BHP BILLITON LTD
Form 6-K
February 20, 2004

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K

REPORT OF FOREIGN ISSUER

PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR 15d-16 OF

THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the Date of 29 January 2004

BHP Billiton Limited

ABN 49 004 028 077

600 Bourke Street

Melbourne Victoria 3000

Australia

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	X		Form 40-F	

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	X

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

Date	29 January 2004
Number	05/04

BHP BILLITON PRODUCTION REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003

BHP Billiton today released its production report for the quarter ended 31 December 2003.

- **Record quarterly Western Australian Iron Ore production of 23.0 million tonnes and record quarterly despatches of 22.5 million tonnes (100 per cent basis).**
- **Record quarterly Aluminium production resulting from early commissioning of the Mozal 2 (Mozambique) and Hillside 3 (South Africa) expansions.**
- **Record quarterly production of Ekati**(TM) **Diamonds (Canada).**
- **First production from Ohanet wet gas development in Algeria.**

- **Total Petroleum Products -**
  Total production for the December 2003 quarter was 30.2 million barrels of oil equivalent, one per cent higher than the December 2002 quarter and six per cent lower than the September 2003 quarter. Total production for the second half of calendar year 2003 was 6.3 per cent higher than the first half, as the predicted decline in some of our legacy oil assets was more than offset by increased gas production and production from new assets.
  - Oil and Condensate **-** Production for the December 2003 quarter was 14.9 million barrels, nine per cent lower than the 16.4 million barrels produced in the December 2002 quarter. This was mainly due to natural field decline in Laminaria (Australia), Griffin (Australia), Bass Strait (Australia) and Liverpool Bay (UK), along with a scheduled maintenance shut down at North West Shelf (Australia) and maintenance shut downs at Bruce (UK). This was partly offset by new production from Ohanet in October 2003, Boris North (USA) in September 2003 and Boris South (USA) in February 2003. Production was four per cent lower than the 15.5 million barrels produced in the September 2003 quarter, reflecting natural field decline across the portfolio and the shut downs at North West Shelf and Bruce. This was partly offset by the new production from Ohanet and Boris North.
  - Natural Gas **-** Production for the December 2003 quarter was 77.6 billion cubic feet, 12 per cent higher than the 69.4 billion cubic feet produced in the December 2002 quarter. This was due to the commissioning of Zamzama Phase 1 (Pakistan), Boris South and Boris North, and increased demand from Bass Strait due to unseasonably cool weather conditions. These factors were partly offset by maintenance shut downs at Bruce. Production for the quarter was nine per cent lower than the 85.2 billion cubic feet produced in the September 2003 quarter due to seasonally driven demand for Bass Strait natural gas and a scheduled shut down at North West Shelf. This was partly offset by higher production at Liverpool Bay due to winter demand.

- **Alumina -**
  Production for the December 2003 quarter was 1.1 million tonnes, five per cent higher than the December 2002 quarter, due to power disruptions at Worsley (Australia) and Paranam (Suriname) last year. Production was in line with the September 2003 quarter.
- **Aluminium**
  - Production for the December 2003 quarter was a record 308,000 tonnes, 16 per cent higher than the December 2002 quarter, and nine per cent higher than the September 2003 quarter. The increase mainly reflects the ramp up of production from the Mozal 2 and Hillside 3 expansions, which reached full commissioning in August 2003 and December 2003, respectively. This was partly offset by lower production at Alumar (Brazil) following an electrical outage in July 2003. Sales were 14 per cent lower than the September 2003 quarter due to timing of shipments.

- **Copper -**

Production for the December 2003 quarter of 226,800 tonnes was in line with the December 2002 quarter, reflecting resumed sulphide mining operations at Tintaya (Peru) in August 2003, offset by sale of the Group's interest in the Alumbrera (Argentina) mine in April 2003 and lower production at Antamina (Peru) while access to ore is restricted to the flanks of the deposit. Production was six per cent higher than the September 2003 quarter, mainly a result of resumed sulphide operations at Tintaya.

In October 2003, BHP Billiton announced that Escondida would return to its normal mine plan and production profile commencing January 2004. In preparing for the return to the normal plan, Escondida has experienced difficulty in achieving the expected water recovery rates from the new tailings dam constructed during the Phase IV expansion. Escondida has identified the associated technical issues related to the water recovery rates and will begin to implement a solution. During this process, it is expected that the concentrators at Escondida will operate between 5 and 10 per cent below full rated throughput capacity.

- **Iron Ore -**
  A new quarterly production record of 23.0 million tonnes (100 per cent basis) was set at Western Australia during the December 2003 quarter, 20 per cent higher than the December 2002 quarter, and five per cent higher than the September 2003 quarter. The increased production is in response to ongoing strong customer demand in all Asian markets, particularly China. A quarterly despatch record of 22.5 million tonnes (100% basis) was also set in Western Australia during the December 2003 quarter. Total iron ore production for the December 2003 quarter was 21.7 million tonnes (BHP Billiton share), 18 and four per cent higher than the December 2002 and September 2003 quarters, respectively.
- **Metallurgical Coal -**
  Production for the December 2003 quarter of 8.4 million tonnes was in line with the December 2002 quarter, reflecting strong customer demand at Queensland Coal (Australia), offset by decreased production at Illawarra Coal (Australia), resulting from the closure of Tower colliery in December 2002 and adverse mining conditions at the West Cliff colliery. Production was seven per cent lower than the September 2003 quarter, due to the scheduling of plant maintenance at Queensland Coal, and the adverse mining conditions at West Cliff colliery. Shipments from Queensland Coal were nine per cent higher than the September 2003 quarter and 25 per cent higher than the December 2002 quarter, reflecting strong customer demand and increased sales to China.
- **Manganese alloys -**
  Production for the December 2003 quarter of 183,000 tonnes was 24 per cent higher than the September 2003 quarter following resumption of normal operations at the Metalloys silicomanganese plant (South Africa) in September 2003.
- **Hot briquetted iron -**
  Production for the December 2003 quarter of 527,000 tonnes was 27 per cent higher than the December 2002 quarter, reflecting strong customer demand and continued ramp up of the Boodarie(TM) Iron plant.
- **Ekati**(TM) **Diamonds -**
  Production of 1.7 million carats was 59 per cent higher than the December 2002 quarter and 10 per cent higher than the September 2003 quarter. This increase reflects the processing of a pocket of high grade material from the Koala pit which was completed in December 2003, along with sustained benefits from the processing plant de-bottlenecking program.
- **Energy Coal -** Production for the December 2003 quarter was 20.0 million tonnes, three per cent lower than the December 2002 quarter and six per cent lower than the September 2003 quarter. The decrease compared with the September 2003 quarter mainly reflects lower production at New Mexico Coal (USA) Navajo mine in anticipation of a planned major outage at a customer's power plant and longwall move at San Juan underground, along with lower production at Cerrejon Coal (Colombia) mainly due to adverse weather conditions during the month of December 2003. These factors were partly offset by higher production at

Hunter Valley (Australia) reflecting the ramp up of Mount Arthur North.

- **Nickel**
  - Production for the quarter of 20,000 tonnes was three per cent higher than the December 2002 quarter, mainly reflecting benefits of processing enhancements arising from operating excellence initiatives at both Cerro Matoso (Colombia) and Yabulu (Australia). Production was three per cent lower than the September 2003 quarter, due to the impact of adverse weather conditions during the month of December at Cerro Matoso, and scheduled maintenance at Yabulu.
- **Ferrochrome**

- Production of 269,000 tonnes for the quarter was 17 per cent higher than the December 2002 quarter driven by the restart of idle furnaces in the March 2003 quarter. Production was 19 per cent higher than the September 2003 quarter, when maintenance shut downs were scheduled to coincide with the high winter electricity tariff period in South Africa.

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Further information on BHP Billiton can be found on our Internet site: http://www.bhpbilliton.com

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BHP BILLITON PRODUCTION SUMMARY												
			QUARTER ENDED				HALF YEAR ENDED			% CHANGE		
										DEC Q03	DEC Q03	YTD 03
			DEC	SEPT	DEC		DEC	DEC		vs	vs	vs
			2002	2003	2003		2003	2002		DEC Q02	SEPT Q03	YTD 02
PETROLEUM												
	Crude oil & condensate	('000 bbl)	16,398	15,512	14,877		30,389	34,948		-9%	-4%	-13%

	Natural gas	(bcf)	69.41	85.19	77.57		162.76	141.27		12%	-9%	15%
	LPG	('000 tonnes)	167.97	199.33	200.51		399.84	376.93		19%	1%	6%
	Ethane	('000 tonnes)	19.91	27.32	25.25		52.57	47.58		27%	-8%	10%
	Total Petroleum Products	(million boe)	30.0	32.1	30.2		62.4	63.1		1%	-6%	-1%
ALUMINIUM												
	Alumina	('000 tonnes)	998	1,053	1,050		2,103	2,029		5%	0%	4%
	Aluminium	('000 tonnes)	266	282	308		590	534		16%	9%	10%
BASE METALS												
	Copper	('000 tonnes)	225.6	214.5	226.8		441.3	410.1		1%	6%	8%
	Lead	(tonnes)	58,345	59,364	55,211		114,575	121,588		-5%	-7%	-6%
	Zinc	(tonnes)	44,115	49,094	45,912		95,006	92,657		4%	-6%	3%
	Gold	(ounces)	69,175	29,170	32,085		61,255	124,328		-54%	10%	-51%
	Silver	('000 ounces)	9,870	10,596	9,980		20,576	21,130		1%	-6%	-3%
	Molybdenum	(tonnes)	365	325	290		615	678		-20%	-11%	-9%
CARBON STEEL MATERIALS												
	Iron ore	('000 tonnes)	18,447	20,922	21,728		42,650	37,075		18%	4%	15%
	Metallurgical coal	('000 tonnes)	8,390	9,099	8,445		17,544	17,040		1%	-7%	3%
	Manganese ores	('000 tonnes)	1,059	1,153	1,199		2,352	2,154		13%	4%	9%
	Manganese alloys	('000 tonnes)	190	147	183		330	365		-4%	24%	-10%
	Hot briquetted iron	('000 tonnes)	414	496	527		1,023	747		27%	6%	37%
DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS												
	Diamonds	('000 carats)	1,071	1,552	1,704		3,256	2,025		59%	10%	61%
ENERGY COAL												

	Energy coal	('000 tonnes)	20,648	21,156	19,978		41,134	39,977		-3%	-6%	3%
STAINLESS STEEL MATERIALS												
	Nickel	('000 tonnes)	19.4	20.6	20.0		40.6	38.5		3%	-3%	5%
	Ferrochrome	('000 tonnes)	230	227	269		496	468		17%	19%	6%
Throughout this report figures in italics indicate adjustments made since the figure was previously reported.												

BHP BILLITON ATTRIBUTABLE PRODUCTION										
			QUARTER ENDED						HALF YEAR ENDED	
		BHP Billiton	DEC	MARCH	JUNE	SEPT	DEC		DEC	DEC
		Interest	2002	2003	2003	2003	2003		2003	2002
PETROLEUM										
Production										
	Crude oil & condensate	(000 bbl)	16,398	15,310	15,635	15,512	14,877		30,389	34,948
	Natural gas	(bcf)	69.41	66.99	72.91	85.19	77.57		162.76	141.27
	LPG	('000 tonnes)	167.97	160.62	205.57	199.33	200.51		399.84	376.93
	Ethane	('000 tonnes)	19.91	22.35	24.97	27.32	25.25		52.57	47.58
	Total Petroleum Products	(million boe)	30.0	28.4	30.3	32.1	30.2		62.4	63.1
ALUMINIUM										
ALUMINA										
Production ('000 tonnes)										
	Worsley	86%	662	658	724	699	700		1,399	1,360
	Suriname	45%	213	222	223	227	230		457	434
	Alumar	36%	123	123	113	127	120		247	235

	Total		998	1,003	1,060	1,053	1,050		2,103	2,029
ALUMINIUM										
Production ('000 tonnes)										
	Hillside	100%	134	133	132	135	151		286	269
	Bayside	100%	45	48	46	47	46		93	91
	Alumar	46.3%	44	45	45	31	36		67	88
	Valesul	45.5%	11	10	11	11	11		22	22
	Mozal	47%	32	31	39	58	64		122	64
	Total		266	267	273	282	308		590	534
BASE METALS (a)										
COPPER										
Payable metal in concentrate ('000 tonnes)										
	Escondida (b)	57.5%	105.6	118.5	126.6	115.9	109.1		225.0	174.0
	Tintaya (c)	100%	-	-	-	-	15.0		15.0	-
	Antamina	33.8%	26.4	23.6	21.2	16.9	20.5		37.4	52.1
	Alumbrera (d)	25%	13.4	9.9	-	-	-		-	24.5
	Highland Valley Copper (e)	33.6%	14.3	13.2	13.8	14.1	14.2		28.3	29.2
	Selbaie (f)	100%	2.1	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.8		3.4	4.9
	Total		161.8	166.9	163.4	148.5	160.6		309.1	284.7
Cathode ('000 tonnes)										
	Escondida	57.5%	19.1	20.4	21.1	21.4	21.8		43.2	37.0
	Cerro Colorado	100%	33.1	32.5	33.0	33.1	33.0		66.1	65.6
	Tintaya (c)	100%	8.9	9.0	9.1	9.0	9.0		18.0	17.3
	Pinto Valley	100%	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.4		4.9	5.5
	Total		63.8	64.4	65.8	66.0	66.2		132.2	125.4
LEAD										
Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes)										
	Cannington	100%	57,651	58,711	59,389	59,364	55,211		114,575	119,327
	Pering (g)	100%	694	354	-	-	-		-	2,261
	Total		58,345	59,065	59,389	59,364	55,211		114,575	121,588

ZINC										
Payable metal in concentate (tonnes)										
	Cannington	100%	14,721	15,480	18,479	14,850	11,692		26,542	29,903
	Antamina	33.8%	15,424	20,519	28,553	27,933	27,026		54,959	33,613
	Selbaie (f)	100%	6,540	6,421	7,364	6,311	7,194		13,505	16,380
	Pering (g)	100%	7,430	4,335	-	-	-		-	12,761
	Total		44,115	46,755	54,396	49,094	45,912		95,006	92,657
	Refer footnotes on page 4.									
BASE METALS (continued)										
GOLD										
Payable metal in concentrate (ounces)										
	Escondida (b)	57.5%	15,936	17,458	20,664	25,016	24,833		49,849	26,010
	Tintaya (c)	100%	-	-	-	-	2,658		2,658	-
	Alumbrera (d)	25%	46,940	35,084	-	-	-		-	86,219
	Selbaie (f)	100%	5,069	4,146	4,081	3,129	3,428		6,557	9,555
	Highland Valley Copper (e)	33.6%	1,230	1,114	1,007	1,025	1,166		2,191	2,544
	Total		69,175	57,802	25,752	29,170	32,085		61,255	124,328
SILVER										
Payable metal in concentrate ('000 ounces)										
	Cannington	100%	8,326	8,773	8,161	9,177	8,287		17,464	17,938
	Escondida	57.5%	387	471	538	561	550		1,111	691
	Antamina	33.8%	557	617	517	435	494		929	1,093
	Tintaya (c)	100.0%	-	-	-	-	170		170	-
	Alumbrera (d)	25.0%	72	75	-	-	-		-	125
	Highland Valley Copper (e)	33.6%	159	140	143	160	163		323	321
	Selbaie (f)	100%	369	279	284	263	316		579	962
	Total		9,870	10,355	9,643	10,596	9,980		20,576	21,130

MOLYBDENUM										
Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes)										
	Antamina	33.8%	115	113	21	25	20		45	208
	Highland Valley Copper (e)	33.6%	250	260	280	300	270		570	470
	Total		365	373	301	325	290		615	678
CARBON STEEL MATERIALS										
IRON ORE (h)										
Production ('000 tonnes)										
	Mt Newman Joint Venture	85%	5,287	4,964	6,221	6,639	6,707		13,346	10,773
	Goldsworthy Joint Venture (i)	85%	1,808	1,497	1,497	1,633	1,477		3,110	3,699
	Area C Joint Venture (j)	85%	-	-	19	341	1,048		1,389	-
	Yandi Joint Venture	85%	8,187	7,452	8,353	8,679	9,005		17,684	15,983
	Jimblebar	100%	1,186	1,371	1,428	1,622	1,520		3,142	2,619
	Samarco	50%	1,979	1,953	1,902	2,008	1,971		3,979	4,001
	Total		18,447	17,237	19,420	20,922	21,728		42,650	37,075
METALLURGICAL COAL (k)										
Production ('000 tonnes)										
	BMA	50%	5,032	5,838	5,769	5,591	5,395		10,986	9,684
	BHP Mitsui Coal (l)	80%	1,472	1,200	2,033	1,926	1,591		3,517	3,335
	Illawarra	100%	1,886	1,518	1,224	1,582	1,459		3,041	4,021
	Total		8,390	8,556	9,026	9,099	8,445		17,544	17,040
MANGANESE ORES										
Saleable production ('000 tonnes)										

	South Africa (m)	60%	560	534	574	600	651		1,251	1,141
	Australia (m)	60%	499	356	484	553	548		1,101	1,013
	Total		1,059	890	1,058	1,153	1,199		2,352	2,154
MANGANESE ALLOYS										
Saleable production ('000 tonnes)										
	South Africa (m)	60%	125	117	137	93	122		215	249
	Australia (m)	60%	65	60	58	54	61		115	116
	Total		190	177	195	147	183		330	365
	Refer footnotes on page 4.									
CARBON STEEL MATERIALS (cont'd)										
HOT BRIQUETTED IRON										
Production ('000 tonnes)										
	Boodarie™ Iron	100%	414	465	458	496	527		1,023	747
DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS										
DIAMONDS										
Production ('000 carats)										
	Ekati™	80%	1,071	1,015	1,300	1,552	1,704		3,256	2,025
ENERGY COAL										
Production ('000 tonnes)										
	South Africa	100%	13,333	13,256	13,812	13,782	13,472		27,254	27,171
	USA (n)	100%	4,339	3,147	3,877	3,582	2,829		6,411	7,139
	Australia	100%	1,234	1,922	2,041	1,756	2,054		3,810	2,478
	Indonesia (o)	80%	29	28	-	-	-		-	245

	Colombia	33%	1,713	1,382	2,261	2,036	1,623		3,659	2,944
	Total		20,648	19,735	21,991	21,156	19,978		41,134	39,977
STAINLESS STEEL MATERIALS										
NICKEL										
Production ('000 tonnes)										
	CMSA	99.8%	11.9	11.1	12.2	12.4	12.2		24.6	23.6
	Yabulu	100%	7.5	7.5	8.8	8.2	7.8		16.0	14.9
	Total		19.4	18.6	21.0	20.6	20.0		40.6	38.5
FERROCHROME										
Saleable production ('000 tonnes)										
	South Africa (m)	60%	230	263	259	227	269		496	468
	(a) Metal production is reported on the basis of payable metal.									
	(b) The Escondida Phase IV expansion was commissioned in October 2002.									
	(c) Sulphide production at Tintaya was temporarily reduced in January 2002 due to weak market conditions.									
	Sulphide mining operations recommenced during August 2003.									
	(d) BHP Billiton announced the sale of its interest in Alumbrera in March 2003. The sale transaction reached closure in June 2003.									
	(e) BHP Billiton sold its interest in Highland Valley Copper with effect from January 3, 2004. The sale is expected to close by the end									
	of February 2004.									
	(f) Production at Selbaie is expected to cease in February 2004, in accordance with mine plan. Shipments are expected to cease									
	in May 2004.									
	(g) Production ceased at Pering, ahead of mine closure, in February 2003.									
	(h) Iron ore production is reported on a wet tonnes basis.									
	(i) Includes bulk sample production from Area C prior to May 2003.									

(j) Production commenced in May 2003.

(k) Coal production is reported on the basis of saleable product. Production figures include some thermal coal.

(l) Shown on 100% basis before 20% outside equity interest.

(m) Shown on 100% basis. BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 60%.

(n) Includes production from longwall operations at San Juan which commenced in October 2002.

(o) Production shown on 86.5% basis after allowing for Indonesian state owned corporation's 13.5% share of production.

Mining operations at Petangis ceased in October 2002.

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT

	QUARTER ENDED					HALF YEAR ENDED	
	DEC 2002	MARCH 2003	JUNE 2003	SEPT 2003	DEC 2003	DEC 2003	DEC 2002
PETROLEUM							
BHP Billiton attributable production unless otherwise stated.							
CRUDE OIL & CONDENSATE ('000 barrels)							
Bass Strait	5,799	5,391	5,643	5,872	5,333	11,205	12,598
North West Shelf - condensate	1,510	1,566	1,560	1,491	1,204	2,695	3,112
North West Shelf - Wanaea/Cossack	1,655	1,679	1,606	1,604	1,675	3,279	3,531
Laminaria	1,869	1,419	1,161	1,151	966	2,117	4,783
Griffin	1,089	831	708	742	563	1,305	2,370
Pakistan	17	16	14	53	53	106	35
Typhoon/Boris (a)	654	852	1,430	1,214	1,605	2,819	1,887
Americas	652	816	715	608	586	1,194	1,370
Liverpool Bay	2,463	2,174	2,344	2,324	2,061	4,385	4,301
Bruce/Keith	690	566	454	453	387	840	961
Algeria (b)					444	444	
Total	16,398	15,310	15,635	15,512	14,877	30,389	34,948
NATURAL GAS (billion cubic feet)							

	Bass Strait		21.07	17.51	25.37	33.04	23.86	56.90	54.14
	North West Shelf - Domestic		3.82	3.81	4.07	3.99	3.95	7.94	7.44
	North West Shelf - LNG		14.93	15.11	15.41	16.74	14.93	31.67	31.48
	Griffin		1.03	0.81	0.81	0.96	0.90	1.86	1.98
	Pakistan		2.76	2.57	2.33	7.86	7.83	15.69	5.59
	Typhoon/Boris (a)		0.71	2.03	2.03	1.58	2.41	3.99	2.09
	Americas		3.80	3.34	3.42	3.25	3.73	6.98	7.71
	Bruce		10.55	10.04	8.17	8.77	8.52	17.29	15.14
	Keith		0.15	0.15	0.14	0.11	0.08	0.19	0.22
	Liverpool Bay		10.59	11.62	11.16	8.89	11.36	20.25	15.48
	Total		69.41	66.99	72.91	85.19	77.57	162.76	141.27
LPG ('000 tonnes)									
	Bass Strait		115.23	111.74	135.18	150.19	130.02	280.21	264.89
	North West Shelf		31.04	32.67	32.39	34.21	28.11	62.32	67.36
	Bruce		20.47	15.10	37.24	14.12	17.71	31.83	42.92
	Keith		1.23	1.11	0.76	0.81	0.31	1.12	1.76
	Algeria (b)						24.36	24.36	
	Total		167.97	160.62	205.57	199.33	200.51	399.84	376.93
ETHANE ('000 tonnes)			19.91	22.35	24.97	27.32	25.25	52.57	47.58
TOTAL PETROLEUM PRODUCTS			30.0	28.4	30.3	32.1	30.2	62.4	63.1
(million barrels of oil equivalent) (c)									
	(a) Boris commenced production in February 2003.								
	(b) Ohanet commenced production in October 2003.								
	(c) Total barrels of oil equivalent (boe) conversions based on the following:								
	6000 scf of natural gas equals 1 boe								
	1 tonne of LPG equals 11.6 boe								
	1 tonne of ethane equals 4.4667 boe								
PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT									

			QUARTER ENDED						HALF YEAR ENDED	
			DEC	MARCH	JUNE	SEPT	DEC		DEC	DEC
			2002	2003	2003	2003	2003		2003	2002
ALUMINIUM										
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.										
('000 tonnes)										
ALUMINA										
	Production									
	Worsley, Australia		662	658	724	699	700		1,399	1,360
	Paranam, Suriname		213	222	223	227	230		457	434
	Alumar, Brazil		123	123	113	127	120		247	235
	Total		998	1,003	1,060	1,053	1,050		2,103	2,029
	Sales									
	Worsley, Australia		606	751	636	697	740		1,437	1,364
	Paranam, Suriname		201	243	228	221	250		471	454
	Alumar, Brazil		125	124	107	120	128		248	255
	Total		932	1,118	971	1,038	1,118		2,156	2,073
ALUMINIUM										
	Production									
	Hillside, South Africa		134	133	132	135	151		286	269
	Bayside, South Africa		45	48	46	47	46		93	91
	Alumar, Brazil		44	45	45	31	36		67	88
	Valesul, Brazil		11	10	11	11	11		22	22
	Mozal, Mozambique		32	31	39	58	64		122	64
	Total		266	267	273	282	308		590	534
	Sales									
	Hillside, South Africa		135	133	143	134	145		279	259
	Bayside, South Africa		45	48	48	54	35		89	92
	Alumar, Brazil		52	38	51	38	25		63	90

	Valesul, Brazil		12	9	10	11	12		23	21
	Mozal, Mozambique		35	33	41	61	40		101	62
	Total		279	261	293	298	257		555	524

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT										
			QUARTER ENDED						HALF YEAR ENDED	
			DEC	MARCH	JUNE	SEPT	DEC		DEC	DEC
			2002	2003	2003	2003	2003		2003	2002
BASE METALS										
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated. Metals production is payable metal unless otherwise stated.										
Escondida, Chile (a)										
	Material mined (100%)	('000 tonnes)	74,303	73,466	74,665	69,342	82,909		152,251	148,974
	Sulphide ore milled (100%)	('000 tonnes)	14,632	16,744	16,416	18,888	18,299		37,187	24,774
	Average copper grade	(%)	1.59%	1.49%	1.62%	1.33%	1.31%		1.32%	1.53%
	Production ex Mill (100%)	('000 tonnes)	191.8	210.8	230.9	208.2	197.1		405.3	317.4
	Production									
	Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	105.6	118.5	126.6	115.9	109.1		225.0	174.0
	Payable gold concentrate	(fine ounces)	15,936	17,458	20,664	25,016	24,833		49,849	26,010
	Copper cathode (SXEW)	('000 tonnes)	19.1	20.4	21.1	21.4	21.8		43.2	37.0
	Payable silver concentrate	('000 ounces)	387	471	538	561	550		1,111	691
	Sales									
	Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	104.8	113.5	128.9	116.2	114.8		231.0	181.8
	Payable gold concentrate	(fine ounces)	16,709	17,166	20,138	25,335	26,984		52,319	28,398
	Copper cathode (SXEW)	('000 tonnes)	19.5	19.3	20.3	18.1	23.8		41.9	37.6

	Payable silver concentrate	('000 ounces)	400	484	584	574	634		1,208	669
	(a) Includes production from the Escondida Phase IV expansion which commissioned in October 2002.									
Tintaya, Peru (a)										
	Material mined	('000 tonnes)	-	-	-	4,151	17,450		21,601	-
	Ore milled	('000 tonnes)	-	-	-	-	1,408		1,408	-
	Average copper grade	(%)	-	-	-	-	1.38%		1.38%	-
	Production									
	Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	-	-	-	-	15.0		15.0	-
	Payable gold concentrate	(fine ounces)	-	-	-	-	2,658		2,658	-
	Copper cathode (SXEW)	('000 tonnes)	8.9	9.0	9.1	9.0	9.0		18.0	17.3
	Payable silver concentrate	('000 ounces)	-	-	-	-	170.0		170.0	-
	Sales									
	Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	-	-	-	-	10.6		10.6	-
	Payable gold concentrate	(fine ounces)	-	-	-	-	3,086		3,086	-
	Copper cathode (SXEW)	('000 tonnes)	8.7	8.7	9.5	8.9	8.7		17.6	16.7
	Payable silver concentrate	('000 ounces)	-	-	-	-	100.0		100.0	-
	(a) Sulphide production at Tintaya was temporarily suspended in January 2002 due to weak market conditions.									
	Sulphide mining operations recommenced during August 2003.									
Cerro Colorado, Chile										
	Material mined	('000 tonnes)	15,027	16,564	16,458	20,332	19,855		40,187	32,990
	Ore milled	('000 tonnes)	3,942	3,916	4,130	4,346	4,405		8,751	7,701

	Average copper grade	(%)	1.03%	1.00%	0.96%	0.99%	1.00%		1.00%	1.00%
	Production									
	Copper cathode	('000 tonnes)	33.1	32.5	33.0	33.1	33.0		66.1	65.6
	Sales									
	Copper cathode	('000 tonnes)	29.1	39.3	31.5	28.9	35.2		64.1	56.3
Antamina, Peru										
	Material mined (100%)	('000 tonnes)	25,797	25,290	28,353	30,174	28,474		58,648	56,032
	Ore milled (100%)	('000 tonnes)	6,395	6,424	6,697	6,018	7,273		13,291	13,189
	Average head grades									
	- Copper	(%)	1.41%	1.32%	1.09%	1.17%	1.17%		1.17%	1.37%
	- Zinc	(%)	1.15%	1.54%	1.97%	2.17%	1.77%		1.95%	1.22%
	Production									
	Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	26.4	23.6	21.2	16.9	20.5		37.4	52.1
	Payable zinc	(tonnes)	15,424	20,519	28,553	27,933	27,026		54,959	33,613
	Payable silver	('000 ounces)	557	617	517	435	494		929	1,093
	Payable molybdenum	('000 tonnes)	0.11	0.11	0.02	0.03	0.02		0.05	0.21
	Sales									
	Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	25.8	22.4	21.2	18.6	22.6		41.2	56.4
	Payable zinc	(tonnes)	14,407	15,400	31,034	26,781	26,928		53,709	33,591
	Payable silver	('000 ounces)	530	575	435	420	491		911	1,120
	Payable molybdenum	('000 tonnes)	0.17	0.10	0.10	0.01	0.03		0.04	0.19
Highland Valley, Canada (a)										
			18,682	16,642	18,186	16,892	15,774		32,666	39,137

	Material mined (100%)	('000 tonnes)								
	Ore milled (100%)	('000 tonnes)	12,924	11,602	12,565	12,261	12,602		24,863	25,865
	Average copper grade	(%)	0.39%	0.40%	0.39%	0.40%	0.38%		0.39%	0.40%
	Production									
	Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	14.3	13.2	13.8	14.1	14.2		28.3	29.2
	Payable molybdenum	('000 tonnes)	0.25	0.26	0.28	0.30	0.27		0.57	0.47
	Payable silver	('000 ounces)	159	140	143	160	163		323	321
	Payable gold concentrate	(fine ounces)	1,230	1,114	1,007	1,025	1,166		2,191	2,544
	Sales									
	Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	17.5	10.0	10.7	16.7	16.7		33.4	31.9
	Payable molybdenum	('000 tonnes)	0.22	0.26	0.23	0.28	0.30		0.58	0.41
	Payable silver	('000 ounces)	189	106	116	177	190		367	342
	Payable gold concentrate	(fine ounces)	1,644	843	793	1,505	1,225		2,730	2,884
	(a) BHP Billiton sold its interest in Highland Valley Copper with effect from January 3, 2004. The sale is expected to close by									
	the end of February 2004.									
Cannington, Australia										
	Material mined	('000 tonnes)	573	601	588	637	699		1,336	1,204
	Ore milled	('000 tonnes)	564	589	560	589	598		1,187	1,163
	Average head grades									
	- Silver	(g/t)	535	550	525	564	497		530	550
	- Lead	(%)	11.9%	11.8%	12.1%	11.5%	10.5%		11.0%	11.8%
	- Zinc	(%)	4.3%	4.3%	5.3%	4.0%	3.4%		3.7%	4.3%

	Production									
	Payable silver	('000 ounces)	8,326	8,773	8,161	9,177	8,287		17,464	17,938
	Payable lead	(tonnes)	57,651	58,711	59,389	59,364	55,211		114,575	119,327
	Payable zinc	(tonnes)	14,721	15,480	18,479	14,850	11,692		26,542	29,903
	Sales									
	Payable silver	('000 ounces)	9,049	8,956	8,412	6,765	10,716		17,481	18,450
	Payable lead	(tonnes)	62,748	57,961	58,742	43,953	69,447		113,400	122,604
	Payable zinc	(tonnes)	14,849	18,056	13,288	16,223	15,443		31,666	26,926
Selbaie, Canada (a)										
	Ore milled	('000 tonnes)	999	919	982	858	1,017		1,875	2,048
	Average head grades									
	- Zinc	(%)	1.09%	1.11%	1.18%	1.13%	1.13%		1.13%	1.23%
	- Copper	(%)	0.28%	0.25%	0.24%	0.25%	0.24%		0.24%	0.31%
	- Gold	(g/t)	0.25	0.23	0.23	0.22	0.20		0.21	0.24
	- Silver	(g/t)	22.75	22.15	20.62	22.38	24.25		23.39	29.08
	Production									
	Payable zinc	(tonnes)	6,540	6,421	7,364	6,311	7,194		13,505	16,380
	Payable copper	(tonnes)	2,111	1,654	1,768	1,606	1,764		3,370	4,900
	Payable gold concentrate	(ounces)	5,069	4,146	4,081	3,129	3,428		6,557	9,555
	Payable silver	('000 ounces)	369	279	284	263	316		579	962
	Sales									
	Payable zinc	(tonnes)	7,245	6,649	6,812	6,209	7,429		13,638	17,106
	Payable copper	(tonnes)	2,107	2,751	1,612	1,918	1,615		3,533	4,930
	Payable gold concentrate	(ounces)	3,082	5,508	4,280	4,384	3,377		7,761	9,014
	Payable silver	('000 ounces)	478	444	355	292	253		545	1,005
	(a) Production is expected to cease in February 2004, in accordance with mine plan. Shipments are expected to cease in May 2004.									

Pinto Valley, USA										
	Production									
	Copper cathode (SXEW)	('000 tonnes)	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.4		4.9	5.5
	Sales									
	Copper cathode (SXEW)	('000 tonnes)	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.4		4.9	5.3

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT										
			QUARTER ENDED						HALF YEAR ENDED	
			DEC	MARCH	JUNE	SEPT	DEC		DEC	DEC
			2002	2003	2003	2003	2003		2003	2002
CARBON STEEL MATERIALS										
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.										
('000 tonnes)										
IRON ORE (a)										
Pilbara, Australia										
	Production									
	Mt Newman Joint Venture		5,287	4,964	6,221	6,639	6,707		13,346	10,773
	Goldsworthy Joint Venture (b)		1,808	1,497	1,497	1,633	1,477		3,110	3,699
	Area C Joint Venture (c)		-	-	19	341	1,048		1,389	-
	Yandi Joint Venture		8,187	7,452	8,353	8,679	9,005		17,684	15,983
	Jimblebar		1,186	1,371	1,428	1,622	1,520		3,142	2,619
	Total (BHP Billiton share)		16,468	15,284	17,518	18,914	19,757		38,671	33,074
	Total production (100%)		19,165	17,739	20,359	21,965	22,975		44,940	38,449
	Shipments									
	Lump		4,290	4,352	4,193	4,898	5,169		10,067	8,625

	Fines		13,896	12,144	13,187	13,334	13,968		27,302	25,738
	Total (BHP Billiton share)		18,186	16,496	17,380	18,232	19,137		37,369	34,363
	Total shipments (100%)		21,396	19,407	20,448	21,450	22,515		43,965	40,429
	(a) Iron ore production and shipments are reported on a wet tonnes basis.									
	(b) Includes bulk sample production from Area C prior to May 2003.									
	(c) Mining commenced in May 2003.									
Samarco, Brazil										
	Production		1,979	1,953	1,902	2,008	1,971		3,979	4,001
	Shipments		2,004	2,049	2,153	2,013	1,886		3,899	4,038
METALLURGICAL COAL (a)										
Queensland, Australia										
	Production									
	BMA									
	Blackwater		1,603	1,668	1,937	1,578	1,581		3,159	3,236
	Goonyella		812	1,191	1,075	994	829		1,823	1,546
	Peak Downs		757	1,009	1,076	1,004	1,004		2,008	1,546
	Saraji		629	599	666	747	655		1,402	1,056
	Norwich Park		451	610	527	524	582		1,106	1,024
	Gregory Joint Venture		780	761	488	744	744		1,488	1,276
	BMA total		5,032	5,838	5,769	5,591	5,395		10,986	9,684
	BHP Mitsui Coal (b)									
	Riverside		400	300	1,014	969	812		1,781	1,327
	South Walker Creek		1,072	900	1,019	957	779		1,736	2,008
	BHP Mitsui Coal total		1,472	1,200	2,033	1,926	1,591		3,517	3,335
	Queensland total		6,504	7,038	7,802	7,517	6,986		14,503	13,019

	Shipments									
	Coking coal		4,034	4,707	4,395	4,838	5,258		10,096	8,199
	Weak coking coal		1,503	1,569	1,525	1,617	1,649		3,266	3,242
	Thermal coal		800	852	943	801	987		1,788	1,822
	Total		6,337	7,128	6,863	7,256	7,894		15,150	13,263
	(a) Coal production is reported on the basis of saleable product. Production figures include some thermal coal.									
	(b) BHP Mitsui Coal production shown on 100% basis before 20% outside equity interest.									
Illawarra, Australia										
	Production		1,886	1,518	1,224	1,582	1,459		3,041	4,021
	Shipments									
	Coking coal		1,900	1,611	1,571	1,513	1,293		2,806	3,415
	Thermal coal		95	242	179	91	47		138	229
	Total		1,995	1,853	1,750	1,604	1,340		2,944	3,644
MANGANESE ORES										
South Africa										
	Saleable production (a)		560	534	574	600	651		1,251	1,141
	(a) Shown on 100% basis, BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 60%.									
Australia										
	Saleable production (a)		499	356	484	553	548		1,101	1,013
	(a) Shown on 100% basis, BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 60%.									
MANGANESE ALLOYS										
South Africa										
	Saleable production (a)		125	117	137	93	122		215	249

	(a) Shown on 100% basis, BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 60%.									
Australia										
	Saleable production (a)		65	60	58	54	61		115	116
	(a) Shown on 100% basis, BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 60%.									
HOT BRIQUETTED IRON										
Boodarie™ Iron, Australia										
	Production		414	465	458	496	527		1,023	747
	Shipments		464	416	487	435	570		1,005	666

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT										
			QUARTER ENDED						HALF YEAR ENDED	
			DEC	MARCH	JUNE	SEPT	DEC		DEC	DEC
			2002	2003	2003	2003	2003		2003	2002
DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS										
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.										
DIAMONDS										
Ekati™, Canada										
	Ore Processed (100%)	('000 tonnes)	1,045	1,087	1,182	1,064	1,123		2,187	2,041
	Production	('000 carats)	1,071	1,015	1,300	1,552	1,704		3,256	2,025

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT										
			QUARTER ENDED						HALF YEAR ENDED	
			DEC	MARCH	JUNE	SEPT	DEC		DEC	DEC
			2002	2003	2003	2003	2003		2003	2002

ENERGY COAL									
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.									
('000 tonnes)									
Ingwe, South Africa									
	Production		13,333	13,256	13,812	13,782	13,472	27,254	27,171
	Sales								
	Export		6,609	5,696	6,339	5,274	5,500	10,774	12,257
	Local utility		7,263	7,160	7,926	8,215	7,701	15,916	15,099
	Inland		412	340	337	338	326	664	883
	Total		14,284	13,196	14,602	13,827	13,527	27,354	28,239
New Mexico, USA									
	Production								
	Navajo Coal		2,154	1,797	2,497	2,262	1,553	3,815	3,756
	San Juan Coal (a)		2,185	1,350	1,380	1,320	1,276	2,596	3,383
	Total		4,339	3,147	3,877	3,582	2,829	6,411	7,139
	Sales - local utility		3,348	3,316	3,643	3,713	3,327	7,040	6,894
	(a) Includes production from longwall operations which commenced at San Juan in October 2002.								
Hunter Valley, Australia									
	Production		1,234	1,922	2,041	1,756	2,054	3,810	2,478
	Sales								
	Export		881	1,036	1,301	952	861	1,813	1,664
	Inland		276	704	1,285	873	633	1,506	642
	Total		1,157	1,740	2,586	1,825	1,494	3,319	2,306
Kalimantan, Indonesia									
	Production (a)								
	Petangis (b)		29	28	-	-	-	-	245
	Total		29	28	-	-	-	-	245
	Sales - export		49	56	-	-	-	-	238

(a) Reported on 86.5% basis after allowing for the Indonesian state-owned corporation's 13.5% share of all production.

(b) Mining operations at Petangis ceased in October 2002.

Cerrejon Coal, Colombia										
	Production		1,713	1,382	2,261	2,036	1,623		3,659	2,944
	Sales - export		1,851	1,971	2,247	1,966	1,999		3,965	3,097

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT										
			QUARTER ENDED						HALF YEAR ENDED	
			DEC	MARCH	JUNE	SEPT	DEC		DEC	DEC
			2002	2003	2003	2003	2003		2003	2002
STAINLESS STEEL MATERIALS										
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.										
('000 tonnes)										
NICKEL										
CMSA, Colombia										
	Production		11.9	11.1	12.2	12.4	12.2		24.6	23.6
	Sales		12.8	10.3	13.5	11.1	13.1		24.2	23.3
Yabulu, Australia										
	Production									
	Nickel		7.5	7.5	8.8	8.2	7.8		16.0	14.9
	Cobalt		0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5		0.9	1.0
	Sales									
	Nickel		8.3	8.1	9.5	7.8	8.4		16.2	15.4
	Cobalt		0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5		0.9	1.0
FERROCHROME										
South Africa										
	Saleable production (a)		230	263	259	227	269		496	468

	(a) Shown on 100% basis, BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 60%.									

BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077

Registered in Australia
Registered Office: Level 27, 180 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000
Telephone +61 1300 554 757 Facsimile +61 3 9609 3015

BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209

Registered in England and Wales
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The BHP Billiton Group is headquartered in Australia

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
/s/ KAREN WOOD

Karen Wood
Title: Company Secretary
Date: 29 January 2004