SAMPLE LETTER

To: mines/mining companies

From: Purchasers of mined materials or investors (adjustments for investors are put in [ ] in the letter below)

Dear XX

As you may know, the Initiative for Responsible Mining (IRMA) has a collaboratively developed [*Standard for Responsible Mining*](https://responsiblemining.net/what-we-do/standard/), the result of a decade of global effort between diverse stakeholders to describe best practices in social and environmental responsibility in mining. This certification system is valuable to our company in that it supports more transparency and security in our supply chains [or investments in] for mined materials.

We write today to encourage you to engage in IRMA’s programs. It’s our belief this will increase your ability to communicate your performance – both areas of strength and also the challenges you face – as you work toward continuing improvement in social and environmental responsibility. And this further supports our commitments to responsible sourcing [investing]. A first step to engage is a self-assessment tool available through IRMA, called the [Mine Measure.](https://tools.responsiblemining.net/self-assess) This tool allows your company to explore IRMA’s Standard in a practical way, get a sense of how your mine(s) perform when measured against the Standard, and prepare for an independently verified audit. The Mine Measure self-assessment tool also allows you to provide feedback directly to IRMA on the metrics in the Standard so that they can improve, consider revisions, and better serve your interests as well as ours. Moving from self-assessment then to IRMA’s independent verification of achievement is important to us as purchasers, increasing our confidence in that third-party assurance of achievement.

Using IRMA also allows mining companies to share with the world the efforts you already make to social and environmental responsibility, as well as commitments to improve. From our perspective as a company with mined material in our supply chain [or investment portfolio], it is a straightforward, concrete step that demonstrates your commitment to our shared goals.

We look forward to discussing this further, etc.

XXX