



Fortescue Metals Group Ltd

ACN: 002 594 872
87 Adelaide Terrace East Perth
Western Australia 6004
PO Box 6915, East Perth, Western Australia 6892

Telephone: + 61 8 6218 8888

Facsimile: +61 8 6218 8880

Website: www.fmgl.com.au

21 January 2008

MEDIA RELEASE

Fortescue applies to Declare Rio's Robe River railway – Open to Third Parties

The Pilbara Infrastructure Pty Ltd ("TPI"), a wholly owned subsidiary of Fortescue Metals Group Ltd ("Fortescue"; ASX: 'FMG'), has lodged an application with the National Competition Council under Part IIIA of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* seeking to declare Rio Tinto's 'Robe River Railway' which runs from Rio's Mesa J (Deepdale) mine site to Rio's port at Cape Lambert.

The application to declare the Robe River Railway comes two months after TPI lodged similar declaration applications over Rio's Hamersley Iron Railway Network and BHP Billiton's Goldsworthy Railway.

"Fortescue is seeking to open the tremendous transport logistic synergies available in the Pilbara to all Australian mining companies," said Fortescue's Executive Director Mr Graeme Rowley.

"There are numerous stranded iron ore deposits in the Pilbara which alone may not be of sufficient scale to support their own infrastructure yet could become viable with access to existing infrastructure such as the Robe River Railway" Mr Rowley added.

For more information contact:

Graeme Rowley
Fortescue Metals Group
(08) 6218 8888

Paul Downie
Porter Novelli
(08) 9386 1233 or 0414 947 129