

BHP BILLITON LTD
Form 6-K
March 10, 2015

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
Form 6-K
REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER
PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR 15d-16
UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
March 10, 2015

BHP BILLITON LIMITED

(ABN 49 004 028 077)

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA
(Jurisdiction of incorporation

or organisation)

171 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE,

VICTORIA 3000 AUSTRALIA
(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 Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1):

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7):

BHP BILLITON PLC

(REG. NO. 3196209)

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

ENGLAND AND WALES
(Jurisdiction of incorporation

or organisation)

NEATHOUSE PLACE, VICTORIA, LONDON,

UNITED KINGDOM
(Address of principal executive offices)

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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 No

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

10 March 2015

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To: Australian Securities Exchange
London Stock Exchange

cc: New York Stock Exchange
JSE Limited

AUSTRALIAN JOURNAL OF MINING

GLOBAL IRON ORE AND STEEL FORECAST CONFERENCE

BHP Billiton President, Iron Ore, Jimmy Wilson, will present at the Australian Journal of Mining Global Iron Ore and Steel Forecast Conference, in Perth, Western Australia today.

A copy of the presentation is attached.

Further information on BHP Billiton can be found at www.bhpbilliton.com.

Rachel Agnew
Company Secretary

BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077
Registered in Australia
Registered Office: 171 Collins Street Melbourne Victoria
3000

BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209
Registered in England and Wales
Registered Office: Neathouse Place, London SW1V 1LH
United Kingdom

The BHP Billiton Group is headquartered in Australia

NEWS RELEASE

Release Time IMMEDIATE

Date 10 March 2015

Number 03/15

DELIVERING EXCEPTIONAL RETURNS FROM INSTALLED CAPACITY

BHP Billiton will today reaffirm its ongoing commitment to safely maximising returns on installed capacity at its Western Australia Iron Ore business (WAIO).

Speaking in Perth at the annual Global Iron Ore and Steel Forecast Conference, BHP Billiton President Iron Ore, Jimmy Wilson, will highlight the exceptional returns from the Company's productivity agenda.

The effectiveness of our approach is validated by our robust financial and operating results despite the challenging market conditions, he said.

For the first half of this financial year the team has delivered a solid underlying EBIT margin of 49 per cent and a return on assets of 34 per cent.

Mr Wilson will also reiterate WAIO is on track to achieve unit cash costs of less than US\$20 per tonne¹ through a relentless pursuit of equipment availability and utilisation, efficient procurement and supply management and capital and workforce productivity.

He will also highlight BHP Billiton's strong and differentiated position in the Pilbara.

Not only is our concentrated resource position a competitive advantage, but the quality and high-grade characteristics of our orebodies translates into premium products in the market, Mr Wilson said.

The majority are high Fe Brockman and Marra Mamba ores, with low impurities and a high proportion of lump, around which we optimise our mine plans to maximise our profit margin.

We can deliver high-quality product that our customers value, through existing hub infrastructure, at a low operating cost. Our footprint also means that we won't need to invest in new mining hubs to sustain current operations for decades.

BHP Billiton also anticipated the increasing supply of seaborne iron ore, approving the last of its major capital investments in its Pilbara infrastructure in 2011.

Over the past decade, BHP Billiton made a US\$25 billion capital investment in infrastructure and equipment in our WAIO operations. Through our disciplined program of investment, we were able to deliver valuable tonnes to market and maintain our share of supply, Mr Wilson said.

We have no major projects in execution and our growth pathway will be achieved by continuing to make our existing infrastructure more productive.

¹ *Excluding freight and royalties, based on an exchange rate of AUD/USD 0.91.*

With this strategy we are maintaining Australia's competitive position in the global market and providing the revenue, royalties, employment and innovation that is so important for this country's future.

WAI0 achieved record production of 124 million tonnes in the first half and is on track to deliver 245 million tonnes in the 2015 financial year (100 per cent basis).

Further information on BHP Billiton can be found at: www.bhpbilliton.com.

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BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077

Registered in Australia

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Registered in England and Wales

Registered Office: Neathouse Place

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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.

BHP Billiton Limited and BHP Billiton Plc

Date: March 10, 2015

By: /s/ Rachel Agnew

Name: Rachel Agnew

Title: Company Secretary