BARRICK

PRESS RELEASE – TORONTO, DECEMBER 18, 2002

For Immediate Release

Barrick Dismisses Allegations as Ludicrous and Without Merit – Will Vigorously Pursue All Legal Rights and Remedies

Barrick Gold Corporation today dismissed as ludicrous and totally without merit anti-trust allegations against it referred to in a press release issued by Blanchard & Co. that also names J. P. Morgan Chase & Co.

Although Barrick has not had an opportunity to review the formal complaint in detail, the Company said that the press release contains numerous factual inaccuracies and defamatory statements. Barrick added that it would vigorously defend the lawsuit and pursue all its legal rights and remedies.

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