

BHP BILLITON PLC
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 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.

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|-----------|-------------------------------------|--|-----------|--------------------------|
| Form 20-F | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | Form 40-F | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

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

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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.

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

Australia

Andrew Nairn, Investor Relations
Tel: +61 3 9609 3952 Mobile: +61 408 313 259
email: Andrew.W.Nairn@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 | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|---------------|------|------|-----------------|------|----------|---------|----------|--------|
| | | | DEC | SEPT | DEC | DEC | DEC | | DEC Q03 | DEC Q03 | YTD 03 |
| | | | 2002 | 2003 | 2003 | 2003 | 2002 | | 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 | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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|---|-------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--|--------|--------|--|-----|-----|-----|
| | 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 | | | | | | | | | |

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|--|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|-------|-------|
| 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 | | | | | | | | | | |

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| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--|---------|---------|
| 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 concentrate (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 | - |

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| | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | 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 |

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| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|--------|--------|
| | 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 | MARCH | JUNE | SEPT | DEC | DEC | DEC |
| | | | 2002 | 2003 | 2003 | 2003 | 2003 | 2003 | 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 |

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| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | 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 | | | | | | | | | |
| (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.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>Escondida, Chile (a)</u> | | | | | | | | |
| | 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 |
| | | | | | | | | | |

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| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--|--------|--------|
| | 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. | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>Tintaya, Peru (a)</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | 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. | | | | | | | | | |

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| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--|--------|--------|
| | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Cerro Colorado, Chile</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| 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 |
| <u>Antamina, Peru</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| 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 |

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| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--|--------|--------|
| | Payable molybdenum | ('000 tonnes) | 0.17 | 0.10 | 0.10 | 0.01 | 0.03 | | 0.04 | 0.19 |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>Highland Valley, Canada (a)</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | Material mined (100%) | ('000 tonnes) | 18,682 | 16,642 | 18,186 | 16,892 | 15,774 | | 32,666 | 39,137 |
| | 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. | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>Cannington, Australia</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | 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 |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

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| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|
| | 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 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>Selbaie, Canada (a)</u> | | | | | | | | |
| | 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 |

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| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--|-----------------|--------|
| | 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. | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| 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 |

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| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--|--------|--------|--|
| | 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. | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>Samarco, Brazil</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 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) | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>Queensland, Australia</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Production | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>BMA</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 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 | |
| | <u>BHP Mitsui Coal (b)</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Riverside | | 400 | 300 | 1,014 | 969 | 812 | | 1,781 | 1,327 | |

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| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|--------|--------|
| | 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 |
| | <u>Queensland total</u> | | 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. | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>Illawarra, Australia</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | 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 | | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>South Africa</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | 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%. | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>Australia</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | 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 2002 | MARCH 2003 | JUNE 2003 | SEPT 2003 | DEC 2003 | DEC 2003 | DEC 2002 | | |
| ENERGY COAL | | | | | | | | | | |
| BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated. | | | | | | | | | | |
| ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Ingwe, South Africa</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 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 | |
| <u>New Mexico, USA</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 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. | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Hunter Valley, Australia</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 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 | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|--|---------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----------------|-------|
| <u>Kalimantan, Indonesia</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | 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. | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Cerrejon Coal, Colombia</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | 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 | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>CMSA, Colombia</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | 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 |
| <u>Yabulu, Australia</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | 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 |

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| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | | | | | | | | | |
| 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

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: 29 January 2004