

BHP BILLITON PLC  
Form 6-K  
May 06, 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

6 May 2005

BHP Billiton Plc

Registration Number 3196209

Neathouse Place

London SW1V 1BH

United Kingdom

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):

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Issued by: BHP Billiton Plc

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To:  
London Stock Exchange  
Old Broad Street  
London EC2N 1HP  
United Kingdom

cc:  
New York Stock Exchange  
Swiss Stock Exchange  
JSE Securities Exchange SA  
Deutsche Bank  
UBS Zurich

Company Announcements Office  
The Australian Stock Exchange  
4th Floor, 20 Bridge Street  
Sydney NSW 2000  
Australia

Date: N May 2005

For Release: Immediately

Contact: Jamin Lawton +44 (0)20 7802 4108

Notification of Major Interests in Shares

The following notification was received on 5 May 2005 by BHP Billiton Plc in a communication from Old Mutual plc dated 5 May 2005 relating to major interests in shares of BHP Billiton Plc as at 29<sup>th</sup> April 2005:

"Please find notification pursuant to section 198 of the Companies Act 1985, that as at 29<sup>th</sup> April 2005, Old Mutual Plc and its direct and indirect subsidiaries had a material interest in 223,533,752 ordinary shares of BHP Billiton Plc, representing 9.06% 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 29 April 2005

| Total Shares issued | Number of Shares | Company  | Registered Holder                                    | % of issued shares |
|---------------------|------------------|--|--|--------------------|
| 2,468,147,002       | 129,797,917      | Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd                     | Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (South Africa) Ltd | 5.26%              |
|                     | 288,092          | Prudential Portfolio Managers SA (Pty) Ltd (not an Old Mutual Company) | Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (South Africa) Ltd | 0.01%              |
|                     | 37,674           | PeregrineQuant (Pty) Ltd (Not an Old Mutual                            | Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (South Africa) Ltd | 0.00%              |

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|  |            | Company)   |  |       |
|--|------------|--|--|-------|
|  | 225,000    | Polaris Capital (Pty) Ltd<br>(Not and Old Mutual<br>Company) | Old Mutual Life Assurance<br>Company (South Africa) Ltd                                  | 0.01% |
|  | 7,944,885  | Old Mutual Asset<br>Managers (South Africa)<br>(Pty) Ltd     | Old Mutual Unit Trusts (SA)<br>Limited   | 0.32% |
|  | 49,834,647 | Old Mutual Asset<br>Managers (South Africa)<br>(Pty) Ltd     | Old Mutual Asset Managers<br>(South Africa) (Pty) Ltd<br>(Managed Fund Client<br>Assets) | 2.02% |
|  | 3,196,237  | Old Mutual Asset<br>Managers (South Africa)<br>(Pty) Ltd     | Mutual & Federal Limited   | 0.13% |
|  | 331,442    | Old Mutual Asset<br>Managers (South Africa)<br>(Pty) Ltd     | BoE Life Ltd   | 0.01% |
|  | 188,096    | Old Mutual Asset<br>Managers (South Africa)<br>(Pty) Ltd     | BoE Life Assurance<br>Company Ltd  | 0.01% |
|  | 3,217,721  | Old Mutual Asset<br>Managers (Namibia)<br>(Pty) Ltd          | Old Mutual Life Assurance<br>Company (Namibia) Ltd                                       | 0.13% |
|  | 212,849    | Old Mutual Asset<br>Managers (Namibia)<br>(Pty) Ltd          | Old Mutual Holdings<br>(Namibia) (Pty) Ltd   | 0.01% |
|  | 1,305,012  | Old Mutual Asset<br>Managers (Namibia)<br>(Pty) Ltd          | Old Mutual Asset Managers<br>(Namibia) (Pty) Ltd<br>(Managed Fund Client<br>Assets)      | 0.05% |
|  | 95,072     | Old Mutual Asset<br>Managers (South Africa)<br>(Pty) Ltd     | Old Mutual Unit Trusts<br>(Namibia) Limited  | 0.00% |
|  | 1,269,492  | Old Mutual Asset<br>Managers (Bermuda) Ltd                   | Old Mutual Global Asset<br>Fund  | 0.05% |
|  | 4,988,023  | Old Mutual Asset<br>Managers (Bermuda) Ltd                   | Old Mutual South Africa<br>Equity Trust Limited  | 0.20% |
|  | 1,221,777  | Old Mutual Asset<br>Managers (Bermuda) Ltd                   | Old Mutual South African<br>Trust Plc  | 0.05% |
|  | 155,092    | Quantitative Asset<br>Management                             | ABSA Nominees  | 0.01% |
|  | 316,111    | Quantitative Asset<br>Management                             | Nedbank Nominees Ltd   | 0.01% |
|  | 5,033,855  |  | Standard Bank Nominees Ltd   | 0.20% |

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|              |                    | Quantitative Asset Management     |                                       |              |
|--------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
|              | 196,802            | Syfrets Securities                | Syfrets Securities Nominees (Pty) Ltd | 0.01%        |
|              | 5,105,783          | NIB Collective Investment Schemes | Nedcor Bank Nominees                  | 0.21%        |
|              | 170,392            | NIB Securities                    | NIB IPS Nominees (Pty) Ltd            | 0.01%        |
|              | 3,900,179          | BOE Personal Stockbrokers         | BNS Nominees                          | 0.16%        |
|              | 3,129              | Old Mutual (STRAC)                | Nedcor Bank Nominees                  | 0.00%        |
|              | 4,337,950          | BOE Private Clients               | Nedbank Nominees Ltd                  | 0.18%        |
|              | 31,085             | BOE Private Clients               | Registered Own Name                   | 0.00%        |
|              | 129,438            | BOE Fiduciary                     | Nedcor Bank Nominees                  | 0.01%        |
|              |                    |                                   |                                       |              |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>223,533,752</b> |                                   |                                       | <b>9.06%</b> |

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

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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

Plc  
/s/ KAREN WOOD

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Karen Wood  
Title: Company Secretary  
Date:

6 May 2005