

BHP BILLITON LTD
Form 6-K
November 30, 2010

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

FORM 6-K

REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

November 29, 2010

<u>Commission File Number</u>	<u>Translation of registrant's name into English; Address of principal executive offices</u>
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	BHP Billiton Limited (ABN 49 004 028 077) 180 LONSDALE STREET, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA 3000 AUSTRALIA
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-	BHP Billiton Plc (REG. NO. 3196209) NEATHOUSE PLACE, VICTORIA, LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM
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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 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

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information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes No

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the
registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-

NEWS RELEASE

Release Time - IMMEDIATE

Date - 17 November 2010

Number - 32/10

**BHP BILLITON APPROVES US\$570 MILLION TO UNDERPIN RAPID GROWTH AT WESTERN AUSTRALIA
IRON ORE**

BHP Billiton today announced approval for a further US\$635 million (BHP Billiton share US\$570 million)(1) of capital expenditure that will underpin continued growth in Western Australia Iron Ore's production profile. The investment highlights BHP Billiton's commitment to the Rapid Growth Project sequence of expansion projects and is consistent with the company's strategy to fully utilise its Port Hedland inner harbour capacity.

The investment expands on BHP Billiton's earlier pre-commitment of US\$1.73 billion announced in January 2010 and will facilitate the ongoing development of important port, rail and Jimblebar mine infrastructure.

BHP Billiton President, Iron Ore, Ian Ashby said "The investment further progresses our conveyor belt of Rapid Growth Projects and ensures the company is well positioned to deliver production growth into a tight and growing market. Our volume maximising strategy remains unchanged as we continue to update our longer term growth plans."

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

(1) BHP Billiton's partners in its Pilbara iron ore operations are: Itochu Minerals & Energy of Australia Pty Ltd, Mitsui-Itochu Iron Pty Ltd and Mitsui Iron Ore Corporation Pty Ltd. BHP Billiton share of investment takes into account the 100% owned BHP Billiton Iron Ore Jimblebar operation.

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BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077
Registered in Australia
Registered Office: 180 Lonsdale Street
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BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209
Registered in England and Wales
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Members of the BHP Billiton group which 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.

Date : November 29, 2010

BHP Billiton Limited (ABN 49 004 028 077)
By: /s/ Jane McAloon
Name: Jane McAloon

Title:

Group Company Secretary