



Vice-President Almunia  
Commissioner for Competition  
European Commission  
BRU-BERL 11/235

Brussels, 7 February 2012

Dear Vice-President Almunia,

With this letter we would like to convey to you our concerns regarding the merger of Glencore and Xstrata on competition in the commodity market, a sector already characterised by a high concentration of a few key actors.

This merger will create a corporation that will roughly capture a quarter of the world's zinc market and one third of the internationally traded production of thermal coal. It would also be expected to become the largest independent producer of copper.

In the context of your previous investigations into the planned mergers of BHP Billiton and Rio Tinto as well as Deutsche Börse and the New York Stock Exchange, we ask you to investigate the Glencore-Xstrata fusion and its potential impacts on the raw materials market in spite of the 2006 ruling by the previous European Commission that the two companies be treated as one for competition purposes.

Yours sincerely,

Reinhard Bütikofer

Sven Giegold