



For Immediate Release

18th February 2011

**Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c.
Polish regulatory approval of the BZWBK disposal**

DUBLIN, Ireland, Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. ("AIB") [NYSE:AIB] announced on 10 September 2010 that it had agreed to sell its Polish interests to Banco Santander S.A. ("Santander") subject to obtaining certain regulatory approvals. The Polish securities regulator - Polish Financial Supervision Authority ("PFSA") or Komisja Nadzoru Finansowego ("KNF") today announced that it has approved the BZWBK tender offer by Santander.

As announced on 7th February 2011, we expect that transaction will be completed on 1st April 2011.

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