

BHP BILLITON PLC
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

Plc

(Translation of registrant's name into English) Neathouse Place London SW1V 1BH United Kingdom
(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.

| | DEC | DEC | | | DEC Q05 |
|--|-----|-----|--|--|---------|
|--|-----|-----|--|--|---------|

| | | | DEC H05 | 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 | DEC Q05 | 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 | | |
| | | | 2004 | 2005 | 2005 | 2005 | 2005 | 2005 2004 | | |

| 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 |

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| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--|-----------------|---------|
| | 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) | | | | | | | | | |

| <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 | | | | | | | | | | |
| CMSA, Colombia | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 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 |
| Yabulu, Australia | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 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 |
| Nickel West, Australia (a) | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 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 | | | | | | | | | |
| | South Africa (a) | | | | | | | | | |
| | 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
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 Kingdom
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The BHP Billiton Group is headquartered in Australia

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

BHP Billiton Plc

Date: 24 January 2006

By: Karen Wood

Name: Karen Wood

Title: Company Secretary