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IVANHOE MINES LTD Form 6-K December 16, 2010

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, DC 20549 FORM 6-K REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR 15d-16 OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

From: December 15, 2010

IVANHOE MINES LTD.

(Translation of Registrant s Name into English)

Suite 654 999 CANADA PLACE, VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA V6C 3E1

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.)

Form 20-F- o Form 40-F- b

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.)

Yes: o No: b

(If Yes is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-____.)

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Documents filed as part of this Form 6-K

Exhibit No. Description

99.1 Heads of Agreement, dated December 8, 2010, between Ivanhoe Mines Ltd. And Rio Tinto

International Holdings Limited.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

IVANHOE MINES LTD.

Date: December 15, 2010 By: /s/BEVERLY A. BARTLETT

BEVERLY A. BARTLETT

Vice President & Corporate Secretary