

BHP BILLITON LTD
Form 6-K
January 25, 2006

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

January 24, 2006

BHP Billiton

Limited

..... (Translation of registrant's name into English) 180 Lonsdale Street Melbourne VIC 3000 Australia
.....

(Address of principal executive office)

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):

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

24 January 2006
Number 01/06

BHP BILLITON PRODUCTION REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

BHP Billiton today released its production report for the quarter ended 31 December 2005. Throughout this report,

unless otherwise stated, production volumes refer to BHP Billiton share.

- Record half year production of aluminium, copper, nickel and LNG supported by strong market conditions.
- Half year production of copper up 24% and nickel up 137% following the acquisition of WMC in June 2005.
- Escondida (Chile) achieved third consecutive quarter of record copper production.
- Increased production at Western Australian Iron Ore (Australia) following weather and derailment interruptions last quarter.

	DEC	DEC	DEC	DEC	DEC Q05
	2005	2005	vs	vs	vs
PETROLEUM	HALF	QTR	DEC	DEC	SEPT
			H04	Q04	Q05
Crude Oil & Condensate ('000 bbl)	23,434	11,200	-3%	-8%	-8%
Natural Gas (bcf)	184.00	86.35	12%	-1%	-12%
Total Petroleum Products (million boe)	59.31	27.93	3%	-5%	-11%

Total Petroleum Products -

Total production for the December 2005 half year increased against the half year ended December 2004. This primarily reflects increased production from Minerva (Australia), Angostura (Trinidad & Tobago), Mad Dog (USA), all commissioned in January 2005 and ROD (Algeria), commissioned in October 2004. This was offset by natural field decline at Bass Strait (Australia) and Liverpool Bay (UK), the sale of our interests in Laminaria (Australia) in January 2005, and hurricane related disruptions in the Gulf of Mexico.

Crude Oil and Condensate -

Production for the December 2005 quarter was impacted by the loss of production from the Typhoon/Boris facility (USA) due to hurricane damage, natural field decline at Bass Strait and Liverpool Bay, the sale of our interests in Laminaria in January 2005 and unscheduled well downtime at North West Shelf. Offsetting this was increased production following the commissioning of Angostura and Mad Dog, both in January 2005 and ROD in October 2004.

Production was lower than the September 2005 quarter due to the timing of recognition of production entitlements and planned maintenance at ROD, loss of production from the Typhoon / Boris facility and a scheduled annual shut-down at North West Shelf.

Natural Gas -

Production for the December 2005 quarter was in line with the December 2004 quarter.

Production for the December 2005 quarter was lower than the September 2005 quarter due to lower seasonal demand for Bass Strait gas, partly offset by higher seasonal demand for Liverpool Bay gas and North West Shelf LNG. Minerva gas production decreased during the quarter primarily as a result of scheduled maintenance.

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	DEC	DEC	DEC H05	DEC Q05	DEC Q05
	2005	2005	vs	vs	vs
ALUMINIUM	HALF	QTR	DEC H04	DEC Q04	SEPT Q05
Alumina ('000 tonnes)	2,040	1,012	0%	-2%	-2%
Aluminium ('000 tonnes)	678	344	0%	2%	3%

Alumina -

Production for the half year and quarter ended December 2005 was in line with all comparative periods.

Aluminium

- Record production was achieved for the half year ended December 2005. Mozal (Mozambique) and Hillside (South Africa) continue to deliver strong production, both achieving quarterly and half yearly records. Bayside (South Africa) returned to full operating capacity during the quarter following a potline outage in April 2005.

	DEC	DEC	DEC H05	DEC Q05	DEC Q05
	2005	2005	vs	vs	vs
BASE METALS	HALF	QTR	DEC H04	DEC Q04	SEPT Q05
Copper ('000 tonnes)	637.3	328.4	24%	24%	6%
Silver ('000 ounces)	25,228	13,866	5%	12%	22%
Lead (tonnes)	142,060	77,187	4%	8%	19%
Uranium Oxide Concentrate (tonnes)	2,158	1,070	n/a	n/a	-2%

Copper -

Production for the December 2005 half year was a record 637,300 tonnes, 24% higher than the December 2004 half year, reflecting improved performance at Escondida and inclusion of a full six months of production from Olympic Dam (Australia).

Escondida achieved its third consecutive quarter of record production due to increased mill throughput, the commissioning of Norte and higher head grades. Increased mill throughput and higher head grades also led to record quarterly production at Antamina (Peru) and higher production at Olympic Dam. Production from Cerro Colorado (Chile) continued to ramp up to near full operational capacity following an earthquake in June 2005.

Silver -

Production was higher in the December 2005 half year primarily due to record production at Escondida reflecting increased throughput, inclusion of six months of production from Olympic Dam and improved mill throughput at Cannington (Australia).

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December 2005 quarterly production was higher than the September 2005 quarter as a result of improved mill throughput at Cannington compared to the previous period and record quarterly production at Antamina.

Lead -

December 2005 half year and quarterly production increased as a result of improved mill throughput at Cannington.

Uranium Oxide Concentrate -

Production in the December 2005 quarter was in line with the September 2005 quarter.

	DEC	DEC	DEC	DEC	DEC Q05
	2005	2005	vs	vs	vs
CARBON STEEL MATERIALS	HALF	QTR	DEC	DEC	SEPT
			H04	Q04	Q05
Iron ore ('000 tonnes)	48,211	24,610	2%	-1%	4%
Metallurgical Coal ('000 tonnes)	17,959	8,973	-5%	-7%	0%
Manganese Ores ('000 tonnes)	2,665	1,278	-3%	-6%	-8%
Manganese Alloys ('000 tonnes)	304	165	-24%	-20%	19%

Iron Ore -

December 2005 half year and quarterly production was in line with the December 2004 comparative periods.

Production was higher in the December 2005 quarter than the September 2005 quarter following the impact of heavy rainfall and a derailment in the previous quarter. This was partly offset by the impact of Rapid Growth Project 2 tie-in activity during the December 2005 quarter.

Metallurgical Coal -

Production for the half year and quarter ended December 2005 was lower than the half year and quarter ended December 2004. This primarily reflects reduced production at Queensland Coal (Australia) due to the depletion of reserves at Riverside, scheduled dragline outages at South Walker Creek and Saraji and increased maintenance at Blackwater. This was offset by the continued ramp up of Broadmeadow (Australia), commissioned in August 2005. Illawarra Coal (Australia) delivered strong production during the quarter with the ramp up of Dendrobium, which was commissioned in April 2005.

Production for the December 2005 quarter was in line with the September 2005 quarter.

Manganese ore -

Production for the December 2005 half year and quarter was lower than all comparative periods as a result of lower market demand.

Manganese alloys -

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December 2005 half year and quarterly production decreased compared to the December 2004 comparative periods primarily reflecting lower market demand.

December 2005 quarterly production was higher than the September 2005 quarter due to scheduled maintenance at Metalloys (South Africa) in the previous period.

	DEC	DEC	DEC H05	DEC Q05	DEC Q05
	2005	2005	vs	vs	vs
DIAMONDS & SPECIALTY PRODUCTS	HALF	QTR	DEC H04	DEC Q04	SEPT Q05
Diamonds ('000 carats)	1,466	614	-21%	-30%	-28%
Fertiliser ('000 tonnes)	497.5	252.6	n/a	n/a	3%

Diamonds -

Carat production decreased in the half year ended December 2005 primarily reflecting the processing of lower grade ore at Ekati (Canada).

December 2005 quarterly production was lower than the September 2005 quarter as a result of reduced throughput and lower grade following changed ore sources within the mine.

Fertiliser -

Record half year and quarterly production was achieved at Southern Cross Fertiliser Operations resulting from increased operating efficiency.

	DEC	DEC	DEC H05	DEC Q05	DEC Q05
	2005	2005	vs	vs	vs
ENERGY COAL	HALF	QTR	DEC H04	DEC Q04	SEPT Q05
Energy Coal ('000 tonnes)	45,297	21,287	1%	0%	-11%

Energy Coal -

Production for the half year ended December 2005 was in line with the December 2004 half year.

Production for the December 2005 quarter was lower than the September 2005 quarter, primarily reflecting lower seasonal demand for Ingwe (South Africa) domestic coal, return to normal longwall geological conditions at San Juan Coal (USA)

following a record quarter in September 2005 due to unusually favourable conditions, and reduced yields and equipment availability combined with increased strip ratios at Hunter Valley Coal (Australia).

	DEC	DEC	DEC H05	DEC Q05	DEC Q05
	2005	2005	vs	vs	vs
STAINLESS STEEL MATERIALS	HALF	QTR	DEC H04	DEC Q04	

					SEPT Q05
Nickel ('000 tonnes)	93.1	49.0	137%	149%	11%

Nickel

- Record production for the half year ended December 2005 primarily reflects inclusion of a full six months of production from Nickel West.

Production for the December 2005 quarter was higher than the September 2005 quarter as a result of higher production at Nickel West due to improved alignment of concentrate availability with smelter uptime. This was partly offset by increased maintenance and the continuing impact of expansion tie-ins at Yabulu (Australia).

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

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BHP BILLITON PRODUCTION SUMMARY		QUARTER ENDED			HALF YEAR ENDED		% CHANGE			
		DEC	SEPT	DEC	DEC	DEC	DEC	DEC	DEC	DEC
		2004	2005	2005	2005	2004	DEC H04	DEC Q04	SEP Q05	
PETROLEUM							vs	vs	vs	

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Crude oil & condensate	('000 bbl)	12,190	12,234	11,200		23,434	24,218		-3%	-8%	-8%
Natural gas	(bcf)	87.35	97.65	86.35		184.00	164.54		12%	-1%	-12%
LPG	('000 tonnes)	216.07	234.24	190.59		424.83	447.10		-5%	-12%	-19%
Ethane	('000 tonnes)	27.20	28.02	24.72		52.74	54.95		-4%	-9%	-12%
Total Petroleum Products	(million boe)	29.38	31.38	27.93		59.31	57.41		3%	-5%	-11%
ALUMINIUM											
Alumina	('000 tonnes)	1,036	1,028	1,012		2,040	2,036		0%	-2%	-2%
Aluminium	('000 tonnes)	338	334	344		678	677		0%	2%	3%
BASE METALS											
Copper	('000 tonnes)	265.7	308.9	328.4		637.3	514.5		24%	24%	6%
Lead	(tonnes)	71,509	64,873	77,187		142,060	136,419		4%	8%	19%
Zinc	(tonnes)	20,918	29,147	23,928		53,075	44,769		19%	14%	-18%
Gold	(ounces)	31,247	53,666	54,700		108,366	61,379		77%	75%	2%
Silver	('000 ounces)	12,353	11,362	13,866		25,228	24,121		5%	12%	22%
Uranium oxide concentrate	(tonnes)	-	1,088	1,070		2,158	-		-	-	-2%
Molybdenum	(tonnes)	560	573	772		1,345	883		52%	38%	35%
CARBON STEEL MATERIALS											
Iron ore	('000 tonnes)	24,916	23,601	24,610		48,211	47,461		2%	-1%	4%
Metallurgical coal	('000 tonnes)	9,609	8,986	8,973		17,959	18,850		-5%	-7%	0%
Manganese ores	('000 tonnes)	1,361	1,387	1,278		2,665	2,740		-3%	-6%	-8%
Manganese alloys	('000 tonnes)	207	139	165		304	402		-24%	-20%	19%
DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS											

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Diamonds	('000 carats)	872	852	614		1,466	1,858	-21%	-30%	-28%
Fertiliser	('000 tonnes)	-	244.9	252.6		497.5	-	-	-	3%
ENERGY COAL										
Energy coal	('000 tonnes)	21,389	24,010	21,287		45,297	44,634	1%	0%	-11%
STAINLESS STEEL MATERIALS										
Nickel	('000 tonnes)	19.7	44.1	49.0		93.1	39.3	137%	149%	11%
Ferrochrome	('000 tonnes)	271	-	-		-	536	-	-	-
Throughout this report figures in italics indicate that this figure has been adjusted since it was previously reported.										
BHP BILLITON ATTRIBUTABLE PRODUCTION										
									HALF YEAR ENDED	
		BHP Billiton	DEC	MARCH	JUNE	SEPT	DEC		DEC	DEC
		Interest	2004	2005	2005	2005	2005		2005	2004
PETROLEUM										
Production										
	Crude oil & condensate	(000 bbl)	12,190	12,345	13,939	12,234	11,200		23,434	24,218
	Natural gas	(bcf)	87.35	82.35	98.79	97.65	86.35		184.00	164.54
	LPG	('000 tonnes)	216.07	199.29	213.71	234.24	190.59		424.83	447.10
	Ethane	('000 tonnes)	27.20	23.61	22.97	28.02	24.72		52.74	54.95
	Total Petroleum Products	(million boe)	29.38	28.49	33.13	31.38	27.93		59.31	57.41
ALUMINIUM										
ALUMINA										

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Production ('000 tonnes)									
	Worsley	86%	686	746	718	689	663	1,352	1,349
	Suriname	45%	222	220	209	227	219	445	445
	Alumar	36%	128	126	127	112	130	242	242
	Total		1,036	1,092	1,054	1,028	1,012	2,039	2,036
ALUMINIUM									
Production ('000 tonnes)									
	Hillside	100%	171	169	172	172	177	349	344
	Bayside	100%	46	45	29	41	46	88	92
	Alumar	46.3%	45	43	44	45	45	90	89
	Valesul	45.5%	11	10	11	11	10	21	22
	Mozal	47%	65	65	65	65	66	132	130
	Total		338	332	321	334	344	679	677
BASE METALS (a)									
COPPER									
Payable metal in concentrate ('000 tonnes)									
	Escondida	57.5%	146.3	135.4	154.0	168.6	169.0	337.6	288.8
	Antamina	33.8%	33.4	29.9	29.9	27.9	34.3	62.1	63.3
	Tintaya (b)	100%	22.1	20.7	15.3	17.3	18.1	35.4	36.7
	Total		201.8	186.0	199.2	213.8	221.4	435.1	388.8
Cathode ('000 tonnes)									
	Escondida	57.5%	22.2	21.8	21.4	19.6	20.0	39.6	44.1
	Cerro Colorado (c)	100%	30.4	29.8	24.6	14.5	21.5	36.0	58.7
	Tintaya (b)	100%	9.1	9.6	6.4	9.7	9.9	19.5	18.4
	Pinto Valley	100%	2.3	2.4	2.1	2.2	2.1	4.3	4.6
	Olympic Dam (d)	100%	-	-	16.1	49.1	53.5	102.6	-
	Total		64.0	63.6	70.6	95.1	107.0	202.0	125.7
LEAD									
Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes)									
	Cannington	100%	71,509	80,899	64,652	64,873	77,187	142,061	136,419
	Total		71,509	80,899	64,652	64,873	77,187	142,061	136,419

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ZINC									
Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes)									
	Cannington	100%	13,956	15,241	12,676	14,188	18,780	32,968	24,924
	Antamina	33.8%	6,962	17,147	15,528	14,959	5,148	20,107	19,845
	Total		20,918	32,388	28,204	29,147	23,928	53,075	44,769
	Refer footnotes on page 4.								
BASE METALS (continued)									
GOLD									
Payable metal in concentrate (ounces)									
	Escondida	57.5%	24,475	25,987	20,774	19,194	19,200	38,394	49,845
	Tintaya (b)	100%	6,772	6,165	4,066	8,048	8,200	16,248	11,534
	Olympic Dam (d) (refined gold)	100%	-	-	7,042	26,424	27,300	53,724	-
	Total		31,247	32,152	31,882	53,666	54,700	108,366	61,379
SILVER									
Payable metal in concentrate ('000 ounces)									
	Escondida	57.5%	639	650	658	795	945	1,740	1,243
	Antamina	33.8%	503	830	749	642	859	1,501	1,195
	Tintaya (b)	100%	186	181	129	167	168	335	320
	Cannington	100%	11,025	12,383	10,283	9,579	11,672	21,250	21,364
	Olympic Dam (d) (refined silver)	100%	-	-	62	179	222	401	-
	Total		12,353	14,044	11,881	11,362	13,866	25,228	24,121
URANIUM OXIDE CONCENTRATE									
Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes)									
	Olympic Dam (d)	100%	-	-	415	1,088	1,070	2,158	-

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	Total		-	-	415	1,088	1,070		2,158	-
MOLYBDENUM										
Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes)										
	Antamina	33.8%	560	431	492	573	772		1,345	883
	Total		560	431	492	573	772		1,345	883
CARBON STEEL MATERIALS										
IRON ORE (e)										
Production ('000 tonnes)										
	Mt Newman Joint Venture	85%	6,611	6,475	6,493	6,234	6,166		12,400	12,768
	Goldsworthy Joint Venture	85%	1,037	1,017	1,593	1,393	1,669		3,062	2,075
	Area C Joint Venture	85%	4,358	4,451	4,813	4,286	4,969		9,255	7,348
	Yandi Joint Venture	85%	9,238	8,713	8,943	8,409	8,372		16,781	18,005
	Jimblebar	100%	1,622	1,509	1,558	1,398	1,569		2,967	3,297
	Samarco	50%	2,050	1,823	1,896	1,881	1,865		3,746	3,968
	Total		24,916	23,988	25,296	23,601	24,610		48,211	47,461
METALLURGICAL COAL (f)										
Production ('000 tonnes)										
	BMA	50%	6,184	5,959	7,021	6,693	6,441		13,134	12,415
	BHP Mitsui Coal (g)	80%	1,822	1,205	882	726	710		1,436	3,570
	Illawarra	100%	1,603	1,719	1,667	1,567	1,822		3,389	2,865
	Total		9,609	8,883	9,570	8,986	8,973		17,959	18,850
MANGANESE ORES										
Saleable production ('000 tonnes)										
	South Africa (h)	60%	639	606	631	566	529		1,095	1,271
	Australia (h)	60%	722	691	787	821	749		1,570	1,469

	Total		1,361	1,297	1,418	1,387	1,278		2,665	2,740
	Refer footnotes on page 4.									
CARBON STEEL MATERIALS (cont'd)										
MANGANESE ALLOYS										
Saleable production ('000 tonnes)										
	South Africa (h)	60%	136	137	98	79	105		184	257
	Australia (h)	60%	71	60	58	60	60		120	145
	Total		207	197	156	139	165		304	402
DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS										
DIAMONDS										
Production ('000 carats)										
	Ekati(TM)	80%	872	802	957	852	614		1,466	1,858
FERTILISER										
Production ('000 tonnes)										
	Southern Cross Fertiliser Operations (i)	100%	-	-	73.9	244.9	252.6		497.5	-
ENERGY COAL										
Production ('000 tonnes)										
	South Africa	100%	13,745	12,769	13,548	14,549	12,940		27,489	28,333
	USA	100%	3,731	3,169	4,128	4,561	4,065		8,626	7,630
	Australia	100%	2,189	2,258	2,823	2,568	2,045		4,613	4,784
	Colombia	33%	1,724	1,883	2,204	2,332	2,237		4,569	3,887
	Total		21,389	20,079	22,703	24,010	21,287		45,297	44,634
STAINLESS STEEL MATERIALS										
NICKEL										
Production ('000 tonnes)										
	CMSA	99.8%	12.4	13.3	13.7	12.8	13.0		25.8	24.3

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	Yabulu	100%	7.3	7.5	8.9	6.1	5.9		12.0	15.0
	Nickel West (j)	100%	-	-	9.2	25.2	30.1		55.3	-
	Total		19.7	20.8	31.8	44.1	49.0		93.1	39.3
FERROCHROME										
Saleable production ('000 tonnes)										
	South Africa (h) (k)	60%	271	240	178	-	-		-	536
(a) Metal production is reported on the basis of payable metal.										
(b) Production at Tintaya was temporarily suspended on May 25, 2005 following civil unrest in the Espinar region.										
Production recommenced on June 20, 2005.										
(c) Production at Cerro Colorado was temporarily suspended on June 14, 2005 following an earthquake. Production										
recommenced on June 30, 2005.										
(d) BHP Billiton acquired Olympic Dam with the acquisition of WMC. Production data is shown from June 1, 2005.										
(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) BHP Billiton acquired Southern Cross Fertiliser Operations (formerly Queensland Fertilizer Operations) with the acquisition of WMC.										
Production data is shown from June 1, 2005.										
(j) BHP Billiton acquired Nickel West with the acquisition of WMC. Production data is shown from June 1, 2005.										
(k) BHP Billiton sold its interest in Samancor Chrome with effect from June 1, 2005.										
PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT										
HALF YEAR ENDED										
DEC MARCH JUNE SEPT DEC DEC DEC										
2004 2005 2005 2005 2005 2005 2005										

PETROLEUM										
BHP Billiton attributable production unless otherwise stated.										
CRUDE OIL & CONDENSATE ('000 barrels)										
	Bass Strait		4,226	3,754	3,921	3,720	3,584		7,304	9,061
	Minerva (a)		-	21	33	34	26		60	-
	North West Shelf - condensate		1,274	1,305	1,431	1,370	1,405		2,775	2,604
	North West Shelf - Wanaea/Cossack		1,272	1,535	1,571	1,149	979		2,128	2,747
	Laminaria (b)		472	84	-	-	-		-	1,069
	Griffin		473	403	453	436	344		780	887
	Pakistan		54	58	49	49	54		103	104
	Typhoon/Boris (c)		1,290	907	672	306	21		327	2,751
	Mad Dog (a)		-	251	562	440	604		1,044	-
	Other Americas		180	160	145	123	161		284	361
	Angostura (a)		-	799	997	998	1,018		2,016	-
	Liverpool Bay		1,858	1,289	1,625	1,160	1,161		2,321	3,202
	Bruce/Keith		321	290	279	254	256		510	442
	Ohanet		432	589	461	483	353		836	990
	ROD (d)		338	900	1,740	1,712	1,234		2,946	338
	Total		12,190	12,345	13,939	12,234	11,200		23,431	24,218
NATURAL GAS (billion cubic feet)										
	Bass Strait		27.44	20.71	31.98	35.93	21.12		57.05	63.05
	Minerva (a)		-	6.63	9.79	10.30	8.14		18.44	-
	North West Shelf - Domestic		3.51	3.64	3.98	3.97	3.81		7.78	7.01
	North West Shelf - LNG		22.36	20.81	22.14	21.19	23.16		44.35	40.14
	Griffin		0.71	0.54	0.70	0.56	0.41		0.97	1.39
	Moranbah Coal Bed Methane (e)		0.53	1.07	1.64	1.65	1.73		3.38	0.53
	Illawarra Coal Bed Methane (f)		1.65	1.39	1.10	1.12	1.60		2.72	2.99
	Pakistan		7.87	8.88	7.25	7.32	8.40		15.72	15.56
	Typhoon/Boris (c)		2.53	1.32	0.95	0.46	0.01		0.47	4.85

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	Mad Dog (a)		-	0.03	0.18	0.08	0.12		0.21	-
	Other Americas		2.05	1.76	1.88	1.89	1.00		2.89	4.04
	Bruce/Keith		7.39	7.22	6.90	5.81	6.28		12.10	9.65
	Liverpool Bay		11.31	8.35	10.30	7.37	10.57		17.94	15.33
	Total		87.35	82.35	98.79	97.65	86.35		184.00	164.54
LPG ('000 tonnes)										
	Bass Strait		127.70	108.56	128.50	143.55	108.47		252.02	273.55
	North West Shelf		29.43	32.28	33.15	39.64	40.05		79.69	64.09
	Bruce/Keith		18.65	17.85	16.53	13.73	15.21		28.94	25.58
	Ohanet		40.29	40.60	35.53	37.32	26.86		64.18	83.88
	Total		216.07	199.29	213.71	234.24	190.59		424.83	447.10
ETHANE ('000 tonnes)										
			27.20	23.61	22.97	28.02	24.72		52.74	54.95
TOTAL PETROLEUM PRODUCTS			29.38	28.49	33.13	31.38	27.93		59.31	57.41
(million barrels of oil equivalent)										
(g)										
(a) Minerva, Mad Dog and Angostura commenced production in January 2005.										
(b) BHP Billiton sold its interest in Laminaria with effect from January 14, 2005.										
(c) Typhoon/Boris production was suspended in September 2005 following severe hurricane damage sustained to the Typhoon platform.										
(d) ROD commenced production in October 2004.										
(e) Moranbah Coal Bed Methane commenced production in September 2004 and was first reported in December 2004.										
(f) Illawarra Coal Bed Methane production was first reported in December 2004.										
(g) Total barrels of oil equivalent (boe) conversions are based on the following:										
6000 cf 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										
									HALF YEAR ENDED	
			DEC	MARCH	JUNE	SEPT	DEC		DEC	DEC
			2004	2005	2005	2005	2005		2005	2004
ALUMINIUM										
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.										

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('000 tonnes)									
ALUMINA									
	Production								
	Worsley, Australia	686	746	718	689	663		1,352	1,349
	Paranam, Suriname	222	220	209	227	219		445	445
	Alumar, Brazil	128	126	127	112	130		242	242
	Total	1,036	1,092	1,054	1,028	1,012		2,040	2,036
	Sales								
	Worsley, Australia	681	734	774	584	710		1,294	1,348
	Paranam, Suriname	221	210	221	203	249		452	460
	Alumar, Brazil	131	118	146	107	121		228	260
	Total (a)	1,033	1,062	1,141	894	1,080		1,974	2,068
ALUMINIUM									
	Production								
	Hillside, South Africa	171	169	172	172	177		349	344
	Bayside, South Africa	46	45	29	41	46		87	92
	Alumar, Brazil	45	43	44	45	45		90	89
	Valesul, Brazil	11	10	11	11	10		21	22
	Mozal, Mozambique	65	65	65	65	66		131	130
	Total	338	332	321	334	344		678	677
	Sales								
	Hillside, South Africa	189	153	185	168	175		343	344
	Bayside, South Africa	41	39	45	34	43		77	86
	Alumar, Brazil	44	43	46	42	44		86	87
	Valesul, Brazil	11	11	10	11	12		23	23
	Mozal, Mozambique	69	62	74	54	79		133	128
	Total	354	308	360	309	353		662	668

	Tolling Agreement (a)		22	24	25	23	22		44	45
			376	332	385	332	375		706	713
	(a) Equity Alumina is converted into Aluminium under a third party tolling agreement. These tonnages were previously reported under									
	third party trading and are now allocated to equity sales.									
PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT										
									HALF YEAR ENDED	
			DEC	MARCH	JUNE	SEPT	DEC		DEC	DEC
			2004	2005	2005	2005	2005		2005	2004
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)	97,512	90,838	85,592	90,919	92,155		183,074	197,978
	Sulphide ore milled (100%)	('000 tonnes)	20,926	19,913	21,725	22,255	22,161		44,416	41,563
	Average copper grade	(%)	1.47%	1.41%	1.51%	1.59%	1.59%		1.59%	1.47%
	Production ex Mill (100%)	('000 tonnes)	265.1	241.1	277.8	304.4	304.0		608.4	521.9
	Production									
	Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	146.3	135.4	154.0	168.6	169.0		337.6	288.8
	Payable gold concentrate	(fine ounces)	24,475	25,987	20,774	19,194	19,200		38,393	49,845
	Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	22.2	21.8	21.4	19.6	20.0		39.6	44.1
	Payable silver concentrate	('000 ounces)	639	650	658	795	945		1,740	1,243
	Sales									
	Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	148.3	137.1	145.9	169.4	160.7		330.1	288.3

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	Payable gold concentrate	(fine ounces)	25,462	27,882	19,816	19,294	18,145		37,438	50,194
	Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	22.7	18.6	26.8	19.3	19.4		38.7	45.4
	Payable silver concentrate	('000 ounces)	690	712	631	803	892		1,694	1,272
<u>Tintaya, Peru (a)</u>										
	Material mined	('000 tonnes)	17,486	17,575	12,385	17,228	17,107		34,335	36,162
	Sulphide Ore milled	('000 tonnes)	1,564	1,560	1,086	1,546	1,734		3,280	3,185
	Average copper grade	(%)	1.64%	1.56%	1.67%	1.33%	1.26%		1.29%	1.39%
	Production									
	Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	22.1	20.7	15.3	17.3	18.1		35.4	36.7
	Payable gold concentrate	(fine ounces)	6,772	6,165	4,066	8,048	8,200		16,248	11,534
	Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	9.1	9.6	6.4	9.7	9.9		19.6	18.4
	Payable silver concentrate	('000 ounces)	186	181	129	167	168		335	320
	Sales									
	Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	25.9	23.3	17.2	17.0	19.4		36.4	31.6
	Payable gold concentrate	(fine ounces)	8,491	7,593	7,073	6,783	8,376		15,159	9,710
	Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	8.1	9.2	8.2	10.3	9.8		20.1	18.5
	Payable silver concentrate	('000 ounces)	234	193	160	161	207		368	298
	(a) Production at Tintaya was temporarily suspended on May 25, 2005 following civil unrest in the Espinar region.									
	Production recommenced on June 20, 2005.									
<u>Cerro Colorado, Chile (a)</u>										
	Material mined		16,378	16,856	14,805	16,696	17,107		33,803	33,932

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		('000 tonnes)								
	Ore milled	('000 tonnes)	4,362	3,865	3,144	3,344	4,348		7,693	8,594
	Average copper grade	(%)	0.91%	1.00%	0.83%	0.79%	0.90%		0.85%	0.89%
	Production									
	Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	30.4	29.8	24.6	14.5	21.5		36.0	58.7
	Sales									
	Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	28.2	32.5	24.8	15.0	19.7		34.7	57.1
	(a) Production at Cerro Colorado was temporarily suspended on June 14, 2005 following an earthquake.									
	Production recommenced on June 30, 2005.									
	<u>Antamina, Peru</u>									
	Material mined (100%)	('000 tonnes)	33,201	30,808	31,802	32,839	32,598		65,437	66,378
	Sulphide ore milled (100%)	('000 tonnes)	8,027	7,072	7,557	7,367	8,349		15,716	16,096
	Average head grades									
	- Copper	(%)	1.45%	1.41%	1.35%	1.30%	1.36%		1.33%	1.36%
	- Zinc	(%)	0.47%	1.16%	1.09%	1.04%	0.51%		0.76%	0.75%
	Production									
	Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	33.4	29.9	29.9	27.9	34.3		62.1	63.3
	Payable zinc	(tonnes)	6,962	17,147	15,528	14,959	5,148		20,107	19,845
	Payable silver	('000 ounces)	503	830	749	642	859		1,501	1,195
	Payable molybdenum	(tonnes)	560	431	492	573	772		1,345	883
	Sales									
	Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	32.2	30.0	28.7	30.7	35.5		66.2	64.3
	Payable zinc	(tonnes)	4,185	18,293	15,066	13,203	7,894		21,097	17,802

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	Payable silver	('000 ounces)	632	718	769	669	813		1,482	1,256
	Payable molybdenum	(tonnes)	300	592	587	538	751		1,289	460
<u>Cannington, Australia</u>										
	Material mined	('000 tonnes)	844	885	880	910	887		1,797	1,672
	Ore milled	('000 tonnes)	825	788	746	772	850		1,622	1,555
	Average head grades									
	- Silver	(g/t)	500	571	482	453	493		474	502
	- Lead	(%)	10.0%	11.9%	9.8%	9.9%	9.7%		9.8%	10.1%
	- Zinc	(%)	3.1%	3.5%	3.0%	3.3%	3.5%		3.4%	3.1%
	Production									
	Payable silver	('000 ounces)	11,025	12,383	10,283	9,579	11,672		21,251	21,364
	Payable lead	(tonnes)	71,509	80,899	64,652	64,873	77,187		142,060	136,419
	Payable zinc	(tonnes)	13,956	15,241	12,676	14,188	18,780		32,968	24,924
	Sales									
	Payable silver	('000 ounces)	9,006	13,514	12,265	9,078	11,972		21,050	18,272
	Payable lead	(tonnes)	57,286	88,237	76,680	59,942	79,474		139,416	120,060
	Payable zinc	(tonnes)	9,146	18,628	13,415	10,676	16,814		27,490	21,316
<u>Olympic Dam, Australia</u>										
	Material mined (b)	('000 tonnes)	-	-	855	2,007	2,145		4,152	-
	Ore milled	('000 tonnes)	-	-	933	2,345	2,430		4,775	-
	Average copper grade	(%)	-	-	2.15%	2.26%	2.32%		2.29%	-
	Average uranium grade	kg/t	-	-	0.60	0.64	0.65		0.65	-
	Production									
			-	-	14.5	44.2	48.6		92.8	-

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	Copper cathode (ER)	('000 tonnes)								
	Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	-	-	1.6	4.9	4.9		9.8	-
	Uranium oxide concentrate	(tonnes)	-	-	415	1,088	1,070		2,158	-
	Refined gold	(fine ounces)	-	-	7,042	26,424	27,300		53,724	-
	Refined silver	('000 ounces)	-	-	62	179	222		401	-
	Sales									
	Copper cathode (ER)	('000 tonnes)	-	-	16.2	47.5	44.9		92.4	-
	Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	-	-	1.1	5.2	5.8		11.0	-
	Uranium oxide concentrate	(tonnes)	-	-	391	879	1,287		2,165	-
	Refined gold	(fine ounces)	-	-	10,555	21,192	26,369		47,562	-
	Refined silver	('000 ounces)	-	-	68	144	254		398	-
	(a) BHP Billiton acquired Olympic Dam with the acquisition of WMC. Production data was first reported from June 1, 2005.									
	(b) Material mined refers to run of mine ore mined and hoisted.									
	<u>Pinto Valley, USA</u>									
	Production									
	Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	2.3	2.4	2.1	2.2	2.1		4.3	4.6
	Sales									
	Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	1.8	2.8	2.3	2.3	2.6		4.9	3.3

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT										
										HALF YEAR ENDED

		DEC	MARCH	JUNE	SEPT	DEC		DEC	DEC
		2004	2005	2005	2005	2005		2005	2004
CARBON STEEL MATERIALS									
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.									
('000 tonnes)									
IRON ORE (a)									
<u>Pilbara, Australia</u>									
	Production								
	Mt Newman Joint Venture	6,611	6,475	6,493	6,234	6,166		12,400	12,768
	Goldsworthy Joint Venture	1,037	1,017	1,593	1,393	1,669		3,062	2,075
	Area C Joint Venture	4,358	4,451	4,813	4,286	4,969		9,255	7,348
	Yandi Joint Venture	9,238	8,713	8,943	8,409	8,372		16,781	18,005
	Jimblebar	1,622	1,509	1,558	1,398	1,569		2,967	3,297
	Total (BHP Billiton share)	22,866	22,165	23,400	21,720	22,745		44,465	43,493
	Total production (100%)	26,615	25,810	27,254	25,306	26,760		52,066	50,586
	Sales								
	Lump	5,944	5,757	6,849	5,879	6,483		12,362	11,477
	Fines	16,096	15,909	17,052	15,702	16,357		32,059	30,620
	Total (BHP Billiton share)	22,040	21,666	23,901	21,581	22,840		44,421	42,097
	Total shipments (100%)	25,929	25,489	28,119	25,389	26,871		52,260	49,526
(a) Iron ore production and shipments are reported on a wet tonnes basis.									
<u>Samarco, Brazil</u>									
	Production	2,050	1,823	1,896	1,881	1,865		3,746	3,968
	Shipments	2,142	1,768	1,728	1,900	2,155		4,055	4,118
METALLURGICAL COAL (a)									

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<u>Queensland, Australia</u>									
	Production								
	<u>BMA</u>								
	Blackwater	1,709	1,615	1,603	1,627	1,409		3,036	3,347
	Goonyella	1,254	1,355	1,740	1,609	1,921		3,530	2,366
	Peak Downs	1,164	842	1,322	1,250	1,186		2,436	2,362
	Saraji	812	752	878	675	602		1,277	1,621
	Norwich Park	680	664	836	759	678		1,437	1,380
	Gregory Joint Venture	565	731	642	773	645		1,418	1,339
	BMA total	6,184	5,959	7,021	6,693	6,441		13,134	12,415
	<u>BHP Mitsui Coal (b)</u>								
	Riverside	951	480	43	-	-		-	1,861
	South Walker Creek	871	725	839	726	710		1,436	1,709
	BHP Mitsui Coal total	1,822	1,205	882	726	710		1,436	3,570
	<u>Queensland total</u>	8,006	7,164	7,903	7,419	7,151		14,570	15,985
	Shipments								
	Coking coal	5,801	5,440	5,705	4,869	4,987		9,856	10,989
	Weak coking coal	1,722	1,609	1,619	1,207	1,366		2,573	3,387
	Thermal coal	527	632	815	579	403		982	1,270
	Total	8,050	7,681	8,139	6,655	6,756		13,411	15,646
	(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	1,603	1,719	1,667	1,567	1,822		3,389	2,865
	Shipments								
	Coking coal	1,610	1,447	1,500	1,190	1,457		2,647	2,707
	Thermal coal	144	93	27	383	103		486	226
	Total	1,754	1,540	1,527	1,573	1,560		3,133	2,933

MANGANESE ORES										
<u>South Africa</u>										
	Saleable production (a)		639	606	631	566	529		1,095	1,271
<u>Australia</u>										
	Saleable production (a)		722	691	787	821	749		1,570	1,469
MANGANESE ALLOYS										
<u>South Africa</u>										
	Saleable production (a)		136	137	98	79	105		184	257
<u>Australia</u>										
	Saleable production (a)		71	60	58	60	60		120	145
(a) Shown on 100% basis. BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 60%.										
PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT										
									HALF YEAR ENDED	
			DEC	MARCH	JUNE	SEPT	DEC		DEC	DEC
			2004	2005	2005	2005	2005		2005	2004
DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS										
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.										
DIAMONDS										
<u>Ekati(TM), Canada</u>										
	Ore Processed (100%)	('000 tonnes)	1,094	1,101	1,216	1,158	962		2,120	2,278
	Production	('000 carats)	872	802	957	852	614		1,466	1,858

FERTILISER										
<u>Southern Cross Fertiliser Operations, Australia (a)</u>										
	Production (b)	('000 tonnes)	-	-	73.9	244.9	252.6		497.5	-
	Sales (b)	('000 tonnes)	-	-	105.9	175.5	221.2		396.7	-
(a) BHP Billiton acquired Southern Cross Fertiliser Operations (formerly Queensland Fertilizer Operations) with the acquisition of WMC. Production data was first reported from June 1, 2005.										
(b) Includes diammonium phosphate and monoammonium phosphate.										
PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT										
										HALF YEAR ENDED
			DEC	MARCH	JUNE	SEPT	DEC		DEC	DEC
			2004	2005	2005	2005	2005		2005	2004
ENERGY COAL										
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.										
('000 tonnes)										
<u>Ingwe, South Africa</u>										
	Production		13,745	12,769	13,548	14,549	12,940		27,489	28,333
	Sales									
	Export		4,750	5,082	5,094	5,436	6,273		11,709	10,301
	Local utility		8,106	7,069	7,560	8,013	7,250		15,263	16,652
	Inland		308	353	186	309	268		577	691
	Total		13,164	12,504	12,840	13,758	13,791		27,549	27,644
<u>New Mexico, USA</u>										
	Production									
	Navajo Coal		1,765	2,008	2,389	2,238	2,252		4,490	3,848
	San Juan Coal		1,966	1,161	1,739	2,323	1,813		4,136	3,782
	Total		3,731	3,169	4,128	4,561	4,065		8,626	7,630
	Sales - local utility		3,739	3,447	3,319	3,769	3,628		7,397	7,636
<u>Hunter Valley, Australia</u>										

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	Production		2,189	2,258	2,823	2,568	2,045		4,613	4,784
	Sales									
	Export		1,201	1,866	1,746	1,570	1,312		2,882	2,641
	Inland		595	872	1,186	983	793		1,776	1,815
	Total		1,796	2,738	2,932	2,553	2,105		4,658	4,456
Carrejon Coal, Colombia										
	Production		1,724	1,883	2,204	2,332	2,237		4,569	3,887
	Sales - export		1,954	1,927	2,338	2,170	2,087		4,257	4,120

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT										
									HALF YEAR ENDED	
			DEC	MARCH	JUNE	SEPT	DEC		DEC	DEC
			2004	2005	2005	2005	2005		2005	2004
STAINLESS STEEL MATERIALS										
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.										
('000 tonnes)										
NICKEL										
<u>CMSA, Colombia</u>										
	Production		12.4	13.3	13.7	12.8	13.0		25.8	24.3
	Sales		13.3	13.4	12.8	11.1	14.2		25.3	23.9
<u>Yabulu, Australia</u>										
	Production									
	Nickel metal		7.3	7.5	8.9	6.1	5.9		12.0	15.0
	Cobalt		0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2		0.5	0.9
	Sales									
	Nickel metal		7.8	7.7	8.3	6.3	6.6		12.9	15.5
	Cobalt		0.5	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3		0.7	0.9
<u>Nickel West, Australia (a)</u>										
	Production									

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	Nickel contained in finished matte		-	-	3.3	9.7	13.9		23.6	-
	Nickel metal		-	-	5.9	15.5	16.2		31.7	-
	Nickel production		-	-	9.2	25.2	30.1		55.3	-
	Sales									
	Nickel contained in finished matte		-	-	3.5	7.6	14.3		21.9	-
	Nickel metal		-	-	4.7	15.9	15.5		31.4	-
	Nickel sales		-	-	8.2	23.5	29.8		53.3	-
(a) BHP Billiton acquired Nickel West with the acquisition of WMC. Production data was first reported from June 1, 2005.										
FERROCHROME										
<u>South Africa (a)</u>										
	Saleable production (b)		271	240	178	-	-		-	536
(a) BHP Billiton sold its interest in Samancor Chrome with effect from June 1, 2005.										
(b) 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 Limited

Date: 24 January 2006

By: Karen Wood

Name: Karen Wood

Title: Company Secretary