

BHP BILLITON LTD
Form 6-K
October 03, 2013

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
October 3, 2013

BHP BILLITON LIMITED

(ABN 49 004 028 077)

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

BHP BILLITON PLC

(REG. NO. 3196209)

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organisation)

ENGLAND AND WALES

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organisation)

171 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

NEATHOUSE PLACE, VICTORIA, LONDON,

3000 AUSTRALIA

UNITED KINGDOM

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Address of principal executive offices)

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

3 October 2013

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To: Australian Securities Exchange
London Stock Exchange

cc: New York Stock Exchange
JSE Limited

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RESOURCES AND ENERGY

BHP Billiton President, HSEC, Marketing and Technology, Mike Henry, will present at the Australian National Conference on Resources and Energy in Canberra today.

A copy of the presentation is attached.

Further information on BHP Billiton can be found at: www.bhpbilliton.com.

Nicole Duncan
Company Secretary

BHP Billiton Limited

BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077
Registered in Australia
Registered Office: 171 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria
3000

BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209
Registered in England and Wales
Registered Office: Neathouse Place, London SW1V
1BH United Kingdom

The BHP Billiton Group is headquartered in Australia

NEWS RELEASE

Release Time IMMEDIATE

Date 3 October 2013

BUILDING ON AUSTRALIA'S COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE

BHP Billiton today further outlined its productivity agenda to capitalise on the next phase of the Asian growth cycle.

Speaking at the Australian National Conference on Resources and Energy, BHP Billiton President, HSEC, Marketing and Technology, Mike Henry, said the commodities that would feed future China growth would require Australia's resources industry to continue to improve its competitiveness.

We see moderation in the rate of GDP growth in China, and a reduction in manufacturing and investment share over time, but it is really important to note that there is still an incredibly large opportunity to be captured from a commodity demand perspective.

Commodity demand growth will remain robust as the fundamentals of wealth creation, demographics and urbanisation continue to drive demand for resources. However the shifting dynamics of economic growth will challenge Australia's traditional understanding of core commodities.

As China transitions to a more consumption based economy, and the level of true urbanisation increases, we expect that commodities supporting the production of food, energy and consumer goods will see more durable demand growth over an extended part of the economic development curve.

Mr Henry said it was critical industry and policy makers worked together to capitalise on these opportunities.

We believe the vast majority of the productivity challenge lies with industry and it is incumbent on employers to create an environment that inspires people to work smarter and rewards productivity improvements.

For BHP Billiton this means working our assets both smarter and harder. Our concentrated effort to reduce operating costs and drive productivity improvements delivered a significant US\$2.7 billion reduction in controllable cash costs in the 2013 financial year. We continue to identify process improvement opportunities across the business and we are creating strong competition for capital, he said.

Mr Henry highlighted that government also had a role in securing future investment particularly in taxation and industrial relations policy and addressing duplication between state and federal regulatory obligations.

To ensure Australian projects are not disadvantaged, tax policy should target reforms that deliver more competitive, sustainable taxation and help make the system more efficient and internationally competitive. Similarly we can reduce the burden of duplicated green tape processes while still maintaining the highest environmental standards, he said.

When it comes to industrial relations, BHP Billiton is an advocate for a framework that draws employees and employers onto the same page and allows for more direct employee engagement.

Further information on BHP Billiton can be found at: www.bhpbilliton.com.

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Members of the BHP Billiton Group which is headquartered in Australia

SIGNATURES

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

BHP Billiton Limited and BHP Billiton Plc

Date: October 3, 2013

By: /s/ Jane McAloon

Name: Jane McAloon

Title: Group Company Secretary