders are advised 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, Qiu Xiaohua, 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

1 August 2012, Fujian, the PRC

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