



STOCK EXCHANGE LISTINGS: NZX (MCY) / ASX (MCY)

## NEWS RELEASE

# Rio Tinto decision following strategic review of Tiwai smelter

**9 July 2020 – Mercury notes Rio Tinto's announcement to wind-down operations at New Zealand Aluminium Smelters Limited (NZAS) with expected closure in August 2021.**

Mercury reiterates previously made statements that it is relatively well placed to respond to the decision to close the smelter, with all of its renewable generation assets in the North Island close to load centres and largely free of major transmission constraints as a consequence of reduced South Island electricity demand.

Mercury is confident that the sector will adapt to the closure of the smelter, invest in new transmission and develop new electricity demand to rebalance New Zealand's electricity system.

Howard Thomas  
General Counsel and Company Secretary  
Mercury NZ Limited

**For investor relations queries, please contact:**  
Tim Thompson  
Head of Treasury and Investor Relations  
0275 173 470

**For media queries, please contact:**  
Craig Dowling  
Head of Communications  
027 210 5337

### ABOUT MERCURY NZ LIMITED

Mercury's mission is energy freedom. Our purpose is to inspire New Zealanders to enjoy energy in more wonderful ways and our goal is to be New Zealand's leading energy brand. We focus on our customers, our people, our partners and our country; maintain a long-term view of sustainability; and promote wonderful choices. Mercury is energy made wonderful. Visit us at: [www.mercury.co.nz](http://www.mercury.co.nz)



The Mercury Building, 33 Broadway, Newmarket 1023  
PO Box 90399, Auckland 1142  
New Zealand

**PHONE:** + 64 9 308 8200  
**FAX:** + 64 9 308 8209

**[mercury.co.nz](http://mercury.co.nz)**