

6 May 2019

Rio Tinto response to Business & Human Rights Resource Centre regarding allegations against a contractor in its supply chain in California

Rio Tinto requires all our vendors and suppliers to comply at all times with our [Supplier Code of Conduct](#), and Rio Tinto's [The Way We Work](#).

Our Supplier Code of Conduct draws upon internationally recognised standards, including human rights principles, and clearly sets out our expectation of our suppliers, their subsidiaries and subcontractors. These expectations include ensuring all work is freely chosen, without the use of forced or compulsory labour; fair remuneration and working conditions for all workers; and respecting workers' rights to lawfully and peacefully form or join trade unions of their choosing and to bargain collectively.

Compliance with the Supplier Code of Conduct is included in our contractual arrangements with suppliers and this year we also introduced a modern slavery clause into our standard global supply contract – more information is available in our [2018 Modern Slavery Statement](#).

Our suppliers know that we may choose to stop working with them if they are not meeting our expectations.

Rio Tinto takes the allegations against NFI Industries and its subsidiary Cal Cartage Express seriously. We have asked NFI Industries to demonstrate that they are meeting our Supplier Code of Conduct and they are actively working to respond to our request.

Senior executives from Rio Tinto also met a delegation from the Teamsters in London recently to hear their concerns, and answered questions from the delegation at the Rio Tinto Plc annual general meeting on 10 April 2019. Rio Tinto continues to maintain an ongoing dialogue with the Teamsters and related stakeholders in regards to this matter. While we will work to ensure our Supplier Code of Conduct is being upheld, we are also encouraging NFI and the Teamsters to resolve these issues directly with each other.

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