BHP BILLITON LTD
Form 6-K
July 27, 2007

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

July 24, 2007

BHP BILLITON LIMITED	BHP BILLITON PLC
(ABN 49 004 028 077)	**(REG. NO. 3196209)**
(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)	**(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)**
VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA	**ENGLAND AND WALES**
(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organisation)	**(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organisation)**
180 LONSDALE 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: [x] 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 [x] No

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): n/a

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24 July 2007
Number 23/07

BHP BILLITON PRODUCTION REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

BHP Billiton today released its production report for the year ended 30 June 2007. Throughout this report, unless otherwise stated, production volumes refer to BHP Billiton share and exclude suspended and sold operations.

- Annual production records achieved for natural gas, alumina, aluminium, copper, nickel, iron ore, manganese ore, and metallurgical coal; all underpinned by strong demand.
- Increased annual production achieved for energy coal, diamonds and manganese alloy.
- Petroleum production in line with prior year despite no new major project start-ups.
- Record annual production achieved at North West Shelf, Worsley, Western Australia Iron Ore, GEMCO, Queensland Coal, Hunter Valley Coal and Illawarra Coal Bed Methane (all Australia), Mad Dog (USA), Zamzama (Pakistan), Alumar (Brazil), Paranam (Suriname), Hillside, Bayside and Samancor (all South Africa), Mozal (Mozambique), Escondida (Chile) and Cerrejon Coal (Colombia)
- Quarterly production records achieved for the Alumar, Yabulu (Australia), Queensland Coal, Cerrejon Coal, New Mexico Coal (USA) and Illawarra Coal Bed Methane operations and for natural gas from Bass Strait (Australia).
- Third party infrastructure constraints on the east coast of Australia will continue to adversely impact our coal operations in the near term.

	JUNE	JUNE	JUNE YTD 07	JUN Q07	JUN Q07

	2007	2007	vs	vs	vs
PETROLEUM	YTD	QTR	JUNE YTD 06	JUN Q06	MAR Q07
Crude Oil, Condensate and Natural Gas Liquids ('000 bbl) (a)	56,723	14,461	0%	-1%	9%
Natural Gas (bcf) (a)	355.69	95.23	1%	-2%	10%
Total Petroleum Products (million boe) (a)	116.00	30.47	0%	-1%	10%

Total Petroleum Production -

Total production was in line with the year ended June 2006 and higher than the March 2007 quarter. Natural field decline has been offset by improved facility performance and successful development drilling. There were no major project start-ups in the period. Higher seasonal gas demand in Australia also supported the improved result.

Crude Oil, Condensate and Natural Gas Liquids -

Production was higher than the March 2007 quarter due to improved operational uptime and successful development drilling which offset natural field decline. Stronger seasonal gas demand also increased condensate production.

Natural Gas -

Record quarterly performance from Bass Strait led to a 10 per cent increase versus the March 2007 quarter production.

	JUNE	JUNE	JUNE YTD 07	JUN Q07	JUN Q07
	2007	2007	vs	vs	vs
ALUMINIUM	YTD	QTR	JUNE YTD 06	JUN Q06	MAR Q07
Alumina ('000 tonnes)	4,460	1,144	7%	7%	5%
Aluminium ('000 tonnes) (b)	1,340	334	2%	0%	1%

Alumina -

Production and sales for the year ended June 2007 were all time records. Record annual output was achieved at all operations due to the continuing ramp up of the Worsley expansion and strong performance at Paranam and Alumar. Worsley exceeded its expanded nameplate capacity in the June 2007 quarter.

Aluminium

- A sixth consecutive annual production record was achieved. Successful implementation of ongoing efficiency initiatives resulted in record or near record performance at all operations.

BASE METALS	JUNE 2007 YTD	JUNE 2007 QTR	JUNE YTD 07 vs JUNE YTD 06	JUN Q07 vs JUN Q06	JUN Q07 vs MAR Q07
Copper ('000 tonnes) (c)	1,250.1	342.1	7%	17%	-4%
Silver ('000 ounces) (c)	36,565	11,625	-20%	23%	5%
Lead (tonnes)	210,814	62,409	-21%	12%	-1%
Zinc (tonnes)	118,695	39,148	9%	42%	9%
Uranium Oxide Concentrate (Uranium) (tonnes)	3,486	988	-11%	14%	12%

Copper

- An annual production record was set with the continued ramp up of the Escondida Sulphide Leach Project and Spence (both Chile). This was accomplished despite the impact of the industrial action at Escondida in August 2006. In aggregate, these two projects contributed 134,950 tonnes during the year. Partially offsetting this was lower output from Olympic Dam due to maintenance activities and reduced ore hoisting and grades.

June 2007 quarterly production was higher than the June 2006 quarter reflecting the continued ramp up of the recently expanded capacity.

As of 30 June 2006 the company had 274,280 tonnes of copper sales which were subject to a finalisation adjustment. The finalisation adjustment and provisional pricing impact as at 30 June 2007 will increase

earnings[d] by US$108 million for the financial year. For the year ended 30 June 2007 the Group had 346,610 tonnes of copper sales that were provisionally priced at a weighted average price of US$7,152 per tonne. The final price of these sales will be determined in the 2008 financial year.

Silver -

Record silver production at Escondida reduced the effect of the rehabilitation of ground support at Cannington (Australia). Production has recovered following the successful completion of the rehabilitation project in the March 2007 quarter.

Lead -

Improved performance following the completion of the Cannington rehabilitation project was offset by declining grade.

Zinc

- Production was higher than all comparative periods due to improved grade and increased proportion of zinc contained ore processed at Antamina (Peru).

Uranium -

Variability of ore sources, lower grade, and ongoing maintenance activities at Olympic Dam impacted output for the year ended June 2007. Third party products were purchased from the spot market to meet contractual requirements. This will decrease earnings[d] by US$81 million for the financial year.

The higher production in the current period compared to the June 2006 and March 2007 quarters reflects increased grade and recoveries.

	JUNE	JUNE	JUNE YTD 07	JUN Q07	JUN Q07
	2007	2007	vs	vs	vs
DIAMONDS & SPECIALTY PRODUCTS	YTD	QTR	JUNE YTD 06	JUN Q06	MAR Q07
Diamonds ('000 carats)	3,224	911	26%	56%	2%

Diamonds -

Production increased versus the year and quarter ended June 2006 due to processing of higher grade ore containing lower value diamonds.

	JUNE	JUNE	JUNE YTD 07	JUN Q07	JUN Q07
	2007	2007	vs	vs	vs
STAINLESS STEEL MATERIALS	YTD	QTR	JUNE YTD 06	JUN Q06	MAR Q07
Nickel ('000 tonnes)	186.3	47.7	7%	15%	4%

Nickel

- Record annual production was driven by strong performances at all operations. All operations achieved near record production and sales.

	JUNE	JUNE	JUNE YTD 07	JUN Q07	JUN Q07
	2007	2007	vs	vs	vs
IRON ORE	YTD	QTR	JUNE YTD 06	JUN Q06	MAR Q07
Iron ore ('000 tonnes) (e)	98,197	25,746	8%	6%	13%

Iron Ore -

Records were set for annual production and sales volumes reflecting increased output from the expanded Western Australia Iron Ore operations.

Production was higher than the March 2007 quarter due to resumption of normal production levels following cyclone activities at Western Australia Iron Ore and planned maintenance at Samarco (Brazil) in the previous quarter.

	JUNE	JUNE	JUNE YTD 07	JUN Q07	JUN Q07
	2007	2007	vs	vs	vs
MANGANESE	YTD	QTR	JUNE YTD 06	JUN Q06	MAR Q07
Manganese Ore ('000 tonnes)	6,009	1,519	14%	9%	5%
Manganese Alloy ('000 tonnes)	662	164	17%	7%	-7%

Manganese Ore -

Higher production compared to all prior periods was driven by stronger customer demand.

Manganese Alloy -

Production was higher than the year and quarter ended June 2006 due to optimisation of the product mix and improved facility availability and utilisation.

The current quarter's output was impacted by planned furnace maintenance at TEMCO (Australia).

	JUNE	JUNE	JUNE YTD 07	JUN Q07	JUN Q07
	2007	2007	vs	vs	vs
METALLURGICAL COAL	YTD	QTR	JUNE YTD 06	JUN Q06	MAR Q07
Metallurgical Coal ('000 tonnes)	38,429	11,132	8%	21%	23%

Metallurgical Coal -

Strong annual and quarterly performance across the Queensland Coal portfolio followed a light plant shutdown schedule. Records were achieved at Goonyella and Saraji. The ramp up of Poitrel continued (all Australia).

Our Hay Point Coal terminal (Australia) attained record annual and quarterly throughput, partially mitigating the impact of port constraints at third party facilities. These constraints at third party facilities are expected to continue in the near term.

	JUNE	JUNE	JUNE YTD 07	JUN Q07	JUN Q07
	2007	2007	vs	vs	vs
ENERGY COAL	YTD	QTR	JUNE YTD 06	JUN Q06	MAR Q07

Energy Coal ('000 tonnes)	87,025	22,283	1%	2%	6%

Energy Coal -

Production was in line with the year ended June 2006. Increased output from improvement initiatives was offset by extreme weather conditions at Hunter Valley Coal.

Production for the June 2007 quarter was higher than the March 2007 quarter due to the impact of a planned longwall move at San Juan (USA) in the previous quarter.

Third party infrastructure constraints on the east coast of Australia will continue to impact Hunter Valley Coal's export sales.

Production in South Africa will be lower in 2008 financial year due to the divestment of Koornfontein and potential divestment of Optimum and reduced output from the Douglas underground mine as it approaches shut down in the middle of the 2008 calendar year.

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(a) Excluding Green Canyon 18 and 60 fields (sold effective from 16 January 2006), Moranbah Coal Bed Methane (sold September 2006 quarter) and Typhoon / Boris (sold December 2006 quarter).

(b) Excluding Valesul which was sold effective from 1 July 2006.

(c) Excluding Tintaya which was sold effective from 1 June 2006.

(d) Earnings before interest and tax.

(e) Excluding Goldsworthy operations which were suspended mid calendar year 2006.

BHP BILLITON PRODUCTION SUMMARY - CONTINUING OPERATIONS												
			QUARTER ENDED				YEAR ENDED			% CHANGE		
										JUNE YTD 07	JUN Q07	JUN Q07
			JUNE	MAR	JUNE		JUNE	JUNE		vs	vs	vs
			2006	2007	2007		2007	2006		JUNE YTD 06	JUN Q06	MAR Q07
PETROLEUM												
		('000 bbl)	11,551	10,671	11,443		45,167	45,390		0%	-1%	7%

Crude oil & condensate (a)											
Natural gas (b)	(bcf)	96.73	86.67	95.23		355.69	352.84		1%	-2%	10%
Natural gas liquid	('000 bbl)	3,063	2,626	3,018		11,556	11,428		1%	-1%	15%
Total Petroleum Products (b)	(million boe)	30.74	27.68	30.47		116.00	115.62		0%	-1%	10%
ALUMINIUM											
Alumina	('000 tonnes)	1,072	1,085	1,144		4,460	4,187		7%	7%	5%
Aluminium (c)	('000 tonnes)	333	331	334		1,340	1,319		2%	0%	1%
BASE METALS											
Copper (d)	('000 tonnes)	292.6	357.6	342.1		1,250.1	1,168.5		7%	17%	-4%
Lead	(tonnes)	55,507	62,974	62,409		210,814	266,321		-21%	12%	-1%
Zinc	(tonnes)	27,564	35,760	39,148		118,695	109,058		9%	42%	9%
Gold (d)	(ounces)	51,203	43,904	52,443		176,071	187,384		-6%	2%	19%
Silver (d)	('000 ounces)	9,474	11,025	11,625		36,565	45,884		-20%	23%	5%
Uranium oxide concentrate	(tonnes)	865	883	988		3,486	3,936		-11%	14%	12%
Molybdenum	(tonnes)	538	288	493		2,268	2,515		-10%	-8%	71%
DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS											
Diamonds	('000 carats)	583	889	911		3,224	2,561		26%	56%	2%
STAINLESS STEEL MATERIALS											
Nickel	('000 tonnes)	41.6	45.8	47.7		186.3	174.9		7%	15%	4%
IRON ORE											
Iron ore (e)	('000 tonnes)	24,307	22,884	25,746		98,197	90,831		8%	6%	13%
MANGANESE											
Manganese ore		1,389	1,452	1,519		6,009	5,280		14%	9%	5%

	('000 tonnes)								
Manganese alloy	('000 tonnes)	153	176	164	662	568	17%	7%	-7%
METALLURGICAL COAL									
Metallurgical coal	('000 tonnes)	9,224	9,084	11,132	38,429	35,643	8%	21%	23%
ENERGY COAL									
Energy coal	('000 tonnes)	21,787	20,930	22,283	87,025	85,756	1%	2%	6%

(a) Excluding Green Canyon 18 and 60 fields and Typhoon / Boris. Green Canyon 18 and 60 fields was disposed with effect from 16 January 2006.

The sale of Typhoon / Boris was completed in the December 2006 quarter.

(b) Excluding Green Canyon 18 and 60 fields, Moranbah Coal Bed Methane and Typhoon/ Boris. The sale of Moranbah Coal Bed Methane was completed in the September 2006 quarter.

(c) Excluding Valesul which was disposed with effect from 1 July 2006.

(d) Excluding Tintaya which was disposed with effect from 1 June 2006.

(e) Excluding Goldsworthy operations which were suspended mid calendar year 2006.

Throughout this report figures in italics indicate that this figure has been adjusted since it was previously reported.

BHP BILLITON ATTRIBUTABLE PRODUCTION										
				QUARTER ENDED					YEAR ENDED	
			BHP Billiton	JUNE	SEPT	DEC	MAR	JUNE	JUNE	JUNE
			Interest	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2006
PETROLEUM										
Production										
	Crude oil & condensate		('000 bbl)	11,551	12,091	10,963	10,671	11,443	55,934	54,992

Natural gas	(bcf)	98.59	91.83	83.09	86.67	95.23	462.31	464.60
NGL (a)	('000 bbl)	3,063	3,132	2,746	2,626	3,018	11,522	11,428
Total Petroleum Products	(million boe)	31.04	30.52	27.52	27.68	30.47	116.19	117.36
ALUMINIUM								
ALUMINA								
Production ('000 tonnes)								
Worsley	86%	694	704	776	708	768	2,956	2,763
Suriname	45%	247	253	241	241	243	978	921
Alumar	36%	131	121	136	136	133	526	503
Total		1,072	1,078	1,153	1,085	1,144	4,460	4,187
ALUMINIUM								
Production ('000 tonnes)								
Hillside	100%	177	177	176	174	177	704	700
Bayside	100%	46	49	50	48	47	194	179
Alumar	46.3%	44	44	45	44	44	177	178
Valesul (b)	45.5%	11	-	-	-	-	-	43
Mozal	47%	66	67	67	65	66	265	262
Total		344	337	338	331	334	1,340	1,362
BASE METALS (c)								
COPPER								
Payable metal in concentrate ('000 tonnes)								
Escondida	57.5%	165.2	129.7	160.6	178.1	170.5	638.9	671.0
Antamina	33.8%	29.1	29.0	34.1	24.2	26.4	113.7	124.2
Tintaya (d)	100%	12.9	-	-	-	-	-	64.5
Total		207.2	158.7	194.7	202.3	196.9	752.6	859.7
Cathode ('000 tonnes)								
Escondida	57.5%	11.7	17.5	32.7	38.2	37.7	126.1	66.7
Cerro Colorado	100%	30.0	30.0	27.4	28.1	20.3		