

BHP BILLITON PLC  
Form 6-K  
March 09, 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

8 March 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 8 March 2005

Number 09/05

**MARKET SPECULATION REGARDING WMC RESOURCES**

BHP Billiton appointed Deutsche Bank to assess the feasibility of acquiring a stake in WMC Resources Limited. A decision was made not to acquire any shares.

BHP Billiton holds economic exposure to 50.6 million (4.3%) WMC Resources shares through cash settled derivative contracts.

BHP Billiton will today seek discussions with the board of WMC Resources regarding the possibility of making an all cash offer for the entire issued share capital of WMC Resources.

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  
email: Francis.R.Mcallister@bhpbilliton.com

**BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077**

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

**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  
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 Plc Registration number 3196209**

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: 8 March 2005