

BHP BILLITON LTD  
Form 6-K  
March 09, 2005

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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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 Limited

ABN 49 004 028 077

180 Lonsdale Street

Melbourne Victoria 3000

Australia

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"/>
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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

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):

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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**

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

Registered in Australia  
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**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**

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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.

BHP BILLITON LIMITED  
/s/ KAREN WOOD

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Karen Wood  
Title: Company Secretary  
Date: 8 March 2005