

BHP BILLITON LTD  
Form 6-K  
December 03, 2004

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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

18 November 2004

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"/> |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|--|-----------|--------------------------|

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):

Issued by: BHP Billiton Plc

To:  
Company Announcements Office  
The London Stock Exchange

cc:  
New York Stock Exchange  
Swiss Stock Exchange  
Johannesburg Stock Exchange  
Deutsche Bank

Company Announcements Office  
The Australian Stock Exchange

Date: 18 November 2004

For Release: Immediately

Contact: Ines Watson + 44 (0)20 7802 4176

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Notification of Major Interests in Shares

The following notification was received yesterday by BHP Billiton Plc in a communication from Old Mutual plc dated 17 November 2004 relating to major interests in shares of BHP Billiton Plc as at 9 November 2004:

"Please find notification pursuant to Section 198 of the Companies Act 1985, that as at 9<sup>th</sup> November 2004, Old Mutual Plc and its direct and indirect subsidiaries had a material interest in 226,981,300 ordinary shares of BHP Billiton Plc, representing 9.20% of the issued share capital. The shares are registered as per the attached schedule."

Registered holdings of BHP Billiton Plc share capital by Old Mutual Companies at

9 November 2004

| Total Shares issued | Number of Shares | Company  | Registered Holder                                    | % of issued shares |
|---------------------|------------------|--|--|--------------------|
| 2,468,147,002       | 113,280,231      | Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd       | Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (South Africa) Ltd | 4.59%              |
|                     | 1,541,160        | Stanlib Asset Management Ltd (not an Old Mutual Company) | Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (South Africa) Ltd | 0.06%              |

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|  |            |  |   |       |
|--|------------|--|---|-------|
|  | 369,892    | Prudential Portfolio Managers SA (Pty) Ltd (not an Old Mutual Company) | Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (South Africa) Ltd                            | 0.01% |
|  | 21,100     | PeregrineQuant (Pty) Ltd (Not an Old Mutual Company)                   | Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (South Africa) Ltd                            | 0.00% |
|  | 450,000    | Polaris Capital (Pty) Ltd (Not and Old Mutual Company)                 | Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (South Africa) Ltd                            | 0.02% |
|  | 6,156,626  | Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd                     | Old Mutual Unit Trusts (SA) Limited   | 0.25% |
|  | 58,319,134 | Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd                     | Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (Managed Fund Client Assets) | 2.36% |
|  | 2,479,653  | Old Mutual Asset Managers (Namibia) (Pty) Ltd                          | Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (Namibia) Ltd                                 | 0.10% |
|  | 212,849    | Old Mutual Asset Managers (Namibia) (Pty) Ltd                          | Old Mutual Holdings (Namibia) (Pty) Ltd   | 0.01% |
|  | 1,144,065  | Old Mutual Asset Managers (Namibia) (Pty) Ltd                          | Old Mutual Asset Managers (Namibia) (Pty) Ltd (Managed Fund Client Assets)      | 0.05% |
|  | 52,724     | Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd                     | Old Mutual Unit Trusts (Namibia) Limited  | 0.00% |
|  | 4,503,111  | Old Mutual Asset Managers (Bermuda) Ltd                                | Old Mutual Global Asset Fund  | 0.18% |
|  | 12,389,081 | Old Mutual Asset Managers (Bermuda) Ltd                                | Old Mutual South Africa Equity Trust Limited                                    | 0.50% |
|  | 706,891    | Old Mutual Asset Managers (Bermuda) Ltd                                | Old Mutual South African Trust Plc  | 0.03% |
|  | 150,182    | Old Mutual Fund Managers Ltd   | The Bank of New York Nominees Ltd   | 0.01% |
|  | 31,500     | Old Mutual Fund Managers Ltd   | The Bank of New York Nominees Ltd   | 0.00% |
|  | 52,460     | Old Mutual Fund Managers Ltd   | Nortrust Nominees   | 0.00% |
|  | 818,374    | Old Mutual Fund Managers Ltd   | HSBC Global Custody Nominee (UK) Ltd  | 0.03% |
|  | 20,100     | Old Mutual Fund Managers Ltd   | Citibank London   | 0.00% |
|  | 308,500    | Old Mutual Fund Managers Ltd   | Morgan Stanley & Co International Ltd   | 0.01% |

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|  |             |                                   |                                       |       |
|--|-------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------|
|  | 150,314     | Quantitive Asset Management       | ABSA Nominees                         | 0.01% |
|  | 2,786,591   | Quantitive Asset Management       | Nedbank Nominees Ltd                  | 0.11% |
|  | 2,945,255   | Quantitive Asset Management       | Standard Bank Nominees Ltd            | 0.12% |
|  | 64,667      | Syfrets Securities                | Syfrets Securities Nominees (Pty) Ltd | 0.00% |
|  | 6,966,171   | NIB Collective Investment Schemes | Nedcor Bank Nominees                  | 0.28% |
|  | 17,629      | NIB Securities                    | NIB IPS Nominees (Pty) Ltd            | 0.00% |
|  | 3,486,972   | BOE Personal Stockbrokers         | BNS Nominees                          | 0.14% |
|  | 3,129       | Old Mutual (STRAC)                | Nedcor Bank Nominees                  | 0.00% |
|  | 2,835,936   | BOE Private Clients               | Nedbank Nominees Ltd                  | 0.11% |
|  | 30,304      | BOE Private Clients               | Registered Own Name                   | 0.00% |
|  | 1,341,282   | BOE Private Clients (NTRAC)       | Nedcor Bank Nominees                  | 0.05% |
|  | 149,180     | BOE Fiduciary                     | Nedcor Bank Nominees                  | 0.01% |
|  | 3,196,237   | Mutual & Federal Limited          | Mutual & Federal Limited              | 0.13% |
|  | 226,981,300 |                                   |                                       | 9.20% |

BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077

BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209

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

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

LIMITED  
/s/ KAREN WOOD

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Karen Wood  
Title: Company Secretary  
Date:

18 November 2004