

BHP BILLITON LTD  
Form 6-K  
August 16, 2013

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# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

## FORM 6-K

### REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of

the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

August 16, 2013

| <u>Commission File Number</u> | <u>Translation of registrant's name into English; Address of principal executive offices</u> |
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|  | BHP Billiton Limited (ABN 49 004 028 077)<br>180 LONSDALE STREET, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA<br>3000 AUSTRALIA |
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|---|---|
| - | BHP Billiton Plc (REG. NO. 3196209)<br>NEATHOUSE PLACE, VICTORIA, LONDON,<br>UNITED KINGDOM |
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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

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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): 82-

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NEWS RELEASE

Release Time:  
IMMEDIATE

Date:  
16 August 2013

Number:  
18/13

UPDATE ON CONTINUING REGULATORY INVESTIGATIONS

As previously disclosed BHP Billiton received a request for information in August 2009 from the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). As a result the Group commenced an internal investigation and disclosed to relevant authorities including the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) evidence that it uncovered regarding possible violations of applicable anti-corruption laws involving interactions with foreign government officials. As has been publicly reported, the Australian Federal Police has indicated that it has commenced an investigation. The Group is fully cooperating with the relevant authorities as it has since the US investigations commenced.

As a part of the US process, the SEC and DOJ have recently notified the Group of the issues they consider could form the basis of enforcement actions and discussions are continuing. The issues relate primarily to matters in connection with previously terminated exploration and development efforts, as well as hospitality provided as part of the Company's sponsorship of the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

In light of the continuing nature of the investigations it is not appropriate at this stage for BHP Billiton to comment further or to predict outcomes. BHP Billiton is fully committed to operating with integrity and the Group's policies specifically prohibit engaging in unethical conduct. BHP Billiton has what it considers to be a world class anti-corruption compliance program.

Further information on BHP Billiton can be found at: [www.bhpbilliton.com](http://www.bhpbilliton.com).

Media Relations:

Australia  
Emily Perry  
Tel: +61 3 9609 2800  
Mobile: +61 477 325 803  
email: [Emily.Perry@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Emily.Perry@bhpbilliton.com)

Fiona Hadley  
Tel: +61 3 9609 2211  
Mobile: +61 427 777 908  
email: Fiona.Hadley@bhpbilliton.com

Eleanor Nichols  
Tel: +61 3 9609 2360  
Mobile: +61 407 064 748  
email: Eleanor.Nichols@bhpbilliton.com

United Kingdom  
Ruban Yogarajah  
Tel: +44 20 7802 4033  
Mobile: +44 7827 082 022  
email: Ruban.Yogarajah@bhpbilliton.com

Jennifer White  
Tel: +44 20 7802 7462  
Mobile: +44 7827 253 764  
email: Jennifer.White@bhpbilliton.com

Americas  
Jaryl Strong Tel: +1 713 499 5548  
Mobile: +1 281 222 6627  
email: Jaryl.Strong@bhpbilliton.com

Investor Relations:

Australia  
James Agar  
Tel: +61 3 9609 2222  
Mobile: +61 467 807 064  
email: James.Agar@bhpbilliton.com

Andrew Gunn  
Tel: +61 3 9609 3575  
Mobile: +61 402 087 354  
email: Andrew.Gunn@bhpbilliton.com

United Kingdom and South Africa  
Tara Dines  
Tel : +44 20 7802 7113  
Mobile : +44 7825 342 232  
Email : Tara.Dines@bhpbilliton.com

Americas  
James Agar  
Tel: +61 3 9609 2222  
Mobile: +61 467 807 064  
email: James.Agar@bhpbilliton.com

Matt Chism  
Tel: +1 71 359 96158  
Mobile: +1 281 782 2238  
email: Matt.E.Chism@bhpbilliton.com

BHP Billiton Limited  
ABN 49 004 028 077  
Registered in Australia  
Registered Office: 180 Lonsdale Street  
Melbourne Victoria 3000 Australia  
Tel +61 1300 55 4757 Fax +61 3 9609 3015

BHP Billiton Plc  
Registration number 3196209  
Registered in England and Wales  
Registered Office: Neathouse Place  
London SW1V 1BH United Kingdom  
Tel +44 20 7802 4000 Fax +44 20 7802 4111

Members of the BHP Billiton Group which is headquartered in Australia

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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.

Date : August 16, 2013

BHP Billiton Limited (ABN 49 004 028 077) BHP Billiton  
Plc (REG. NO. 3196209)

By: /s/ Jane McAloon  
Name: Jane McAloon  
Title: Group Company Secretary