

THE TAKEOVER PANEL

COUNTRYSIDE PROPERTIES PLC (“COUNTRYSIDE”)

COPTHORN LIMITED

ROCK PACIFIC LIMITED (“ROCK PACIFIC”)

This morning the Panel Executive announced that it had ruled that, by 12 noon today, Monday 10 January 2005, Rock Pacific must either announce an offer for Countryside under Rule 2.5 of the Code or announce that it will not proceed with an offer for Countryside. The Panel Executive now announces that the deadline referred to in the announcement has been extended until 5.00pm today.

10 January 2005