

BHP BILLITON LTD  
Form 6-K  
January 18, 2012

**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**

January 18, 2012

**BHP BILLITON LIMITED**

(ABN 49 004 028 077)

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA  
(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organisation)

180 LONSDALE STREET, MELBOURNE,

VICTORIA

3000 AUSTRALIA  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**BHP BILLITON PLC**

(REG. NO. 3196209)

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

ENGLAND AND WALES  
(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organisation)

NEATHOUSE PLACE, VICTORIA, LONDON,

UNITED KINGDOM  
(Address of principal executive offices)

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Release Time IMMEDIATE  
 Date 18 January 2012  
 Number 01/12

**BHP BILLITON PRODUCTION REPORT FOR THE HALF YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2011**

**Western Australia Iron Ore production rose to a record annualised rate of 178 million tonnes per annum (100% basis) in the December 2011 quarter, a 25% increase over the previous corresponding period.**

**A strong recovery in production across the Base Metals portfolio delivered a 27% increase in copper volumes from the September 2011 quarter.**

**Half yearly production records were achieved at New South Wales Energy Coal (Australia) and Cerrejon Coal (Colombia), two of BHP Billiton's high value, export oriented energy coal operations.**

**Petroleum production increased 36% from the December 2010 half year following the acquisition of the Fayetteville and Petrohawk Onshore US businesses and strong uptime performance from existing, operated assets.**

**Petroleum**

	DEC 2011 HALF	DEC 2011 QTR	vs DEC H10	vs DEC Q10	vs SEP Q11
Crude oil, condensate and natural gas liquids ( 000 boe)	44,066	22,228	-10%	-5%	2%
Natural gas (bcf)	391.84	214.49	108%	160%	21%
Total petroleum products (million boe)	109.38	57.98	36%	56%	13%

**Total petroleum production** Petroleum production increased 36 per cent from the December 2010 half year following the acquisition of the Fayetteville and Petrohawk Onshore US businesses and strong uptime performance from existing, operated assets.

**Crude oil, condensate and natural gas liquids** Liquids volumes increased marginally from the September 2011 quarter as production from the Onshore US portfolio, development drilling at Shenzi and high uptime at Atlantis (all USA) offset anticipated field decline.

The contribution from the Onshore US portfolio resulted in an eight per cent increase in natural gas liquids production in the December 2011 half year, although anticipated field decline and the temporary shut down of the non-operated Mad Dog facility (USA) resulted in lower overall liquids production relative to the prior corresponding period. Mad Dog is forecast by the operator to remain shut down until the June 2012 quarter.

**Natural gas** Natural gas production was higher than all comparable periods reflecting strong performance from the Onshore US and Angostura (Trinidad and Tobago) businesses. Gas production in eastern Australia was down against the September 2011 quarter due to lower seasonal demand.

**Aluminium**

	DEC 2011 HALF	DEC 2011 QTR	DEC H11 vs DEC H10	DEC Q11 vs DEC Q10	DEC Q11 vs SEP Q11
Alumina ( 000 tonnes)	2,061	1,001	2%	-2%	-6%
Aluminium ( 000 tonnes)	628	313	0%	0%	-1%

**Alumina** Sales volumes increased when compared with all corresponding periods as the Alumar refinery (Brazil) continued to deliver into expanded capacity. While a planned calciner outage at Worsley (Australia) constrained production during the December 2011 quarter, volumes are expected to recover as the refinery processes stockpiled hydrate in future periods.

**Aluminium** Production was in line with comparable periods with all operations running at, or close to, maximum technical capacity.

Despite our competitive position on the cost curve, our integrated Aluminium business continues to be challenged by underlying cost pressure and weaker prices.

**Base Metals**

	DEC 2011 HALF	DEC 2011 QTR	DEC H11 vs DEC H10	DEC Q11 vs DEC Q10	DEC Q11 vs SEP Q11
Copper ( 000 tonnes)	500.6	280.3	-16%	-7%	27%
Lead (tonnes)	122,651	66,992	-9%	3%	20%
Zinc (tonnes)	51,742	28,298	-33%	-23%	21%
Silver ( 000 ounces)	20,054	10,903	-15%	-6%	19%
Uranium oxide concentrate (Uranium) (tonnes)	1,909	909	-3%	-5%	-9%

**Copper** A strong recovery in production across the Base Metals portfolio delivered a 27% increase in copper volumes from the September 2011 quarter. Escondida (Chile) average mill throughput per day steadily increased as operations recovered from the industrial action that affected production in the prior quarter. In addition, Olympic Dam (Australia) benefited from higher grades and improved smelter availability following the planned outage in the September 2011 quarter. The expansion of mining fleets at Antamina (Peru) and Pampa Norte (Chile) contributed to half yearly material mined records for both assets.

Consistent with prior guidance, Escondida production is forecast to be marginally lower in the 2012 financial year, with volumes weighted to the second half. Production is expected to improve beyond the 2012 financial year as mining activities progress towards higher grade ore with completion of the Escondida Ore Access project in the main pit.

At 31 December 2011, the Group had 219,718 tonnes of outstanding copper sales that were revalued at a weighted average price of US\$3.45 per pound. The final price of these sales will be determined over the remainder of the 2012 financial year. In addition, 239,156 tonnes of copper sales from the 2011 financial year were subject to a finalisation adjustment in the current period. The finalisation adjustment and provisional pricing impact as at 31 December 2011 will decrease earnings before interest and tax by US\$258 million for the period.

**Lead/silver** Production at Cannington (Australia) decreased in the December 2011 half year reflecting lower average ore grades.

**Zinc** Production at Antamina decreased in the December 2011 half year as mining continued to progress through a copper rich ore zone.

**Uranium** Production was broadly in line with all comparable periods.

### Diamonds & Specialty Products

	DEC 2011 HALF	DEC 2011 QTR	DEC H11 vs DEC H10	DEC Q11 vs DEC Q10	DEC Q11 vs SEP Q11
Diamonds ( 000 carats)	938	481	-32%	-29%	5%

**Diamonds** As anticipated, production in the December 2011 half year was lower than the prior corresponding period. EKATI (Canada) production is expected to remain constrained in the medium term as the operations extract lower grade material, consistent with the mine plan.

During the quarter, BHP Billiton announced a review of its diamonds business, including the Group's interests in the EKATI Diamond Mine. The process is ongoing and could continue through the first half of the 2012 calendar year.

### Stainless Steel Materials

	DEC 2011 HALF	DEC 2011 QTR	DEC H11 vs DEC H10	DEC Q11 vs DEC Q10	DEC Q11 vs SEP Q11
Nickel ( 000 tonnes)	73.5	38.4	-10%	-11%	9%

**Nickel** Production increased in the December 2011 quarter with the Line 1 furnace at Cerro Matoso (Colombia) operating at full production rates following its successful replacement in the prior quarter. In addition, higher nickel in matte production at the Nickel West Kalgoorlie smelter (Australia) compensated for a decline in metal production at the Nickel West Kwinana refinery that resulted from a planned outage at a third party hydrogen supplier. Nickel West Kwinana is expected to commission its new hydrogen plant in the March 2012 quarter.

The Nickel West Mt Keith Talc Redesign Project, which enables the processing of talc bearing ore, was successfully commissioned in December 2011.

Nickel West operating margins remain sensitive to persistent weakness in nickel prices and the continued strength of the Australian dollar.

**Iron Ore**

	DEC 2011 HALF	DEC 2011 QTR	DEC H11 vs DEC H10	DEC Q11 vs DEC Q10	DEC Q11 vs SEP Q11
Iron ore ( 000 tonnes)	80,644	41,072	23%	22%	4%

**Iron ore** Western Australia Iron Ore (WAIO) delivered another quarterly record as production rose to an annualised rate of 178 million tonnes per annum (100% basis). Consistently strong operating performance, the ramp up of Ore Handling Plant 3 at Yandi, dual tracking of the company's rail infrastructure and additional ship loading capacity at Port Hedland all contributed to the record performance. While scheduled maintenance, tie-in activities and the wet season in the Pilbara are expected to affect WAIO production in the second half of the 2012 financial year, full year production is now forecast to marginally exceed prior guidance of 159 million tonnes per annum (100% basis).

Production at Samarco (Brazil) was in line with comparable periods with all three pellet plants continuing to run at full capacity.

**Manganese**

	DEC 2011 HALF	DEC 2011 QTR	DEC H11 vs DEC H10	DEC Q11 vs DEC Q10	DEC Q11 vs SEP Q11
Manganese ore ( 000 tonnes)	3,825	1,806	-3%	-1%	-11%
Manganese alloy ( 000 tonnes)	389	195	-1%	2%	1%

**Manganese ore** Production was lower than the September 2011 quarter as planned maintenance at Hotazel (South Africa) and a weather related reduction in plant availability at GEMCO (Australia) constrained performance.

**Manganese alloy** Alloy production was in line with comparable periods.

**Metallurgical Coal**

	DEC 2011 HALF	DEC 2011 QTR	DEC H11 vs DEC H10	DEC Q11 vs DEC Q10	DEC Q11 vs SEP Q11
Metallurgical coal ( 000 tonnes)	17,784	8,493	-2%	9%	-9%

**Metallurgical coal** Queensland Coal (Australia) volumes for the December 2011 quarter remained below capacity as a result of stoppages associated with the ongoing labour negotiations and the remnant effects of wet weather. In addition, geotechnical issues at the Gregory Crinum longwall adversely affected production in the period. While system capability is no longer constrained by the 2011 floods, the extent to which industrial action will continue to impact production, sales and unit costs is difficult to predict.

Illawarra Coal (Australia) production increased in the December 2011 half year following successful longwall moves at Dendrobium and Appin in the June 2011 quarter. Volumes were lower than the September 2011 quarter as a planned shutdown of the West Cliff Coal Handling Preparation Plant was undertaken in readiness for commissioning of a plant upgrade. A longwall move and plant shutdown at Dendrobium is scheduled for the March 2012 quarter.

**Energy Coal**

	DEC 2011 HALF	DEC 2011 QTR	DEC H11 vs DEC H10	DEC Q11 vs DEC Q10	DEC Q11 vs SEP Q11
Energy coal ( 000 tonnes)	35,379	16,919	5%	2%	-8%

**Energy coal** Half yearly production records were achieved at New South Wales Energy Coal and Cerrejon Coal, two of BHP Billiton's high value, export oriented energy coal operations. However, unfavourable mining conditions and an industrial dispute at South Africa Coal, together with the suspension of operations at San Juan Coal (USA), resulted in lower production relative to the September 2011 quarter.

Throughout this report, unless otherwise stated, production volumes refer to BHP Billiton's share and exclude suspended and sold operations.

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

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**BHP BILLITON PRODUCTION SUMMARY - CONTINUING OPERATIONS**

		QUARTER ENDED			YEAR TO DATE		% CHANGE		
		DEC 2010	SEP 2011	DEC 2011	DEC 2011	DEC 2010	DEC YTD11 vs DEC YTD10	DEC Q11 vs DEC Q10	DEC Q11 vs SEP Q11
<b>PETROLEUM</b>									
Crude oil & condensate	( 000 bbl)	20,652	18,482	<b>18,866</b>	<b>37,348</b>	42,739	-13%	-9%	2%
Natural gas	(bcf)	82.54	177.35	<b>214.49</b>	<b>391.84</b>	188.37	108%	160%	21%
Natural gas liquids	( 000 boe)	2,842	3,356	<b>3,362</b>	<b>6,718</b>	6,205	8%	18%	0%
Total petroleum products	(million boe)	37.25	51.40	<b>57.98</b>	<b>109.38</b>	80.34	36%	56%	13%
<b>ALUMINIUM</b>									
Alumina	( 000 tonnes)	1,025	1,060	<b>1,001</b>	<b>2,061</b>	2,025	2%	-2%	-6%
Aluminium	( 000 tonnes)	314	315	<b>313</b>	<b>628</b>	628	0%	0%	-1%
<b>BASE METALS</b>									
Copper	( 000 tonnes)	302.3	220.3	<b>280.3</b>	<b>500.6</b>	593.5	-16%	-7%	27%
Lead	(tonnes)	64,925	55,659	<b>66,992</b>	<b>122,651</b>	134,066	-9%	3%	20%
Zinc	(tonnes)	36,945	23,444	<b>28,298</b>	<b>51,742</b>	77,142	-33%	-23%	21%
Gold	(ounces)	51,626	39,439	<b>44,007</b>	<b>83,446</b>	100,987	-17%	-15%	12%
Silver	( 000 ounces)	11,571	9,151	<b>10,903</b>	<b>20,054</b>	23,723	-15%	-6%	19%
Uranium oxide concentrate	(tonnes)	957	1,000	<b>909</b>	<b>1,909</b>	1,967	-3%	-5%	-9%
Molybdenum	(tonnes)	485	595	<b>766</b>	<b>1,361</b>	693	96%	58%	29%
<b>DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS</b>									
Diamonds	( 000 carats)	676	457	<b>481</b>	<b>938</b>	1,379	-32%	-29%	5%
<b>STAINLESS STEEL MATERIALS</b>									
Nickel	( 000 tonnes)	43.0	35.1	<b>38.4</b>	<b>73.5</b>	81.5	-10%	-11%	9%
<b>IRON ORE</b>									
Iron ore	( 000 tonnes)	33,666	39,572	<b>41,072</b>	<b>80,644</b>	65,649	23%	22%	4%
<b>MANGANESE</b>									
Manganese ore	( 000 tonnes)	1,829	2,019	<b>1,806</b>	<b>3,825</b>	3,951	-3%	-1%	-11%
Manganese alloy	( 000 tonnes)	192	194	<b>195</b>	<b>389</b>	391	-1%	2%	1%
<b>METALLURGICAL COAL</b>									
Metallurgical coal	( 000 tonnes)	7,787	9,291	<b>8,493</b>	<b>17,784</b>	18,086	-2%	9%	-9%
<b>ENERGY COAL</b>									
Energy coal	( 000 tonnes)	16,513	18,460	<b>16,919</b>	<b>35,379</b>	33,619	5%	2%	-8%

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

**BHP BILLITON ATTRIBUTABLE PRODUCTION**

	BHP Billiton Interest	DEC 2010	QUARTER ENDED			DEC 2011	YEAR TO DATE	
			MAR 2011	JUN 2011	SEP 2011		DEC 2011	DEC 2010
<b>PETROLEUM</b>								
<b>Production</b>								
Crude oil & condensate ( 000 bbl)		20,652	19,200	18,652	18,482	<b>18,866</b>	<b>37,348</b>	42,739
Natural gas (bcf)		82.54	84.90	131.79	177.35	<b>214.49</b>	<b>391.84</b>	188.37
NGL ( 000 boe) (a)		2,842	2,442	2,636	3,356	<b>3,362</b>	<b>6,718</b>	6,205
Total petroleum products (million boe)		37.25	35.79	43.25	51.40	<b>57.98</b>	<b>109.38</b>	80.34

**ALUMINIUM****ALUMINA****Production ( 000 tonnes)**

Worsley	86%	758	663	725	752	<b>694</b>	<b>1,446</b>	1,514
Alumar	36%	267	296	301	308	<b>307</b>	<b>615</b>	511
Total		1,025	959	1,026	1,060	<b>1,001</b>	<b>2,061</b>	2,025

**ALUMINIUM****Production ( 000 tonnes)**

Hillside	100%	179	173	179	180	<b>180</b>	<b>360</b>	359
Bayside	100%	25	24	24	25	<b>24</b>	<b>49</b>	49
Alumar	40%	43	44	43	44	<b>42</b>	<b>86</b>	87
Mozal	47%	67	64	67	66	<b>67</b>	<b>133</b>	133
Total		314	305	313	315	<b>313</b>	<b>628</b>	628

**BASE METALS (b)****COPPER****Payable metal in concentrate ( 000 tonnes)**

Escondida	57.5%	112.7	87.7	79.4	49.9	<b>80.4</b>	<b>130.3</b>	223.4
Antamina	33.8%	27.2	24.9	22.5	30.3	<b>30.9</b>	<b>61.2</b>	50.4
Total		139.9	112.6	101.9	80.2	<b>111.3</b>	<b>191.5</b>	273.8

**Cathode ( 000 tonnes)**

Escondida	57.5%	47.1	44.4	42.6	32.9	<b>43.0</b>	<b>75.9</b>	92.1
Pampa Norte (c)	100%	66.0	64.1	75.7	65.4	<b>70.0</b>	<b>135.4</b>	132.4
Pinto Valley	100%	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	<b>1.4</b>	<b>2.8</b>	2.9
Olympic Dam	100%	47.8	51.1	50.7	40.4	<b>54.6</b>	<b>95.0</b>	92.3
Total		162.4	161.0	170.4	140.1	<b>169.0</b>	<b>309.1</b>	319.7

**LEAD****Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes)**

Cannington	100%	64,748	51,673	58,414	55,557	<b>66,787</b>	<b>122,344</b>	133,277
Antamina	33.8%	177	237	164	102	<b>205</b>	<b>307</b>	789
Total		64,925	51,910	58,578	55,659	<b>66,992</b>	<b>122,651</b>	134,066

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**ZINC**

**Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes)**

Cannington	100%	14,920	16,129	14,348	14,488	<b>14,745</b>	<b>29,233</b>	30,180
Antamina	33.8%	22,025	24,123	20,385	8,956	<b>13,553</b>	<b>22,509</b>	46,962
<b>Total</b>		<b>36,945</b>	<b>40,252</b>	<b>34,733</b>	<b>23,444</b>	<b>28,298</b>	<b>51,742</b>	<b>77,142</b>

Refer footnotes on page 4.

**BHP BILLITON ATTRIBUTABLE PRODUCTION**

	BHP Billiton Interest	QUARTER ENDED				YEAR TO DATE		DEC 2010
		DEC 2010	MAR 2011	JUN 2011	SEP 2011	DEC 2011	DEC 2011	
<b>BASE METALS (continued)</b>								
<b>GOLD</b>								
<b>Payable metal in concentrate (ounces)</b>								
Escondida	57.5%	23,133	19,667	17,116	11,063	<b>14,242</b>	<b>25,305</b>	47,940
Olympic Dam (refined gold)	100%	28,493	29,892	28,429	28,376	<b>29,765</b>	<b>58,141</b>	53,047
Total		51,626	49,559	45,545	39,439	<b>44,007</b>	<b>83,446</b>	100,987
<b>SILVER</b>								
<b>Payable metal in concentrate ( 000 ounces)</b>								
Escondida	57.5%	796	670	580	403	<b>549</b>	<b>952</b>	1,599
Antamina	33.8%	1,025	813	773	972	<b>1,087</b>	<b>2,059</b>	2,014
Cannington	100%	9,509	7,315	8,242	7,559	<b>9,056</b>	<b>16,615</b>	19,668
Olympic Dam (refined silver)	100%	241	258	282	217	<b>211</b>	<b>428</b>	442
Total		11,571	9,056	9,877	9,151	<b>10,903</b>	<b>20,054</b>	23,723
<b>URANIUM OXIDE CONCENTRATE</b>								
<b>Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes)</b>								
Olympic Dam	100%	957	1,063	1,015	1,000	<b>909</b>	<b>1,909</b>	1,967
Total		957	1,063	1,015	1,000	<b>909</b>	<b>1,909</b>	1,967
<b>MOLYBDENUM</b>								
<b>Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes)</b>								
Antamina	33.8%	485	334	418	595	<b>766</b>	<b>1,361</b>	693
Total		485	334	418	595	<b>766</b>	<b>1,361</b>	693
<b>DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS</b>								
<b>DIAMONDS</b>								
<b>Production ( 000 carats)</b>								
EKATI	80%	676	551	576	457	<b>481</b>	<b>938</b>	1,379
<b>STAINLESS STEEL MATERIALS</b>								
<b>NICKEL</b>								
<b>Production ( 000 tonnes)</b>								
CMSA	99.9%	12.4	7.8	7.4	10.4	<b>12.3</b>	<b>22.7</b>	24.8
Nickel West	100%	30.6	25.2	30.8	24.7	<b>26.1</b>	<b>50.8</b>	56.7
Total		43.0	33.0	38.2	35.1	<b>38.4</b>	<b>73.5</b>	81.5

Refer footnotes on page 4.

**BHP BILLITON ATTRIBUTABLE PRODUCTION**

	BHP Billiton Interest	QUARTER ENDED				YEAR TO DATE		DEC 2010
		DEC 2010	MAR 2011	JUN 2011	SEP 2011	DEC 2011	DEC 2011	
<b>IRON ORE</b>								
<b>Production ( 000 tonnes) (d)</b>								
Newman (e)	85%	11,213	11,912	12,480	13,158	<b>13,247</b>	<b>26,405</b>	20,853
Goldsworthy Joint Venture	85%	225	305	284	254	<b>334</b>	<b>588</b>	609
Area C Joint Venture	85%	10,154	9,510	10,044	10,479	<b>10,437</b>	<b>20,916</b>	20,240
Yandi Joint Venture	85%	9,078	8,799	9,796	12,708	<b>14,170</b>	<b>26,878</b>	17,865
Samarco	50%	2,996	2,705	2,922	2,973	<b>2,884</b>	<b>5,857</b>	6,082
Total		33,666	33,231	35,526	39,572	<b>41,072</b>	<b>80,644</b>	65,649
<b>MANGANESE</b>								
<b>MANGANESE ORES</b>								
<b>Saleable production ( 000 tonnes)</b>								
South Africa (f)	60%	779	514	776	911	<b>808</b>	<b>1,719</b>	1,717
Australia (f)	60%	1,050	838	1,014	1,108	<b>998</b>	<b>2,106</b>	2,234
Total		1,829	1,352	1,790	2,019	<b>1,806</b>	<b>3,825</b>	3,951
<b>MANGANESE ALLOYS</b>								
<b>Saleable production ( 000 tonnes)</b>								
South Africa (f) (g)	60%	123	111	120	124	<b>124</b>	<b>248</b>	255
Australia (f)	60%	69	61	70	70	<b>71</b>	<b>141</b>	136
Total		192	172	190	194	<b>195</b>	<b>389</b>	391
<b>METALLURGICAL COAL</b>								
<b>Production ( 000 tonnes) (h)</b>								
BMA	50%	4,534	3,955	4,874	5,274	<b>5,006</b>	<b>10,280</b>	11,072
BHP Mitsui Coal (i)	80%	1,421	1,133	1,426	1,803	<b>1,580</b>	<b>3,383</b>	3,334
Illawarra	100%	1,832	1,582	1,622	2,214	<b>1,907</b>	<b>4,121</b>	3,680
Total		7,787	6,670	7,922	9,291	<b>8,493</b>	<b>17,784</b>	18,086
<b>ENERGY COAL</b>								
<b>Production ( 000 tonnes)</b>								
South Africa	100%	8,507	8,596	8,228	9,095	<b>7,976</b>	<b>17,071</b>	17,504
USA	100%	2,296	2,360	3,779	2,467	<b>2,163</b>	<b>4,630</b>	5,473
Australia	100%	3,394	3,978	3,793	4,046	<b>4,027</b>	<b>8,073</b>	5,900
Colombia	33%	2,316	2,609	2,538	2,852	<b>2,753</b>	<b>5,605</b>	4,742
Total		16,513	17,543	18,338	18,460	<b>16,919</b>	<b>35,379</b>	33,619

- (a) LPG and ethane are reported as Natural Gas Liquid (NGL). Product-specific conversions are made and NGL is reported in barrels of oil equivalent (boe).
- (b) Metal production is reported on the basis of payable metal.
- (c) Includes Cerro Colorado and Spence.

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- (d) Iron ore production is reported on a wet tonnes basis.
- (e) Newman includes Mt Newman Joint Venture and Jimblebar.
- (f) Shown on 100% basis. BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 60%.
- (g) Production includes Medium Carbon Ferro Manganese.
- (h) Metallurgical coal production is reported on the basis of saleable product. Production figures include some thermal coal.
- (i) Shown on 100% basis. BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 80%.

BHP Billiton Production Report for the half year ended 31 December 2011

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**PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT**

	QUARTER ENDED				YEAR TO DATE		
	DEC 2010	MAR 2011	JUN 2011	SEP 2011	DEC 2011	DEC 2011	
<b>PETROLEUM</b>							
BHP Billiton attributable production unless otherwise stated.							
<b>CRUDE OIL &amp; CONDENSATE ( 000 barrels)</b>							
Bass Strait	2,553	2,465	2,485	2,527	<b>2,190</b>	<b>4,717</b>	5,264
North West Shelf	2,188	1,719	1,442	1,400	<b>1,686</b>	<b>3,086</b>	4,425
Stybarrow	358	862	1,037	1,171	<b>836</b>	<b>2,007</b>	909
Pyrenees	5,362	4,326	4,584	3,901	<b>3,207</b>	<b>7,108</b>	10,878
Other Australia (a)	10	13	13	13	<b>13</b>	<b>26</b>	25
Atlantis (b)	2,881	2,694	2,098	2,081	<b>2,390</b>	<b>4,471</b>	5,919
Mad Dog (b)	874	952	128				1,949
Shenzi (b) (c)	3,859	3,378	3,630	3,848	<b>4,119</b>	<b>7,967</b>	7,775
Onshore US (d)				672	<b>1,631</b>	<b>2,303</b>	
Trinidad/Tobago		299	687	466	<b>466</b>	<b>932</b>	285
Other Americas (b) (e)	430	397	448	373	<b>374</b>	<b>747</b>	789
UK	479	542	534	447	<b>433</b>	<b>880</b>	1,090
Algeria	1,587	1,474	1,498	1,498	<b>1,437</b>	<b>2,935</b>	3,273
Pakistan	71	79	68	85	<b>84</b>	<b>169</b>	158
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,652</b>	<b>19,200</b>	<b>18,652</b>	<b>18,482</b>	<b>18,866</b>	<b>37,348</b>	<b>42,739</b>
<b>NATURAL GAS (billion cubic feet)</b>							
Bass Strait	20.94	22.31	29.97	31.88	<b>23.65</b>	<b>55.53</b>	59.75
North West Shelf	36.47	35.11	35.44	32.97	<b>32.56</b>	<b>65.53</b>	72.96
Other Australia (a)	3.83	4.69	4.68	4.45	<b>4.56</b>	<b>9.01</b>	9.83
Atlantis (b)	1.07	0.84	0.67	0.64	<b>0.67</b>	<b>1.31</b>	2.40
Mad Dog (b)	0.06	0.13	0.01				0.31
Shenzi (b) (c)	0.77	0.64	0.67	0.62	<b>0.57</b>	<b>1.19</b>	1.52
Onshore US (d)			36.43	77.59	<b>121.63</b>	<b>199.22</b>	
Trinidad/Tobago			4.69	9.31	<b>9.72</b>	<b>19.03</b>	
Other Americas (b) (e)	1.32	1.33	1.42	1.19	<b>0.98</b>	<b>2.17</b>	2.72
UK	6.14	6.32	5.69	3.91	<b>5.51</b>	<b>9.42</b>	12.45
Pakistan	11.94	13.53	12.12	14.79	<b>14.64</b>	<b>29.43</b>	26.43
<b>Total</b>	<b>82.54</b>	<b>84.90</b>	<b>131.79</b>	<b>177.35</b>	<b>214.49</b>	<b>391.84</b>	<b>188.37</b>
<b>NGL ( 000 barrels of oil equivalent)</b>							
Bass Strait	1,412	1,252	1,554	1,823	<b>1,407</b>	<b>3,230</b>	3,442
North West Shelf	442	434	367	423	<b>434</b>	<b>857</b>	913
Atlantis (b)	177	150	117	120	<b>123</b>	<b>243</b>	365
Mad Dog (b)	42	39	11				84
Shenzi (b) (c)	336	245	252	296	<b>293</b>	<b>589</b>	532
Onshore US (d)				416	<b>943</b>	<b>1,359</b>	
Other Americas (b) (e)	54	42	47	41	<b>34</b>	<b>75</b>	96
UK	74	79	66	18	<b>45</b>	<b>63</b>	134
Algeria	305	201	222	219	<b>83</b>	<b>302</b>	639
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,842</b>	<b>2,442</b>	<b>2,636</b>	<b>3,356</b>	<b>3,362</b>	<b>6,718</b>	<b>6,205</b>
<b>TOTAL PETROLEUM PRODUCTS</b>	<b>37.25</b>	<b>35.79</b>	<b>43.25</b>	<b>51.40</b>	<b>57.98</b>	<b>109.38</b>	<b>80.34</b>

(million barrels of oil equivalent) (f)

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- (a) Other Australia includes Minerva.
- (b) Gulf of Mexico volumes are net of royalties.
- (c) The Genghis Khan operation is reported in Shenzi.
- (d) Fayetteville shale acquisition completed on 31 March 2011. Petrohawk Energy Corporation acquisition completed on 20 August 2011. Onshore US volumes are net of mineral holder royalties.
- (e) Other Americas includes Neptune, West Cameron 76, Genesis and Starlifter.
- (f) Total barrels of oil equivalent (boe) conversions are based on 6,000 scf of natural gas equals 1 boe.

BHP Billiton Production Report for the half year ended 31 December 2011

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**PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT**

	QUARTER ENDED				YEAR TO DATE		
	DEC 2010	MAR 2011	JUN 2011	SEP 2011	DEC 2011	DEC 2011	DEC 2010

**ALUMINIUM**

BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.

( 000 tonnes)

**ALUMINA****Production**

Worsley, Australia	758	663	725	752	<b>694</b>	<b>1,446</b>	1,514
Alumar, Brazil	267	296	301	308	<b>307</b>	<b>615</b>	511
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,025</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>1,026</b>	<b>1,060</b>	<b>1,001</b>	<b>2,061</b>	<b>2,025</b>

**Sales**

Worsley, Australia	735	633	727	720	<b>745</b>	<b>1,465</b>	1,502
Alumar, Brazil	271	249	324	280	<b>349</b>	<b>629</b>	510
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,006</b>	<b>882</b>	<b>1,051</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,093</b>	<b>2,093</b>	<b>2,012</b>

**ALUMINIUM****Production**

Hillside, South Africa	179	173	179	180	<b>180</b>	<b>360</b>	359
Bayside, South Africa	25	24	24	25	<b>24</b>	<b>49</b>	49
Alumar, Brazil	43	44	43	44	<b>42</b>	<b>86</b>	87
Mozal, Mozambique	67	64	67	66	<b>67</b>	<b>133</b>	133
<b>Total</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>628</b>

**Sales**

Hillside, South Africa	160	163	181	163	<b>186</b>	<b>349</b>	308
Bayside, South Africa	31	38	29	24	<b>25</b>	<b>49</b>	60
Alumar, Brazil	43	43	44	44	<b>43</b>	<b>87</b>	87
Mozal, Mozambique	76	66	80	60	<b>85</b>	<b>145</b>	131
<b>Total</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>586</b>

**PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT**

		QUARTER ENDED				YEAR TO DATE		
		DEC 2010	MAR 2011	JUN 2011	SEP 2011	DEC 2011	DEC 2011	
<b>BASE METALS</b>								
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated. Metals production is payable metal unless otherwise stated.								
<b>Escondida, Chile</b>								
Material mined (100%)	( 000 tonnes)	98,167	100,966	97,705	69,006	<b>96,152</b>	<b>165,158</b>	202,008
Sulphide ore milled (100%)	( 000 tonnes)	18,789	15,993	16,399	12,029	<b>18,663</b>	<b>30,692</b>	38,486
Average copper grade	(%)	1.26%	1.15%	1.06%	0.97%	<b>0.97%</b>	<b>0.97%</b>	1.25%
Production ex mill (100%)	( 000 tonnes)	194.6	153.1	141.2	91.9	<b>144.3</b>	<b>236.2</b>	392.3
<b>Production</b>								
Payable copper	( 000 tonnes)	112.7	87.7	79.4	49.9	<b>80.4</b>	<b>130.3</b>	223.4
Payable gold concentrate	(fine ounces)	23,133	19,667	17,116	11,063	<b>14,242</b>	<b>25,305</b>	47,940
Copper cathode (EW)	( 000 tonnes)	47.1	44.4	42.6	32.9	<b>43.0</b>	<b>75.9</b>	92.1
Payable silver concentrate	( 000 ounces)	796	670	580	403	<b>549</b>	<b>952</b>	1,599
<b>Sales</b>								
Payable copper	( 000 tonnes)	113.9	74.3	90.9	49.2	<b>82.1</b>	<b>131.3</b>	228.7
Payable gold concentrate	(fine ounces)	23,357	16,754	20,251	10,974	<b>14,435</b>	<b>25,409</b>	49,018
Copper cathode (EW)	( 000 tonnes)	46.1	47.7	48.0	25.7	<b>45.3</b>	<b>71.0</b>	86.1
Payable silver concentrate	( 000 ounces)	804	569	673	404	<b>558</b>	<b>962</b>	1,635
<b>Pampa Norte, Chile</b>								
<b>Cerro Colorado</b>								
Material mined	( 000 tonnes)	18,290	16,320	17,840	14,736	<b>16,792</b>	<b>31,528</b>	33,934
Ore milled	( 000 tonnes)	4,631	4,251	4,771	4,608	<b>4,601</b>	<b>9,209</b>	9,215
Average copper grade	(%)	0.76%	0.75%	0.74%	0.72%	<b>0.71%</b>	<b>0.72%</b>	0.75%
<b>Production</b>								
Copper cathode (EW)	( 000 tonnes)	22.4	22.6	25.7	22.5	<b>23.5</b>	<b>46.0</b>	44.1
<b>Sales</b>								
Copper cathode (EW)	( 000 tonnes)	24.7	22.5	25.7	22.4	<b>23.8</b>	<b>46.2</b>	46.1
<b>Spence</b>								
Material mined	( 000 tonnes)	18,389	19,046	19,487	19,816	<b>26,511</b>	<b>46,327</b>	35,537
Ore milled	( 000 tonnes)	4,567	4,892	4,545	3,862	<b>4,909</b>	<b>8,771</b>	8,994
Average copper grade	(%)	1.28%	1.23%	1.22%	1.30%	<b>1.46%</b>	<b>1.39%</b>	1.27%
<b>Production</b>								
Copper cathode (EW)	( 000 tonnes)	43.6	41.5	50.0	42.9	<b>46.5</b>	<b>89.4</b>	88.3
<b>Sales</b>								
Copper cathode (EW)	( 000 tonnes)	48.2	45.7	54.5	43.2	<b>46.6</b>	<b>89.8</b>	85.2

**PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT**

		QUARTER ENDED				YEAR TO DATE		
		DEC 2010	MAR 2011	JUN 2011	SEP 2011	DEC 2011	DEC 2011	
<b>BASE METALS</b>								
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated. Metals production is payable metal unless otherwise stated.								
<b>Antamina, Peru</b>								
Material mined (100%)	( 000 tonnes)	32,722	33,154	41,669	44,212	<b>38,759</b>	<b>82,971</b>	63,321
Sulphide ore milled (100%)	( 000 tonnes)	9,347	9,288	9,253	9,396	<b>9,656</b>	<b>19,052</b>	18,388
Average head grades								
- Copper	(%)	1.06%	0.99%	0.90%	1.11%	<b>1.15%</b>	<b>1.13%</b>	1.00%
- Zinc	(%)	1.11%	1.15%	1.03%	0.68%	<b>0.72%</b>	<b>0.70%</b>	1.23%
<b>Production</b>								
Payable copper	( 000 tonnes)	27.2	24.9	22.5	30.3	<b>30.9</b>	<b>61.2</b>	50.4
Payable zinc	(tonnes)	22,025	24,123	20,385	8,956	<b>13,553</b>	<b>22,509</b>	46,962
Payable silver	( 000 ounces)	1,025	813	773	972	<b>1,087</b>	<b>2,059</b>	2,014
Payable lead	(tonnes)	177	237	164	102	<b>205</b>	<b>307</b>	789
Payable molybdenum	(tonnes)	485	334	418	595	<b>766</b>	<b>1,361</b>	693
<b>Sales</b>								
Payable copper	( 000 tonnes)	21.8	26.1	23.5	28.2	<b>31.7</b>	<b>59.9</b>	49.5
Payable zinc	(tonnes)	24,912	25,571	18,479	9,586	<b>12,654</b>	<b>22,240</b>	48,849
Payable silver	( 000 ounces)	882	839	658	833	<b>940</b>	<b>1,773</b>	2,124
Payable lead	(tonnes)	503	180	92	91	<b>139</b>	<b>230</b>	1,251
Payable molybdenum	(tonnes)	292	394	346	549	<b>591</b>	<b>1,140</b>	730
<b>Cannington, Australia</b>								
Material mined	( 000 tonnes)	824	703	841	819	<b>778</b>	<b>1,597</b>	1,566
Ore milled	( 000 tonnes)	760	713	786	826	<b>888</b>	<b>1,714</b>	1,591
Average head grades								
- Silver	(g/t)	459	377	381	332	<b>370</b>	<b>352</b>	453
- Lead	(%)	9.9%	8.6%	8.6%	7.9%	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>8.4%</b>	9.7%
- Zinc	(%)	3.3%	3.6%	2.9%	2.9%	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	3.1%
<b>Production</b>								
Payable silver	( 000 ounces)	9,509	7,315	8,242	7,559	<b>9,056</b>	<b>16,615</b>	19,668
Payable lead	(tonnes)	64,748	51,673	58,414	55,557	<b>66,787</b>	<b>122,344</b>	133,277
Payable zinc	(tonnes)	14,920	16,129	14,348	14,488	<b>14,745</b>	<b>29,233</b>	30,180
<b>Sales</b>								
Payable silver	( 000 ounces)	9,973	7,263	8,235	6,434	<b>8,960</b>	<b>15,394</b>	19,192
Payable lead	(tonnes)	67,815	52,199	58,868	48,258	<b>66,657</b>	<b>114,915</b>	130,906
Payable zinc	(tonnes)	16,621	12,986	14,530	15,734	<b>14,078</b>	<b>29,812</b>	29,098

**PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT**

		QUARTER ENDED				YEAR TO DATE		
		DEC 2010	MAR 2011	JUN 2011	SEP 2011	DEC 2011	DEC 2011	DEC 2010
<b>BASE METALS</b>								
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated. Metals production is payable metal unless otherwise stated.								
<b>Olympic Dam, Australia</b>								
Material mined (a)	( 000 tonnes)	2,513	2,433	2,675	2,543	<b>2,440</b>	<b>4,983</b>	5,223
Ore milled	( 000 tonnes)	2,622	2,670	2,533	2,471	<b>2,440</b>	<b>4,911</b>	5,127
Average copper grade	(%)	1.78%	1.84%	1.92%	1.98%	<b>2.08%</b>	<b>2.03%</b>	1.84%
Average uranium grade	kg/t	0.50	0.54	0.54	0.54	<b>0.50</b>	<b>0.52</b>	0.52
<b>Production</b>								
Copper cathode (ER)	( 000 tonnes)	45.0	47.8	47.0	37.6	<b>51.5</b>	<b>89.1</b>	86.6
Copper cathode (EW)	( 000 tonnes)	2.8	3.3	3.7	2.8	<b>3.1</b>	<b>5.9</b>	5.7
Uranium oxide concentrate	(tonnes)	957	1,063	1,015	1,000	<b>909</b>	<b>1,909</b>	1,967
Refined gold	(fine ounces)	28,493	29,892	28,429	28,376	<b>29,765</b>	<b>58,141</b>	53,047
Refined silver	( 000 ounces)	241	258	282	217	<b>211</b>	<b>428</b>	442
<b>Sales</b>								
Copper cathode (ER)	( 000 tonnes)	45.3	48.7	46.5	36.4	<b>51.7</b>	<b>88.1</b>	87.5
Copper cathode (EW)	( 000 tonnes)	2.9	2.7	4.1	3.5	<b>2.5</b>	<b>6.0</b>	5.7
Uranium oxide concentrate	(tonnes)	1,121	930	1,143	910	<b>1,126</b>	<b>2,036</b>	1,872
Refined gold	(fine ounces)	29,757	31,742	30,323	28,979	<b>24,327</b>	<b>53,306</b>	48,671
Refined silver	( 000 ounces)	150	334	269	289	<b>155</b>	<b>444</b>	351

(a) Material mined refers to run of mine ore mined and hoisted.

**Pinto Valley, USA**

<b>Production</b>								
Copper cathode (EW)	( 000 tonnes)	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	<b>1.4</b>	<b>2.8</b>	2.9
<b>Sales</b>								
Copper cathode (EW)	( 000 tonnes)	1.0	1.9	1.2	1.7	<b>1.2</b>	<b>2.9</b>	2.8

**PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT**

		QUARTER ENDED				YEAR TO DATE		
		DEC 2010	MAR 2011	JUN 2011	SEP 2011	DEC 2011	DEC 2011	DEC 2010
<b>DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS</b>								
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.								
<b>DIAMONDS</b>								
<b>EKATI, Canada</b>								
<b>Ore Processed (100%)</b>	( 000 tonnes)	1,162	1,122	1,212	1,177	<b>1,090</b>	<b>2,267</b>	2,358
<b>Production</b>	( 000 carats)	676	551	576	457	<b>481</b>	<b>938</b>	1,379

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**PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT**

	QUARTER ENDED				YEAR TO DATE		
	DEC 2010	MAR 2011	JUN 2011	SEP 2011	DEC 2011	DEC 2011	DEC 2010
<b>STAINLESS STEEL MATERIALS</b>							
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.							
( 000 tonnes)							
<b>NICKEL</b>							
<b><u>CMSA, Colombia</u></b>							
<b>Production</b>	12.4	7.8	7.4	10.4	<b>12.3</b>	<b>22.7</b>	24.8
<b>Sales</b>	12.8	8.5	8.5	7.7	<b>13.1</b>	<b>20.8</b>	24.8
<b><u>Nickel West, Australia</u></b>							
<b>Production</b>							
Nickel contained in concentrate	1.7	1.6	3.3	2.6	<b>1.8</b>	<b>4.4</b>	2.6
Nickel contained in finished matte	21.8	12.4	16.1	9.0	<b>15.2</b>	<b>24.2</b>	35.4
Nickel metal	7.1	11.2	11.4	13.1	<b>9.1</b>	<b>22.2</b>	18.7
Nickel production	30.6	25.2	30.8	24.7	<b>26.1</b>	<b>50.8</b>	56.7
<b>Sales</b>							
Nickel contained in concentrate	0.8	2.2	3.9	1.2	<b>2.6</b>	<b>3.8</b>	2.4
Nickel contained in finished matte	19.9	14.7	14.9	10.1	<b>13.9</b>	<b>24.0</b>	34.5
Nickel metal	9.6	9.2	12.4	9.4	<b>10.9</b>	<b>20.3</b>	21.8
Nickel sales	30.3	26.1	31.2	20.7	<b>27.4</b>	<b>48.1</b>	58.7

**PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT**

	QUARTER ENDED				YEAR TO DATE		DEC 2010
	DEC 2010	MAR 2011	JUN 2011	SEP 2011	DEC 2011	DEC 2011	
<b>IRON ORE</b>							
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.							
( 000 tonnes)							
<b>IRON ORE (a)</b>							
<b><u>Pilbara, Australia</u></b>							
<b>Production</b>							
Newman (b)	11,213	11,912	12,480	13,158	<b>13,247</b>	<b>26,405</b>	20,853
Goldsworthy Joint Venture	225	305	284	254	<b>334</b>	<b>588</b>	609
Area C Joint Venture	10,154	9,510	10,044	10,479	<b>10,437</b>	<b>20,916</b>	20,240
Yandi Joint Venture	9,078	8,799	9,796	12,708	<b>14,170</b>	<b>26,878</b>	17,865
Total (BHP Billiton share)	30,670	30,526	32,604	36,599	<b>38,188</b>	<b>74,787</b>	59,567
Total production (100%)	36,082	35,913	38,358	43,058	<b>44,927</b>	<b>87,985</b>	70,078
<b>Shipments</b>							
Lump	7,830	7,669	7,463	7,744	<b>8,700</b>	<b>16,444</b>	15,652
Fines	23,870	22,648	25,379	29,311	<b>28,406</b>	<b>57,717</b>	44,919
Total (BHP Billiton share)	31,700	30,317	32,842	37,055	<b>37,106</b>	<b>74,161</b>	60,571
Total sales (100%)	37,294	35,667	38,638	43,594	<b>43,654</b>	<b>87,248</b>	71,260

- (a) Iron ore production and shipments are reported on a wet tonnes basis.  
(b) Newman includes Mt Newman Joint Venture and Jimblebar.

**Samarco, Brazil**

<b>Production</b>	2,996	2,705	2,922	2,973	<b>2,884</b>	<b>5,857</b>	6,082
<b>Shipments</b>	3,460	2,598	2,736	2,926	<b>2,961</b>	<b>5,887</b>	6,094

BHP Billiton Production Report for the half year ended 31 December 2011

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**PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT**

	QUARTER ENDED				YEAR TO DATE		
	DEC	MAR	JUN	SEP	DEC	DEC	DEC
	2010	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2010

**MANGANESE**

BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.

( 000 tonnes)

**MANGANESE ORE****South Africa (a)**

<b>Saleable production</b>	779	514	776	911	<b>808</b>	<b>1,719</b>	1,717
<b>Sales</b>	947	701	746	861	<b>853</b>	<b>1,714</b>	1,604

**Australia (a)**

<b>Saleable production</b>	1,050	838	1,014	1,108	<b>998</b>	<b>2,106</b>	2,234
<b>Sales</b>	1,173	1,127	1,108	1,094	<b>876</b>	<b>1,970</b>	1,725

**MANGANESE ALLOY****South Africa (a) (b)**

<b>Saleable production</b>	123	111	120	124	<b>124</b>	<b>248</b>	255
<b>Sales</b>	153	145	123	95	<b>138</b>	<b>233</b>	248

**Australia (a)**

<b>Saleable production</b>	69	61	70	70	<b>71</b>	<b>141</b>	136
<b>Sales</b>	68	62	75	91	<b>58</b>	<b>149</b>	121

- (a) Shown on 100% basis. BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 60%, except Hotazel Manganese Mines which is 44.4%.  
(b) Production includes Medium Carbon Ferro Manganese.



**PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT**

	QUARTER ENDED				YEAR TO DATE		
	DEC 2010	MAR 2011	JUN 2011	SEP 2011	DEC 2011	DEC 2011	
<b>METALLURGICAL COAL</b>							
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.							
( 000 tonnes)							
<b>METALLURGICAL COAL (a)</b>							
<b><u>Queensland, Australia</u></b>							
<b>Production</b>							
<b>BMA</b>							
Blackwater	1,134	870	1,127	1,367	<b>1,122</b>	<b>2,489</b>	2,592
Goonyella	1,086	993	1,417	1,463	<b>1,375</b>	<b>2,838</b>	2,949
Peak Downs	984	758	543	971	<b>992</b>	<b>1,963</b>	2,101
Saraji	819	532	556	802	<b>900</b>	<b>1,702</b>	1,691
Norwich Park	73	128	386	365	<b>369</b>	<b>734</b>	541
Gregory Joint Venture	438	674	845	306	<b>248</b>	<b>554</b>	1,198
<b>BMA total</b>	<b>4,534</b>	<b>3,955</b>	<b>4,874</b>	<b>5,274</b>	<b>5,006</b>	<b>10,280</b>	11,072
<b>BHP Mitsui Coal (b)</b>							
South Walker Creek	765	623	690	1,106	<b>901</b>	<b>2,007</b>	1,821
Poitrel	656	510	736	697	<b>679</b>	<b>1,376</b>	1,513
<b>BHP Mitsui Coal total</b>	<b>1,421</b>	<b>1,133</b>	<b>1,426</b>	<b>1,803</b>	<b>1,580</b>	<b>3,383</b>	3,334
<b><u>Queensland total</u></b>	<b>5,955</b>	<b>5,088</b>	<b>6,300</b>	<b>7,077</b>	<b>6,586</b>	<b>13,663</b>	14,406
<b>Shipments</b>							
Coking coal	5,243	3,475	4,865	5,066	<b>4,845</b>	<b>9,911</b>	11,884
Weak coking coal	1,886	970	1,411	1,691	<b>1,747</b>	<b>3,438</b>	3,539
Thermal coal	206	125	285	176	<b>20</b>	<b>196</b>	574
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,335</b>	<b>4,570</b>	<b>6,561</b>	<b>6,933</b>	<b>6,612</b>	<b>13,545</b>	15,997

(a) Metallurgical coal production is reported on the basis of saleable product. Production figures include some thermal coal.

(b) Shown on 100% basis. BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 80%.

<b><u>Illawarra, Australia</u></b>							
<b>Production</b>	1,832	1,582	1,622	2,214	<b>1,907</b>	<b>4,121</b>	3,680
<b>Shipments</b>							
Coking coal	1,495	1,374	1,407	1,673	<b>1,255</b>	<b>2,928</b>	2,883
Thermal coal	536	211	216	159	<b>441</b>	<b>600</b>	898
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,031</b>	<b>1,585</b>	<b>1,623</b>	<b>1,832</b>	<b>1,696</b>	<b>3,528</b>	3,781



**PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT**

	QUARTER ENDED				DEC 2011	YEAR TO DATE	
	DEC 2010	MAR 2011	JUN 2011	SEP 2011		DEC 2011	DEC 2010
<b>ENERGY COAL</b>							
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.							
( 000 tonnes)							
<b><u>South Africa</u></b>							
<b>Production</b>	8,507	8,596	8,228	9,095	<b>7,976</b>	<b>17,071</b>	17,504
<b>Sales</b>							
Export	3,365	2,887	3,082	3,439	<b>3,546</b>	<b>6,985</b>	6,412
Local utility	5,024	5,254	5,363	5,622	<b>4,582</b>	<b>10,204</b>	10,691
Inland	96	78	37	85	<b>165</b>	<b>250</b>	206
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,485</b>	<b>8,219</b>	<b>8,482</b>	<b>9,146</b>	<b>8,293</b>	<b>17,439</b>	17,309
<b><u>New Mexico, USA</u></b>							
<b>Production</b>							
Navajo Coal	1,818	1,629	2,271	1,178	<b>2,060</b>	<b>3,238</b>	3,572
San Juan Coal	478	731	1,508	1,289	<b>103</b>	<b>1,392</b>	1,901
Total	2,296	2,360	3,779	2,467	<b>2,163</b>	<b>4,630</b>	5,473
<b>Sales - local utility</b>	<b>3,339</b>	<b>3,385</b>	<b>3,106</b>	<b>3,630</b>	<b>3,108</b>	<b>6,738</b>	6,700
<b><u>NSW Energy Coal, Australia</u></b>							
<b>Production</b>	3,394	3,978	3,793	4,046	<b>4,027</b>	<b>8,073</b>	5,900
<b>Sales</b>							
Export	3,253	3,824	3,522	3,523	<b>3,566</b>	<b>7,089</b>	5,879
Inland	180	339	364	625	<b>333</b>	<b>958</b>	584
Total	3,433	4,163	3,886	4,148	<b>3,899</b>	<b>8,047</b>	6,463
<b><u>Cerrejon Coal, Colombia</u></b>							
<b>Production</b>	2,316	2,609	2,538	2,852	<b>2,753</b>	<b>5,605</b>	4,742
<b>Sales - export</b>	<b>2,672</b>	<b>2,149</b>	<b>2,853</b>	<b>2,901</b>	<b>2,784</b>	<b>5,685</b>	5,448

**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: January 18, 2012

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