

BHP BILLITON PLC
Form 6-K
January 28, 2005

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

27 January 2005

BHP Billiton Plc

Registration Number 3196209

Neathouse Place

London SW1V 1BH

United Kingdom

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 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | Form 40-F | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|--|-----------|--------------------------|

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 | <input type="checkbox"/> | | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|-----|--------------------------|--|----|-------------------------------------|

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

Date 27 January 2005

Number

02/05

BHP BILLITON PRODUCTION REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2004

BHP Billiton today released its production report for the quarter ended 31 December 2004. Unless otherwise stated, production volumes refer to BHP Billiton share.

- **Record quarterly iron ore, metallurgical coal and manganese alloy production underpinned by continuing strong customer demand.**
- **Record quarterly natural gas production of 87.4 billion cubic feet following the commissioning of North West Shelf (Australia) fourth train in September 2004.**
- **Record quarterly silver production of 12.4 million ounces reflecting the benefits of a continuing debottlenecking program at Cannington (Australia).**
- **First oil production from the newly commissioned ROD (Algeria) field.**

- Total Petroleum Products

- Total production for the December 2004 quarter was 29.4 million barrels of oil equivalent, three per cent lower than the December 2003 quarter and five per cent higher than the September 2004 quarter.

- ◆ Oil and Condensate - Production for the December 2004 quarter was 12.2 million barrels, 18 per cent lower than the 14.9 million barrels produced in the December 2003 quarter. Production was lower due to natural field decline in Bass Strait, Laminaria, Griffin (all Australia), Liverpool Bay (UK) and Typhoon/Boris (USA). Higher downtime at Bass Strait, Laminaria and Wanaea/Cossack (Australia) and the divestment in February 2004 of our producing assets in Bolivia also impacted production for the quarter. This was partly offset by new production resulting from the commissioning of ROD (Algeria) in October 2004. Production for the quarter was one per cent lower than the 12.4 million barrels produced in the September 2004 quarter due to natural field decline at Bass Strait, Typhoon/Boris and higher downtime in Bass Strait, Laminaria and Wanaea/Cossack. This was partly offset by maintenance shutdowns in the previous quarter at Liverpool Bay and Bruce (UK) and new production from ROD.
- ◆ Natural Gas - Production for the December 2004 quarter was a record 87.4 billion cubic feet, 13 per cent higher than the 77.6 billion cubic feet produced in the December 2003 quarter. This was due to higher demand for Bass Strait gas and increased production from North West Shelf LNG following the commissioning of the 4th LNG Train in September 2004. Production for the December 2004 quarter was 13 per cent higher than the 77.2 billion cubic feet produced in the September 2004 quarter due to increased production from North West Shelf LNG with the commencement of the 4th LNG

Train and the maintenance shutdowns at Liverpool Bay and Bruce in the previous quarter. This was partially offset by lower demand for Bass Strait gas due to seasonal conditions.

- **Alumina -**

Production for the December 2004 quarter of 1.0 million tonnes was in line with the December 2003 quarter. Production was four per cent higher than the September 2004 quarter reflecting improving calciner performance at Worsley (Australia) and scheduled maintenance undertaken at Alumar (Brazil) in the previous quarter.

- **Aluminium**

- Production for the December 2004 quarter was 338,000 tonnes, 10 per cent higher than the December 2003 quarter. This primarily reflects the ramp up of production from Hillside 3 (South Africa) which reached full commissioning in December 2003. December 2003 quarter production was also impacted by an electrical outage at Alumar. Production was in line with the September 2004 quarter.

- **Copper** - Production for the December 2004 quarter was 265,800 tonnes, 17 per cent higher than the December 2003 quarter. This mainly reflects restoration of full capacity and higher head grades at Escondida (Chile) and Tintaya (Peru), along with record production at Antamina (Peru) following the return to their normal mine plan after the removal of lakebed sediments. These increases were partly offset by the sale of the Group's interest in Highland Valley Copper (Canada) in January 2004. Production was seven per cent higher than the September 2004 quarter due to higher head grades at Tintaya, Antamina and Cerro Colorado and higher mill throughput at Escondida.

- **Silver** - Production for the December 2004 quarter was a record 12.4 million ounces, 24 per cent higher than the December 2003 quarter and five per cent higher than the September 2004 quarter. This mainly reflects record quarterly mill throughput at Cannington (Australia) resulting from a continuing debottlenecking program.

- **Iron Ore** - Production for the December 2004 quarter was a record 24.9 million tonnes, 15 per cent higher than the December 2003 quarter and 11 per cent higher than the September 2004 quarter. The increase reflects additional capacity following the completion of several expansion projects at Western Australian Iron Ore (Australia) and record production at Samarco (Brazil), underpinned by continuing strong customer demand. Western Australian Iron Ore shipments were a record 22.1 million tonnes in the December 2004 quarter.

- **Metallurgical Coal** - Production for the December 2004 quarter was a record 9.6 million tonnes, 14 per cent higher than the December 2003 quarter. This reflects record quarterly production at Queensland Coal (Australia) underpinned by strong customer demand and improved operating performance at Illawarra Coal (Australia). Production was four per cent higher than the September 2004 quarter. This primarily reflects higher production at Illawarra Coal following longwall changeouts at Appin and Elouera and industrial activity at Elouera in the September 2004 quarter.

- **Manganese ore** - Ore production for the December 2004 quarter was 1.4 million tonnes, 14 per cent higher than the December 2003 quarter. Production increased to meet strong customer demand in all markets, particularly China, Japan and Europe. Production was in line with the September 2004 quarter.

- **Manganese alloys** - Production for the December 2004 quarter was a record 207,000 tonnes, 13 per cent higher than the December 2003 quarter. This primarily reflects improved operating performance at Metalloys (South Africa) and increased production at TEMCO (Australia) in response to strong customer demand. Production was six per cent higher than the September 2004 quarter, reflecting improved operating performance at Metalloys.

- **Diamonds** - Production of 872,000 carats at Ekati (Canada) was 49 per cent lower than the December 2003 quarter. This decrease primarily reflects processing of lower grade ore in the December 2004 quarter after mining of a high grade zone in the Koala pipe was completed in the June 2004 quarter. Production was 12 per cent lower than the September 2004 quarter, primarily due to processing of lower grade ore in the current quarter.
- **Energy Coal** -
Production for the December 2004 quarter was 21.4 million tonnes, seven per cent higher than the December 2003 quarter. This primarily reflects lower production in the December 2003 quarter at New Mexico Coal (USA), due to a planned major outage at a customer's power plant and a longwall move at San Juan underground. Production was eight per cent lower than the September 2004 quarter, primarily due to safety interventions at Ingwe's (South Africa) Douglas mine, adverse weather conditions at Cerrejon Coal (Colombia) and the impact of an excavator fire at Hunter Valley Coal (Australia) in the previous quarter.
- **Nickel**
- Production for the December 2004 quarter was 19,700 tonnes, two per cent lower than the December 2003 quarter. This primarily reflects lower production at Yabulu (Australia) due to a planned plant wide shutdown in October 2004. Production was in line with the September 2004 quarter.
- **Ferrochrome** - Production for the December 2004 quarter was 271,000 tonnes, in line with both the December 2003 and September 2004 quarters.

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

Australia

Jane Belcher, Investor Relations
Tel: +61 3 9609 3952 Mobile: +61 417 031 653
email: Jane.H.Belcher@bhpbilliton.com

Tania Price, Media Relations
Tel: +61 3 9609 3815 Mobile: +61 419 152 780
email: Tania.Price@bhpbilliton.com

United States

Francis McAllister, Investor Relations
Tel: +1 713 961 8625 Mobile: +1 713 480 3699
email: Francis.R.McAllister@bhpbilliton.com

United Kingdom

Mark Lidiard, Investor & Media Relations
Tel: +44 20 7802 4156
email: Mark.Lidiard@bhpbilliton.com

Ariane Gentil, Media Relations
Tel: +44 20 7802 4177 Mobile: +44 78 81 51 8715
email: Ariane.Gentil@bhpbilliton.com

South Africa

Michael Campbell, Investor & Media Relations
Tel: +27 11 376 3360 Mobile: +27 82 458 2587
email: Michael.J.Campbell@bhpbilliton.com

| BHP BILLITON PRODUCTION SUMMARY | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|---------------|--|-----------------|--|----------|--|--|
| | | | QUARTER ENDED | | HALF YEAR ENDED | | % CHANGE | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |

Edgar Filing: BHP BILLITON PLC - Form 6-K

| | | | | | | | | DEC Q04 | DEC Q04 | YTD 04 |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|------------|------------|-----------|
| | | | DEC | SEPT | DEC | DEC | DEC | vs | vs | vs |
| | | | 2003 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2003 | DEC Q03 | SEP Q04 | YTD 03 |
| PETROLEUM | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Crude oil & condensate | ('000 bbl) | 14,877 | 12,366 | 12,190 | 24,556 | 30,389 | -18% | -1% | -19% |
| | Natural gas | (bcf) | 77.57 | 77.19 | 87.35 | 164.54 | 162.76 | 13% | 13% | 1% |
| | LPG | ('000 tonnes) | 200.51 | 231.03 | 216.07 | 447.10 | 399.84 | 8% | -6% | 12% |
| | Ethane | ('000 tonnes) | 25.25 | 27.75 | 27.20 | 54.95 | 52.57 | 8% | -2% | 5% |
| | Total Petroleum Products | (million boe) | 30.24 | 28.03 | 29.38 | 57.41 | 62.37 | -3% | 5% | -8% |
| ALUMINIUM | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Alumina | ('000 tonnes) | 1,050 | 1,000 | 1,036 | 2,036 | 2,103 | -1% | 4% | -3% |
| | Aluminium | ('000 tonnes) | 308 | 339 | 338 | 677 | 590 | 10% | 0% | 15% |
| BASE METALS | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Copper | ('000 tonnes) | 226.8 | 248.8 | 265.8 | 514.6 | 441.3 | 17% | 7% | 17% |
| | Lead | (tonnes) | 55,211 | 64,910 | 71,509 | 136,419 | 114,575 | 30% | 10% | 19% |
| | Zinc | (tonnes) | 45,912 | 23,851 | 20,918 | 44,769 | 95,006 | -54% | -12% | -53% |
| | Gold | (ounces) | 32,085 | 30,132 | 31,247 | 61,379 | 61,255 | -3% | 4% | 0% |
| | Silver | ('000 ounces) | 9,980 | 11,769 | 12,353 | 24,121 | 20,576 | 24% | 5% | 17% |
| | Molybdenum | (tonnes) | 290 | 323 | 560 | 883 | 615 | 93% | 73% | 44% |
| CARBON STEEL MATERIALS | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Iron ore | ('000 tonnes) | 21,728 | 22,545 | 24,916 | 47,461 | 42,598 | 15% | 11% | 11% |
| | Metallurgical coal | ('000 tonnes) | 8,445 | 9,277 | 9,629 | 18,906 | 17,544 | 14% | 4% | 8% |
| | Manganese ores | ('000 tonnes) | 1,199 | 1,379 | 1,361 | 2,740 | 2,352 | 14% | -1% | 16% |
| | Manganese alloys | ('000 tonnes) | 183 | 195 | 207 | 402 | 330 | 13% | 6% | 22% |

Edgar Filing: BHP BILLITON PLC - Form 6-K

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------------|--------|-------|
| | Hot briquetted iron | ('000 tonnes) | 527 | - | - | - | 1,023 | -100% | 0% | -100% |
| DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Diamonds | ('000 carats) | 1,704 | 986 | 872 | 1,858 | 3,256 | -49% | -12% | -43% |
| ENERGY COAL | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Energy coal | ('000 tonnes) | 19,978 | 23,245 | 21,389 | 44,634 | 41,112 | 7% | -8% | 9% |
| STAINLESS STEEL MATERIALS | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Nickel | ('000 tonnes) | 20.0 | 19.6 | 19.7 | 39.3 | 40.6 | -2% | 1% | -3% |
| | Ferrochrome | ('000 tonnes) | 269 | 265 | 271 | 536 | 496 | 1% | 2% | 8% |
| Throughout this report figures in italics indicate that this figure has been adjusted since it was previously reported. | | | | | | | | | | |
| BHP BILLITON ATTRIBUTABLE PRODUCTION | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | QUARTER ENDED | | | | | HALF YEAR ENDED | | |
| | | BHP Billiton | DEC | MARCH | JUNE | SEPT | DEC | DEC | DEC | |
| | | Interest | 2003 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2003 | |
| PETROLEUM | | | | | | | | | | |
| Production | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Crude oil & condensate | (000 bbl) | 14,877 | 14,341 | 13,297 | 12,366 | 12,190 | 24,556 | 30,389 | |
| | Natural gas | (bcf) | 77.57 | 76.47 | 85.11 | 77.19 | 87.35 | 164.54 | 162.76 | |
| | LPG | ('000 tonnes) | 200.51 | 217.83 | 235.86 | 231.03 | 216.07 | 447.10 | 399.84 | |
| | Ethane | ('000 tonnes) | 25.25 | 16.59 | 25.14 | 27.75 | 27.20 | 54.95 | 52.57 | |
| | Total Petroleum Products | (million boe) | 30.24 | 29.78 | 30.32 | 28.03 | 29.38 | 57.41 | 62.37 | |
| ALUMINIUM | | | | | | | | | | |

Edgar Filing: BHP BILLITON PLC - Form 6-K

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| ALUMINA | | | | | | | | | |
| Production ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Worsley | 86% | 700 | 704 | 696 | 663 | 686 | 1,349 | 1,399 |
| | Suriname | 45% | 230 | 228 | 233 | 223 | 222 | 445 | 457 |
| | Alumar | 36% | 120 | 130 | 130 | 114 | 128 | 242 | 247 |
| | Total | | 1,050 | 1,062 | 1,059 | 1,000 | 1,036 | 2,036 | 2,103 |
| ALUMINIUM | | | | | | | | | |
| Production ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Hillside | 100% | 151 | 169 | 167 | 173 | 171 | 344 | 286 |
| | Bayside | 100% | 46 | 45 | 46 | 46 | 46 | 92 | 93 |
| | Alumar | 46.3% | 36 | 44 | 45 | 44 | 45 | 89 | 67 |
| | Valesul | 45.5% | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 22 | 22 |
| | Mozal | 47% | 64 | 64 | 64 | 65 | 65 | 130 | 122 |
| | Total | | 308 | 333 | 333 | 339 | 338 | 677 | 590 |
| BASE METALS (a) | | | | | | | | | |
| COPPER | | | | | | | | | |
| Payable metal in concentrate ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Escondida | 57.5% | 109.1 | 130.8 | 159.1 | 142.5 | 146.3 | 288.8 | 225.0 |
| | Tintaya (b) | 100% | 15.0 | 22.9 | 19.6 | 14.6 | 22.1 | 36.7 | 15.0 |
| | Antamina | 33.8% | 20.5 | 24.6 | 29.9 | 29.9 | 33.4 | 63.3 | 37.4 |
| | Highland Valley Copper (c) | 33.6% | 14.2 | - | - | - | - | - | 28.3 |
| | Selbaie (d) | 100% | 1.8 | 0.8 | - | - | - | - | 3.4 |
| | Total | | 160.6 | 179.1 | 208.6 | 187.0 | 201.8 | 388.8 | 309.1 |
| Cathode ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Escondida | 57.5% | 21.8 | 21.7 | 21.8 | 21.9 | 22.2 | 44.1 | 43.2 |
| | Cerro Colorado | 100% | 33.0 | 28.1 | 31.3 | 28.3 | 30.4 | 58.7 | 66.1 |
| | Tintaya (b) | 100% | 9.0 | 9.3 | 8.7 | 9.3 | 9.1 | 18.4 | 18.0 |
| | Pinto Valley | 100% | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 4.6 | 4.9 |
| | Total | | 66.2 | 61.5 | 64.0 | 61.8 | 64.0 | 125.8 | 132.2 |
| LEAD | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|
| Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Cannington | 100% | 55,211 | 70,838 | 64,472 | 64,910 | 71,509 | 136,419 | 114,575 |
| | Total | | 55,211 | 70,838 | 64,472 | 64,910 | 71,509 | 136,419 | 114,575 |
| ZINC | | | | | | | | | |
| Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Cannington | 100% | 11,692 | 13,589 | 13,493 | 10,968 | 13,956 | 24,924 | 26,542 |
| | Antamina | 33.8% | 27,026 | 19,099 | 15,545 | 12,883 | 6,962 | 19,845 | 54,959 |
| | Selbaie (d) | 100% | 7,194 | 2,506 | - | - | - | - | 13,505 |
| | Total | | 45,912 | 35,194 | 29,038 | 23,851 | 20,918 | 44,769 | 95,006 |
| | Refer footnotes on page 4. | | | | | | | | |
| BASE METALS (continued) | | | | | | | | | |
| GOLD | | | | | | | | | |
| Payable metal in concentrate (ounces) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Escondida | 57.5% | 24,833 | 27,492 | 26,044 | 25,370 | 24,475 | 49,845 | 49,849 |
| | Tintaya (b) | 100% | 2,658 | 4,009 | 5,101 | 4,762 | 6,772 | 11,534 | 2,658 |
| | Selbaie (d) | 100% | 3,428 | 1,413 | - | - | - | - | 6,557 |
| | Highland Valley Copper (c) | 33.6% | 1,166 | - | - | - | - | - | 2,191 |
| | Total | | 32,085 | 32,914 | 31,145 | 30,132 | 31,247 | 61,379 | 61,255 |
| SILVER | | | | | | | | | |
| Payable metal in concentrate ('000 ounces) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Cannington | 100% | 8,287 | 10,485 | 9,471 | 10,339 | 11,025 | 21,364 | 17,464 |
| | Escondida | 57.5% | 550 | 614 | 720 | 604 | 639 | 1,243 | 1,111 |
| | Antamina | 33.8% | 494 | 588 | 662 | 692 | 503 | 1,195 | 929 |
| | Tintaya (b) | 100.0% | 170 | 239 | 200 | 134 | 186 | 319 | 170 |
| | Highland Valley Copper (c) | 33.6% | 163 | - | - | - | - | - | 323 |
| | Selbaie (d) | 100% | 316 | 138 | - | - | - | - | 579 |

Edgar Filing: BHP BILLITON PLC - Form 6-K

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Total | | 9,980 | 12,064 | 11,053 | 11,769 | 12,353 | 24,121 | 20,576 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| MOLYBDENUM | | | | | | | | | |
| Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Antamina | 33.8% | 20 | 81 | 240 | 323 | 560 | 883 | 45 |
| | Highland Valley Copper (c) | 33.6% | 270 | - | - | - | - | - | 570 |
| | Total | | 290 | 81 | 240 | 323 | 560 | 883 | 615 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| CARBON STEEL MATERIALS | | | | | | | | | |
| IRON ORE (e) | | | | | | | | | |
| Production ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Mt Newman Joint Venture | 85% | 6,707 | 6,031 | 5,084 | 6,157 | 6,611 | 12,768 | 13,346 |
| | Goldsworthy Joint Venture | 85% | 1,477 | 1,348 | 1,386 | 1,038 | 1,037 | 2,075 | 3,110 |
| | Area C Joint Venture | 85% | 1,048 | 1,768 | 2,519 | 2,990 | 4,358 | 7,348 | 1,389 |
| | Yandi Joint Venture | 85% | 9,005 | 8,429 | 8,046 | 8,767 | 9,238 | 18,005 | 17,684 |
| | Jimblebar | 100% | 1,520 | 1,647 | 1,566 | 1,675 | 1,622 | 3,297 | 3,142 |
| | Samarco | 50% | 1,971 | 1,862 | 1,936 | 1,918 | 2,050 | 3,968 | 3,927 |
| | Total | | 21,728 | 21,085 | 20,537 | 22,545 | 24,916 | 47,461 | 42,598 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| METALLURGICAL COAL (f) | | | | | | | | | |
| Production ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| | BMA | 50% | 5,395 | 5,263 | 6,285 | 6,231 | 6,184 | 12,415 | 10,986 |
| | BHP Mitsui Coal (g) | 80% | 1,591 | 1,811 | 1,653 | 1,748 | 1,822 | 3,570 | 3,517 |
| | Illawarra | 100% | 1,459 | 1,458 | 1,346 | 1,298 | 1,623 | 2,921 | 3,041 |
| | Total | | 8,445 | 8,532 | 9,284 | 9,277 | 9,629 | 18,906 | 17,544 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| MANGANESE ORES | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Saleable production ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| | South Africa (h) | 60% | 651 | 604 | 647 | 632 | 639 | 1,271 | 1,251 |
| | Australia (h) | 60% | 548 | 660 | 690 | 747 | 722 | 1,469 | 1,101 |
| | Total | | 1,199 | 1,264 | 1,337 | 1,379 | 1,361 | 2,740 | 2,352 |
| MANGANESE ALLOYS | | | | | | | | | |
| Saleable production ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| | South Africa (h) | 60% | 122 | 116 | 131 | 121 | 136 | 257 | 215 |
| | Australia (h) | 60% | 61 | 63 | 72 | 74 | 71 | 145 | 115 |
| | Total | | 183 | 179 | 203 | 195 | 207 | 402 | 330 |
| | Refer footnotes on page 4. | | | | | | | | |
| CARBON STEEL MATERIALS (cont'd) | | | | | | | | | |
| HOT BRIQUETTED IRON | | | | | | | | | |
| Production ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Boodarie™ Iron (i) | 100% | 527 | 399 | 294 | - | - | - | 1,023 |
| DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS | | | | | | | | | |
| DIAMONDS | | | | | | | | | |
| Production ('000 carats) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Ekati™ | 80% | 1,704 | 1,015 | 1,211 | 986 | 872 | 1,858 | 3,256 |
| ENERGY COAL | | | | | | | | | |
| Production ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| | South Africa | 100% | 13,472 | 13,231 | 13,768 | 14,588 | 13,745 | 28,333 | 27,254 |
| | USA | 100% | 2,829 | 3,687 | 3,154 | 3,899 | 3,731 | 7,630 | 6,389 |
| | Australia | 100% | 2,054 | 2,318 | 2,590 | 2,595 | 2,189 | 4,784 | 3,810 |
| | Colombia | 33% | 1,623 | 2,043 | 1,982 | 2,163 | 1,724 | 3,887 | 3,659 |
| | Total | | 19,978 | 21,279 | 21,494 | 23,245 | 21,389 | 44,634 | 41,112 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | | | | | | | | | |
| STAINLESS STEEL MATERIALS | | | | | | | | | |
| NICKEL | | | | | | | | | |
| Production ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| | CMSA | 99.8% | 12.2 | 12.5 | 12.0 | 11.9 | 12.4 | 24.3 | 24.6 |
| | Yabulu | 100% | 7.8 | 8.7 | 7.9 | 7.7 | 7.3 | 15.0 | 16.0 |
| | Total | | 20.0 | 21.2 | 19.9 | 19.6 | 19.7 | 39.3 | 40.6 |
| FERROCHROME | | | | | | | | | |
| Saleable production ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| | South Africa (h) | 60% | 269 | 266 | 264 | 265 | 271 | 536 | 496 |
| (a) Metal production is reported on the basis of payable metal. | | | | | | | | | |
| (b) Sulphide production at Tintaya was suspended in January 2002 due to weak market conditions, | | | | | | | | | |
| and recommenced during August 2003. | | | | | | | | | |
| (c) BHP Billiton sold its interest in Highland Valley Copper with effect from January 3, 2004. | | | | | | | | | |
| (d) Production at Selbaie ceased in February 2004, in accordance with mine plan. Shipments ceased in May 2004. | | | | | | | | | |
| (e) Iron ore production is reported on a wet tonnes basis. | | | | | | | | | |
| (f) Metallurgical coal production is reported on the basis of saleable product. Production figures include some thermal coal. | | | | | | | | | |
| (g) Shown on 100% basis. BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 80%. | | | | | | | | | |
| (h) Shown on 100% basis. BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 60%. | | | | | | | | | |
| (i) Production was suspended at Boodarie Iron following an incident in May 2004 and the plant was placed | | | | | | | | | |
| on care and maintenance in November 2004. | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |

| PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------------|--------|
| | | | QUARTER ENDED | | | | | HALF YEAR ENDED | |
| | | | DEC | MARCH | JUNE | SEPT | DEC | DEC | DEC |
| | | | 2003 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2003 |
| PETROLEUM | | | | | | | | | |
| BHP Billiton attributable production unless otherwise stated. | | | | | | | | | |
| CRUDE OIL & CONDENSATE (‘000 barrels) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Bass Strait | | 5,333 | 5,174 | 4,641 | 4,835 | 4,226 | 9,061 | 11,205 |
| | North West Shelf - condensate | | 1,204 | 1,352 | 1,367 | 1,330 | 1,274 | 2,604 | 2,695 |
| | North West Shelf - Wanaea/Cossack | | 1,675 | 1,519 | 1,357 | 1,475 | 1,272 | 2,747 | 3,279 |
| | Laminaria | | 966 | 928 | 803 | 597 | 472 | 1,069 | 2,117 |
| | Griffin | | 563 | 380 | 585 | 414 | 473 | 887 | 1,305 |
| | Pakistan | | 53 | 50 | 49 | 50 | 54 | 104 | 106 |
| | Typhoon/Boris | | 1,605 | 1,457 | 1,462 | 1,461 | 1,290 | 2,751 | 2,819 |
| | Americas | | 586 | 332 | 213 | 181 | 180 | 361 | 1,194 |
| | Liverpool Bay | | 2,061 | 1,926 | 1,788 | 1,344 | 1,858 | 3,202 | 4,385 |
| | Bruce/Keith | | 387 | 423 | 388 | 121 | 321 | 442 | 840 |
| | Ohanet (a) | | 444 | 800 | 644 | 558 | 432 | 990 | 444 |
| | ROD (b) | | - | - | - | - | 338 | 338 | - |
| | Total | | 14,877 | 14,341 | 13,297 | 12,366 | 12,190 | 24,556 | 30,389 |
| NATURAL GAS (billion cubic feet) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Bass Strait | | 23.86 | 24.95 | 34.62 | 35.61 | 27.44 | 63.05 | 56.90 |
| | North West Shelf - Domestic | | 3.95 | 3.91 | 3.76 | 3.50 | 3.51 | 7.01 | 7.94 |
| | North West Shelf - LNG | | 14.93 | 13.74 | 15.43 | 17.78 | 22.36 | 40.14 | 31.67 |
| | Griffin | | 0.90 | 0.44 | 0.67 | 0.68 | 0.71 | 1.39 | 1.86 |
| | Moranbah Coal Bed Methane (c) | | - | - | - | - | 0.53 | 0.53 | - |
| | Illawarra Coal Bed Methane (d) | | - | - | - | 1.34 | 1.65 | 2.99 | - |

Edgar Filing: BHP BILLITON PLC - Form 6-K

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Pakistan | | 7.83 | 7.51 | 7.10 | 7.69 | 7.87 | 15.56 | 15.69 |
| | Typhoon/Boris | | 2.41 | 2.14 | 2.13 | 2.32 | 2.53 | 4.85 | 3.99 |
| | Americas | | 3.73 | 2.60 | 2.75 | 1.99 | 2.05 | 4.04 | 6.98 |
| | Bruce | | 8.52 | 9.27 | 8.29 | 2.23 | 7.25 | 9.48 | 17.29 |
| | Keith | | 0.08 | 0.17 | 0.20 | 0.03 | 0.14 | 0.17 | 0.19 |
| | Liverpool Bay | | 11.36 | 11.74 | 10.16 | 4.02 | 11.31 | 15.33 | 20.25 |
| | Total | | 77.57 | 76.47 | 85.11 | 77.19 | 87.35 | 164.54 | 162.76 |
| LPG ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Bass Strait | | 130.02 | 111.26 | 136.52 | 145.85 | 127.70 | 273.55 | 280.21 |
| | North West Shelf | | 28.11 | 29.59 | 32.95 | 34.66 | 29.43 | 64.09 | 62.32 |
| | Bruce | | 17.71 | 18.40 | 18.64 | 6.63 | 18.03 | 24.66 | 31.83 |
| | Keith | | 0.31 | 0.82 | 0.63 | 0.30 | 0.62 | 0.92 | 1.12 |
| | Ohanet (a) | | 24.36 | 57.76 | 47.12 | 43.59 | 40.29 | 83.88 | 24.36 |
| | Total | | 200.51 | 217.83 | 235.86 | 231.03 | 216.07 | 447.10 | 399.84 |
| ETHANE ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | 25.25 | 16.59 | 25.14 | 27.75 | 27.20 | 54.95 | 52.57 |
| TOTAL PETROLEUM PRODUCTS | | | 30.24 | 29.78 | 30.32 | 28.03 | 29.38 | 57.41 | 62.37 |
| (million barrels of oil equivalent) (e) | | | | | | | | | |
| (a) Ohanet commenced production in October 2003. | | | | | | | | | |
| (b) ROD commenced production in October 2004. | | | | | | | | | |
| (c) Moranbah Coal Bed Methane commenced production in September 2004 and was first reported in December 2004. | | | | | | | | | |
| (d) Illawarra Coal Bed Methane production was first reported in December 2004. | | | | | | | | | |
| (e) Total barrels of oil equivalent (boe) conversions are 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 | DEC |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2004 |
| ALUMINIUM | | | | | | | | |
| BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated. | | | | | | | | |
| ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | |
| ALUMINA | | | | | | | | |
| Production | | | | | | | | |
| Worsley, Australia | | | | | | | 700 | 1,349 |
| Paranam, Suriname | | | | | | | 230 | 445 |
| Alumar, Brazil | | | | | | | 120 | 242 |
| Total | | | | | | | 1,050 | 2,036 |
| Sales | | | | | | | | |
| Worsley, Australia | | | | | | | 740 | 1,437 |
| Paranam, Suriname | | | | | | | 250 | 460 |
| Alumar, Brazil | | | | | | | 128 | 260 |
| Total | | | | | | | 1,118 | 2,068 |
| ALUMINIUM | | | | | | | | |
| Production | | | | | | | | |
| Hillside, South Africa | | | | | | | 151 | 344 |
| Bayside, South Africa | | | | | | | 46 | 92 |
| Alumar, Brazil | | | | | | | 36 | 89 |
| Valesul, Brazil | | | | | | | 11 | 22 |
| Mozal, Mozambique | | | | | | | 64 | 130 |
| Total | | | | | | | 308 | 677 |
| Sales | | | | | | | | |
| Hillside, South Africa | | | | | | | 145 | 344 |
| | | | | | | | 35 | 86 |
| | | | | | | | 49 | 89 |
| | | | | | | | 45 | |
| | | | | | | | 45 | |
| | | | | | | | 41 | |

Edgar Filing: BHP BILLITON PLC - Form 6-K

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------|--------|---------|--------|-----------------|---------|
| | Bayside, South Africa | | | | | | | | |
| | Alumar, Brazil | | 25 | 39 | 55 | 43 | 44 | 87 | 63 |
| | Valesul, Brazil | | 12 | 11 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 23 | 23 |
| | Mozal, Mozambique | | 40 | 78 | 56 | 59 | 69 | 128 | 101 |
| | Total | | 257 | 353 | 339 | 314 | 354 | 668 | 555 |
| PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | QUARTER ENDED | | | | | HALF YEAR ENDED | |
| | | | DEC | MARCH | JUNE | SEPT | DEC | DEC | DEC |
| | | | 2003 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2003 |
| BASE METALS | | | | | | | | | |
| BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated. Metals production is payable metal unless otherwise stated. | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>Escondida, Chile</u> | | | | | | | | |
| | Material mined (100%) | ('000 tonnes) | 82,909 | 83,640 | 95,757 | 100,466 | 97,512 | 197,978 | 152,251 |
| | Sulphide ore milled (100%) | ('000 tonnes) | 18,299 | 19,620 | 21,197 | 20,637 | 20,926 | 41,563 | 37,187 |
| | Average copper grade | (%) | 1.31% | 1.48% | 1.61% | 1.47% | 1.47% | 1.47% | 1.32% |
| | Production ex Mill (100%) | ('000 tonnes) | 197.1 | 239.6 | 284.2 | 256.8 | 265.1 | 521.9 | 405.3 |
| | Production | | | | | | | | |
| | Payable copper | ('000 tonnes) | 109.1 | 130.8 | 159.1 | 142.5 | 146.3 | 288.8 | 225.0 |
| | Payable gold concentrate | (fine ounces) | 24,833 | 27,492 | 26,044 | 25,370 | 24,475 | 49,845 | 49,849 |
| | Copper cathode (SXEW) | ('000 tonnes) | 21.8 | 21.7 | 21.8 | 21.9 | 22.2 | 44.1 | 43.2 |
| | Payable silver concentrate | ('000 ounces) | 550 | 614 | 720 | 604 | 639 | 1,243 | 1,111 |
| | Sales | | | | | | | | |
| | Payable copper | ('000 tonnes) | 114.8 | 127.3 | 150.4 | 140.0 | 148.3 | 288.3 | 231.0 |

Edgar Filing: BHP BILLITON PLC - Form 6-K

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Payable gold concentrate | (fine ounces) | 26,984 | 28,545 | 24,874 | 24,732 | 25,462 | 50,194 | 52,319 |
| | Copper cathode (SXEW) | ('000 tonnes) | 23.8 | 26.2 | 21.3 | 22.7 | 22.7 | 45.4 | 41.9 |
| | Payable silver concentrate | ('000 ounces) | 634 | 612 | 683 | 582 | 690 | 1,272 | 1,208 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Tintaya, Peru (a)</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | Material mined | ('000 tonnes) | 17,450 | 17,206 | 17,944 | 18,676 | 17,486 | 36,162 | 21,601 |
| | Ore milled | ('000 tonnes) | 1,408 | 1,609 | 1,616 | 1,621 | 1,564 | 3,185 | 1,408 |
| | Average copper grade | (%) | 1.38% | 1.61% | 1.45% | 1.14% | 1.64% | 1.39% | 1.38% |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | Production | | | | | | | | |
| | Payable copper | ('000 tonnes) | 15.0 | 22.9 | 19.6 | 14.6 | 22.1 | 36.7 | 15.0 |
| | Payable gold concentrate | (fine ounces) | 2,658 | 4,009 | 5,101 | 4,762 | 6,772 | 11,534 | 2,658 |
| | Copper cathode (SXEW) | ('000 tonnes) | 9.0 | 9.3 | 8.7 | 9.3 | 9.1 | 18.4 | 18.0 |
| | Payable silver concentrate | ('000 ounces) | 170 | 239 | 200 | 134 | 186 | 319 | 170 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | Sales | | | | | | | | |
| | Payable copper | ('000 tonnes) | 10.6 | 23.1 | 20.6 | 5.7 | 25.9 | 31.6 | 10.6 |
| | Payable gold concentrate | (fine ounces) | 3,086 | 4,372 | 4,100 | 1,219 | 8,491 | 9,710 | 3,086 |
| | Copper cathode (SXEW) | ('000 tonnes) | 8.7 | 8.2 | 8.4 | 10.4 | 8.1 | 18.5 | 17.6 |
| | Payable silver concentrate | ('000 ounces) | 100 | 240 | 226 | 64 | 234 | 298 | 100 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | (a) Sulphide production at Tintaya was suspended in January 2002 due to weak market conditions. | | | | | | | | |
| | Sulphide mining operations recommenced during August 2003. | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Cerro Colorado, Chile</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | Material mined | ('000 tonnes) | 19,855 | 16,199 | 16,697 | 17,554 | 16,378 | 33,932 | 40,187 |
| | | | | | | | | | |

Edgar Filing: BHP BILLITON PLC - Form 6-K

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------------|------------|--------|
| | Ore milled | ('000 tonnes) | 4,405 | 3,700 | 4,330 | 4,232 | 4,362 | 8,594 | 8,751 |
| | Average copper grade | (%) | 1.00% | 0.92% | 0.90% | 0.87% | 0.91% | 0.89% | 1.00% |
| | Production | | | | | | | | |
| | Copper cathode | ('000 tonnes) | 33.0 | 28.1 | 31.3 | 28.3 | 30.4 | 58.7 | 66.1 |
| | Sales | | | | | | | | |
| | Copper cathode | ('000 tonnes) | 35.2 | 27.8 | 35.5 | 28.9 | 28.2 | 57.1 | 64.1 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>Antamina, Peru</u> | | | | | | | | |
| | Material mined (100%) | ('000 tonnes) | 28,474 | 28,588 | 36,035 | 33,177 | 33,201 | 66,378 | 58,648 |
| | Ore milled (100%) | ('000 tonnes) | 7,273 | 6,954 | 8,205 | 8,069 | 8,027 | 16,096 | 13,291 |
| | Average head grades | | | | | | | | |
| | - Copper | (%) | 1.17% | 1.26% | 1.37% | 1.26% | 1.45% | 1.35% | 1.17% |
| | - Zinc | (%) | 1.77% | 1.48% | 0.97% | 1.02% | 0.47% | 0.75% | 1.95% |
| | Production | | | | | | | | |
| | Payable copper | ('000 tonnes) | 20.5 | 24.6 | 29.9 | 29.9 | 33.4 | 63.3 | 37.4 |
| | Payable zinc | (tonnes) | 27,026 | 19,099 | 15,545 | 12,883 | 6,962 | 19,845 | 54,959 |
| | Payable silver | ('000 ounces) | 494 | 588 | 662 | 692 | 503 | 1,195 | 929 |
| | Payable molybdenum | ('000 tonnes) | 20 | 81 | 240 | 323 | 560 | 883 | 45 |
| | Sales | | | | | | | | |
| | Payable copper | ('000 tonnes) | 22.6 | 20.2 | 26.4 | 32.1 | 32.2 | 64.3 | 41.2 |
| | Payable zinc | (tonnes) | 26,928 | 14,219 | 19,931 | 13,617 | 4,185 | 17,802 | 53,709 |
| | Payable silver | ('000 ounces) | 491 | 423 | 655 | 624 | 632 | 1,256 | 911 |
| | Payable molybdenum | ('000 tonnes) | 30 | 43 | 110 | 160 | 300 | 460 | 44 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>Cannington, Australia</u> | | | | | | | | |

Edgar Filing: BHP BILLITON PLC - Form 6-K

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|-----------------|---------|---------|
| | Material mined | ('000 tonnes) | 699 | 729 | 681 | 828 | 844 | 1,672 | 1,336 |
| | Ore milled | ('000 tonnes) | 598 | 698 | 724 | 730 | 825 | 1,555 | 1,187 |
| | Average head grades | | | | | | | | |
| | - Silver | (g/t) | 497 | 539 | 486 | 504 | 500 | 502 | 530 |
| | - Lead | (%) | 10.5% | 11.4% | 10.8% | 10.3% | 10.0% | 10.1% | 11.0% |
| | - Zinc | (%) | 3.4% | 3.5% | 3.4% | 3.1% | 3.0% | 3.0% | 3.7% |
| | Production | | | | | | | | |
| | Payable silver | ('000 ounces) | 8,287 | 10,485 | 9,471 | 10,339 | 11,025 | 21,364 | 17,464 |
| | Payable lead | (tonnes) | 55,211 | 70,838 | 64,472 | 64,910 | 71,509 | 136,419 | 114,575 |
| | Payable zinc | (tonnes) | 11,692 | 13,589 | 13,493 | 10,968 | 13,956 | 24,924 | 26,542 |
| | Sales | | | | | | | | |
| | Payable silver | ('000 ounces) | 10,716 | 8,569 | 12,583 | 9,266 | 9,006 | 18,272 | 17,481 |
| | Payable lead | (tonnes) | 69,447 | 56,259 | 84,315 | 62,774 | 57,286 | 120,060 | 113,400 |
| | Payable zinc | (tonnes) | 15,443 | 12,790 | 13,410 | 12,170 | 9,146 | 21,316 | 31,666 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>Pinto Valley, USA</u> | | | | | | | | |
| | Production | | | | | | | | |
| | Copper cathode (SXEW) | ('000 tonnes) | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 4.6 | 4.9 |
| | Sales | | | | | | | | |
| | Copper cathode (SXEW) | ('000 tonnes) | 2.4 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 3.3 | 4.9 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | QUARTER ENDED | | | | HALF YEAR ENDED | | |
| | | | DEC | MARCH | JUNE | SEPT | DEC | DEC | DEC |
| | | | 2003 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2003 |
| CARBON STEEL MATERIALS | | | | | | | | | |
| BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated. | | | | | | | | | |
| ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |

Edgar Filing: BHP BILLITON PLC - Form 6-K

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| IRON ORE (a) | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Pilbara, Australia</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| Production | | | | | | | | | |
| | Mt Newman Joint Venture | | 6,707 | 6,031 | 5,084 | 6,157 | 6,611 | 12,768 | 13,346 |
| | Goldsworthy Joint Venture | | 1,477 | 1,348 | 1,386 | 1,038 | 1,037 | 2,075 | 3,110 |
| | Area C Joint Venture | | 1,048 | 1,768 | 2,519 | 2,990 | 4,358 | 7,348 | 1,389 |
| | Yandi Joint Venture | | 9,005 | 8,429 | 8,046 | 8,767 | 9,238 | 18,005 | 17,684 |
| | Jimblebar | | 1,520 | 1,647 | 1,566 | 1,675 | 1,622 | 3,297 | 3,142 |
| | Total (BHP Billiton share) | | 19,757 | 19,223 | 18,601 | 20,627 | 22,866 | 43,493 | 38,671 |
| | Total production (100%) | | 22,975 | 22,326 | 21,608 | 23,971 | 26,615 | 50,586 | 44,940 |
| Shipments | | | | | | | | | |
| | Lump | | 5,169 | 5,402 | 5,064 | 5,530 | 6,084 | 11,614 | 10,067 |
| | Fines | | 13,968 | 13,181 | 14,067 | 14,544 | 16,052 | 30,596 | 27,302 |
| | Total (BHP Billiton share) | | 19,137 | 18,583 | 19,131 | 20,074 | 22,136 | 42,210 | 37,369 |
| | Total shipments (100%) | | 22,515 | 21,862 | 22,507 | 23,617 | 26,042 | 49,659 | 43,965 |
| (a) Iron ore production and shipments are reported on a wet tonnes basis. | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Samarco, Brazil</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | Production | | 1,971 | 1,862 | 1,936 | 1,918 | 2,050 | 3,968 | 3,927 |
| | Shipments | | 1,886 | 1,918 | 1,994 | 1,976 | 2,142 | 4,118 | 3,899 |
| METALLURGICAL COAL (a) | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Queensland, Australia</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | Production | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>BMA</u> | | | | | | | | |
| | Blackwater | | 1,581 | 1,508 | 1,864 | 1,638 | 1,709 | 3,347 | 3,159 |
| | Goonyella | | 829 | 1,019 | 935 | 1,112 | 1,254 | 2,366 | 1,823 |

Edgar Filing: BHP BILLITON PLC - Form 6-K

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| | Peak Downs | | 1,004 | 881 | 1,223 | 1,198 | 1,164 | 2,362 | 2,008 |
| | Saraji | | 655 | 703 | 806 | 809 | 812 | 1,621 | 1,402 |
| | Norwich Park | | 582 | 556 | 682 | 700 | 680 | 1,380 | 1,106 |
| | Gregory Joint Venture | | 744 | 596 | 775 | 774 | 565 | 1,339 | 1,488 |
| | BMA total | | 5,395 | 5,263 | 6,285 | 6,231 | 6,184 | 12,415 | 10,986 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>BHP Mitsui Coal (b)</u> | | | | | | | | |
| | Riverside | | 812 | 967 | 575 | 910 | 951 | 1,861 | 1,781 |
| | South Walker Creek | | 779 | 844 | 1,078 | 838 | 871 | 1,709 | 1,736 |
| | BHP Mitsui Coal total | | 1,591 | 1,811 | 1,653 | 1,748 | 1,822 | 3,570 | 3,517 |
| | <u>Queensland total</u> | | 6,986 | 7,074 | 7,938 | 7,979 | 8,006 | 15,985 | 14,503 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | Shipments | | | | | | | | |
| | Coking coal | | 5,258 | 5,116 | 4,777 | 5,188 | 5,801 | 10,989 | 10,096 |
| | Weak coking coal | | 1,649 | 1,585 | 1,569 | 1,665 | 1,722 | 3,387 | 3,266 |
| | Thermal coal | | 987 | 803 | 756 | 743 | 527 | 1,270 | 1,788 |
| | Total | | 7,894 | 7,504 | 7,102 | 7,596 | 8,050 | 15,646 | 15,150 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | (a) Metallurgical coal production is reported on the basis of saleable product. Production figures include some thermal coal. | | | | | | | | |
| | (b) Shown on 100% basis. BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 80%. | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>Illawarra, Australia</u> | | | | | | | | |
| | Production | | 1,459 | 1,458 | 1,346 | 1,298 | 1,623 | 2,921 | 3,041 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | Shipments | | | | | | | | |
| | Coking coal | | 1,293 | 1,359 | 1,215 | 1,097 | 1,610 | 2,707 | 2,806 |
| | Thermal coal | | 47 | 134 | 114 | 82 | 144 | 226 | 138 |
| | Total | | 1,340 | 1,493 | 1,329 | 1,179 | 1,754 | 2,933 | 2,944 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | MANGANESE ORES | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>South Africa</u> | | | | | | | | |
| | Saleable | | 651 | 604 | 647 | 632 | 639 | 1,271 | 1,251 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|------|-------|------|------|---------------|-------|-----------------|
| | production (a) | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Australia</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | Saleable production (a) | | 548 | 660 | 690 | 747 | 722 | 1,469 | 1,101 |
| MANGANESE ALLOYS | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>South Africa</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | Saleable production (a) | | 122 | 116 | 131 | 121 | 136 | 257 | 215 |
| <u>Australia</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | Saleable production (a) | | 61 | 63 | 72 | 74 | 71 | 145 | 115 |
| HOT BRIQUETTED IRON | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Boodarie(TM) Iron, Australia</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | Production (b) | | 527 | 399 | 294 | - | - | - | 1,023 |
| | Shipments | | 570 | 436 | 318 | - | - | - | 1,005 |
| (a) Shown on 100% basis. BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 60%. | | | | | | | | | |
| (b) Production was suspended at Boodarie Iron following an incident in May 2004 and the plant was placed on care and maintenance in November 2004. | | | | | | | | | |
| PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | QUARTER ENDED | | HALF YEAR ENDED |
| | | | DEC | MARCH | JUNE | SEPT | DEC | DEC | DEC |
| | | | 2003 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2003 |
| DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS | | | | | | | | | |

| BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated. | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|-----------------|--------|--------|
| DIAMONDS | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Ekati(TM), Canada</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | Ore Processed (100%) | ('000 tonnes) | 1,123 | 1,052 | 1,207 | 1,184 | 1,094 | 2,278 | 2,187 |
| | Production | ('000 carats) | 1,704 | 1,015 | 1,211 | 986 | 872 | 1,858 | 3,256 |
| PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | QUARTER ENDED | | | | HALF YEAR ENDED | | |
| | | | DEC | MARCH | JUNE | SEPT | DEC | DEC | DEC |
| | | | 2003 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2003 |
| ENERGY COAL | | | | | | | | | |
| BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated. | | | | | | | | | |
| ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Ingwe, South Africa</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | Production | | 13,472 | 13,231 | 13,768 | 14,588 | 13,745 | 28,333 | 27,254 |
| | Sales | | | | | | | | |
| | Export | | 5,500 | 5,354 | 4,830 | 5,551 | 4,750 | 10,301 | 10,774 |
| | Local utility | | 7,701 | 7,579 | 8,426 | 8,546 | 8,106 | 16,652 | 15,916 |
| | Inland | | 326 | 330 | 361 | 383 | 308 | 691 | 664 |
| | Total | | 13,527 | 13,263 | 13,617 | 14,480 | 13,164 | 27,644 | 27,354 |
| <u>New Mexico, USA</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | Production | | | | | | | | |
| | Navajo Coal | | 1,553 | 1,709 | 1,714 | 2,083 | 1,765 | 3,848 | 3,793 |
| | San Juan Coal | | 1,276 | 1,978 | 1,440 | 1,816 | 1,966 | 3,782 | 2,596 |
| | Total | | 2,829 | 3,687 | 3,154 | 3,899 | 3,731 | 7,630 | 6,389 |
| | Sales - local utility | | 3,327 | 3,213 | 3,353 | 3,897 | 3,739 | 7,636 | 7,040 |
| <u>Hunter Valley, Australia</u> | | | | | | | | | |

Edgar Filing: BHP BILLITON PLC - Form 6-K

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Production | | 2,054 | 2,318 | 2,590 | 2,595 | 2,189 | 4,784 | 3,810 |
| | Sales | | | | | | | | |
| | Export | | 861 | 1,729 | 1,734 | 1,440 | 1,201 | 2,641 | 1,813 |
| | Inland | | 633 | 1,044 | 958 | 1,220 | 595 | 1,815 | 1,506 |
| | Total | | 1,494 | 2,773 | 2,692 | 2,660 | 1,796 | 4,456 | 3,319 |
| Carrejon Coal, Colombia | | | | | | | | | |
| | Production | | 1,623 | 2,043 | 1,982 | 2,163 | 1,724 | 3,887 | 3,659 |
| | Sales - export | | 1,999 | 1,828 | 2,283 | 2,166 | 1,954 | 4,120 | 3,965 |

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT

| | | | QUARTER ENDED | | | | | HALF YEAR ENDED | |
|--|--|--|---------------|-------|------|------|------|-----------------|------|
| | | | DEC | MARCH | JUNE | SEPT | DEC | DEC | DEC |
| | | | 2003 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | 2003 |

STAINLESS STEEL MATERIALS

BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.

('000 tonnes)

NICKEL

CMSA, Colombia

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | Production | | 12.2 | 12.5 | 12.0 | 11.9 | 12.4 | 24.3 | 24.6 |
| | Sales | | 13.1 | 11.2 | 12.8 | 10.6 | 13.3 | 23.9 | 24.2 |

Yabulu, Australia

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|
| | Production | | | | | | | | |
| | Nickel | | 7.8 | 8.7 | 7.9 | 7.7 | 7.3 | 15.0 | 16.0 |
| | Cobalt | | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.9 | 0.9 |
| | Sales | | | | | | | | |
| | Nickel | | 8.4 | 8.0 | 7.9 | 7.7 | 7.8 | 15.5 | 16.2 |
| | Cobalt | | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.9 | 0.9 |

FERROCHROME

South Africa

Edgar Filing: BHP BILLITON PLC - Form 6-K

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Saleable production (a) | | 269 | 266 | 264 | 265 | 271 | 536 | 496 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | (a) Shown on 100% basis. BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 60%. | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |

BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077

BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209

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

Registered in England and Wales
 Registered Office: Neathouse Place London SW1V 1BH United
 Kingdom
 Telephone +44 20 7802 4000 Facsimile +44 20 7802 4111

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

Plc
 /s/ KAREN WOOD

Karen Wood
 Title: Company Secretary
 Date:

27 January 2005