

# Commonwealth Bank

Commonwealth Bank of Australia  
ACN 123 123 124

Secretariat

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J Hatton  
Company Secretary

17 December 2008

Mr Ben Wachter  
ASX Markets Supervision Pty Limited  
Exchange Centre  
Level 6, 20 Bridge Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000



Dear Sir

## **COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED (ASX Code: CBA)**

### **Request for Trading Halt**

Commonwealth Bank of Australia (**CBA**) requests that an immediate trading halt be granted by the Australian Securities Exchange (**ASX**) with respect to its ordinary shares, PERLS II and PERLS III.

In accordance with Listing Rule 17.1 we advise that:

- (a) CBA is seeking the trading halt pending finalisation of the share placement announced by the Bank on 16 December 2008.
- (b) CBA wishes the trading halt to last until such time as it makes an announcement to the market that the placement has been finalised but, in any event, the trading halt will not last beyond the earlier of a further announcement or the commencement of trading on Thursday, 18 December 2008; and
- (c) CBA is not aware of any reason why the trading halt should not be granted.

Yours sincerely

John Hatton