

BHP BILLITON LTD  
Form 6-K  
April 04, 2003

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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 26 March 2003

BHP Billiton Limited

ABN 49 004 028 077

600 Bourke 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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26 March 2003  
Number: 10/03

BHP Billiton Announces Sale of Stake in Alumbra

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BHP Billiton announced today that its fully owned subsidiary Rio Algom has agreed to sell its 25% stake in the Alumbreira copper-gold mine in Argentina to Wheaton River Minerals Ltd. for a purchase price of US\$180 million. Not less than US\$130 million of the purchase price will be payable on closing. Payment of up to US\$50 million of the purchase price may be deferred by Wheaton until May 30, 2005. Any deferred payment will bear interest at LIBOR plus 2% and will be secured by the interests in Alumbreira acquired by Wheaton. Closing is anticipated in June, 2003.

BHP Billiton's share of Alumbreira production for fiscal year ended June 30, 2002, was 48,500 tonnes of copper contained in concentrate and 192,939 ounces of gold.

The transaction is subject to the receipt of required regulatory and other consents, approvals and releases, including from the lenders to the Alumbreira Project.

Further information on BHP Billiton can be found on our Internet site: <http://www.bhpbilliton.com>

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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: 26 March 2003