BHP BILLITON LTD
Form 6-K
January 20, 2010

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 20, 2010

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 **(Address of principal executive offices)**	**UNITED KINGDOM** **(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

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: 20 January 2010	By:	/s/ Jane McAloon
	Name:	**Jane McAloon**
	Title:	**Group Company Secretary**

NEWS RELEASE

Release Time IMMEDIATE
Date 20 January 2010
Number 02/10

BHP BILLITON PRODUCTION REPORT FOR THE HALF YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

Another half year production record for petroleum and iron ore, due to successful growth project delivery. Half year production records were also set for nickel and zinc.

Half year production records achieved at Western Australia Iron Ore, North West Shelf, Hunter Valley Energy Coal, Poitrel and Nickel West (all Australia), Samarco and Alumar refinery (both Brazil) and Zamzama (Pakistan).

Quarterly production records achieved for alumina and nickel, and at North West Shelf, Nickel West, Alumar refinery and Zamzama.

During the half year first production was achieved at Western Australia Iron Ore Rapid Growth Project 4 (RGP4), Alumar refinery expansion and Klipspruit expansion (South Africa), reflecting our continued investment through the cycle. With the completion of RGP4, Western Australia Iron Ore operations would have more than doubled its installed capacity since the accelerated growth program commenced in 2002.

During the December quarter we saw strong price recovery across the commodity suite driven by demand in China and restocking in the developed world.

Government stimulus measures appear to have supported a gradual return to normalised global trade, albeit from a low base, and most key indicators across the developed economies showed improvement.

Going forward the speed of recovery in the developed economies remains uncertain, particularly considering the eventual withdrawal of government stimulus. In China the impact of measures to control loan growth will add another future variable.

Consequently we expect some degree of volatility in the short term outlook for our commodities.

Petroleum

	DEC 2009 HALF	DEC 2009 QTR	DEC H09 vs DEC H08	DEC Q09 vs DEC Q08	DEC Q09 vs SEPT Q09
Crude Oil, Condensate and Natural Gas Liquids (000 bbl)	47,561	22,893	28%	26%	-7%
Natural Gas (bcf)	192.05	92.81	4%	3%	-6%
Total Petroleum Products (million boe)	79.57	38.36	17%	16%	-7%

Total Petroleum Production Petroleum has delivered another half year production record. Production was higher than the December 2008 half year due to ramp up of Shenzi (USA), strong reservoir performance from Atlantis and no weather related interruptions. The December 2009 quarter production decreased against the previous quarter due lower seasonal demand in eastern Australia and planned downtime at Gulf of Mexico non-operated assets Mad Dog and Atlantis (all USA).

Crude Oil, Condensate, and Natural Gas Liquids Crude and condensate production was significantly higher than the December 2008 half year due to Shenzi start-up, with the facility operating above design capacity. Strong reservoir performance from Atlantis and the lack of hurricane downtime also contributed to the significant increase in production.

Production was down against the September 2009 quarter due to natural field decline, lower seasonal associated gas demand in eastern Australia and planned maintenance in Gulf of Mexico assets.

Natural Gas Production was higher than the December 2008 half year mainly due to the contribution from recently commissioned growth projects in North West Shelf (Australia) and strong natural gas production in Pakistan. Production was down against the September 2009 quarter mainly due to lower seasonal demand in eastern Australia.

Aluminium

	DEC 2009 HALF	DEC 2009 QTR	DEC H09 vs DEC H08	DEC Q09 vs DEC Q08	DEC Q09 vs SEPT Q09
Alumina (000 tonnes) (a)	1,780	939	1%	5%	12%
Aluminium (000 tonnes)	626	313	1%	1%	0%

Alumina Production was higher than all comparative periods due to the continued ramp up of the Alumar refinery expansion. Alumar is currently operating at 80 per cent of the new nameplate capacity and is expected to reach full capacity by the end of June 2010. However, production during the September 2009 quarter was impacted by an unplanned calciner outage at Worsley Alumina (Australia). The Worsley stockpiled hydrate is expected to be recovered by the end of the June 2010 financial year.

Aluminium Production across all operations was in line with comparative periods.

Base Metals

	DEC 2009 HALF	DEC 2009 QTR	DEC H09 vs DEC H08	DEC Q09 vs DEC Q08	DEC Q09 vs SEPT Q09
Copper (000 tonnes)	555.0	271.1	-10%	-12%	-5%
Lead (tonnes)	124,433	63,073	0%	-4%	3%
Zinc (tonnes)	106,260	59,835	33%	58%	29%
Silver (000 ounces)	22,458	11,689	3%	2%	9%
Uranium Oxide Concentrate (Uranium) (tonnes)	1,478	348	-25%	-60%	-69%

Copper Production was lower than comparative periods mainly due to the Clark Shaft outage at Olympic Dam (Australia), reducing production by approximately 20 thousand tonnes, and industrial action at Spence (Chile), which led to decreased production of approximately 28 thousand tonnes. This was partially offset by stronger production at Escondida (Chile) due to higher grade and the return of the Laguna Seca SAG mill to full operation, following the successful repairs completed in the September 2009 quarter.

The cessation of Pinto Valley (USA) sulphide mining in February 2009 also impacted production when compared to the December 2008 half year and quarter.

Olympic Dam ore hoisting continued to operate at approximately 25 per cent of capacity. Mining of higher grade ore zones has been prioritised following the Clark Shaft incident. Repairs to the Clark Shaft haulage system are progressing well. Currently, Clark Shaft production is expected to resume in the March 2010 quarter, however, we will regularly review the repairs development.

At 31 December 2009 the Group had 260,240 tonnes of outstanding copper sales that were revalued at a weighted average price of US$7,297 per tonne. The final price of these sales will be determined in 2010. In addition, 234,871 tonnes of copper sales from the 2009 financial year were subject to a finalisation adjustment in the current period. The finalisation adjustment and provisional pricing impact as at 31 December 2009 will increase earnings(b) by US$467 million for the period.

Lead Production was in line with all comparative periods.

Zinc Production was higher than all comparative periods due to increased zinc grade at Antamina and Cannington (Australia).

Silver Production was higher than all comparative periods due to increased production at Antamina and Escondida, and higher ore milled at Cannington.

Uranium Production during the December 2009 quarter was impacted by the Olympic Dam incident noted above.

Diamonds & Specialty Products

	DEC 2009 HALF	DEC 2009 QTR	DEC H09 vs DEC H08	DEC Q09 vs DEC Q08	DEC Q09 vs SEPT Q09
Diamonds (000 carats)	1,540	760	13%	28%	-3%

Diamonds Production was higher than the December 2008 half year and quarter due to an increase in ore processed and the full ramp up of the Koala Underground (Canada) mine which contains a larger proportion of higher value carats. Production continues to be influenced by variability of ore sources due to the mix of open pit and underground mining.

Stainless Steel Materials

	DEC 2009 HALF	DEC 2009 QTR	DEC H09 vs DEC H08	DEC Q09 vs DEC Q08	DEC Q09 vs SEPT Q09
Nickel (000 tonnes) (c)	84.4	49.0	45%	20%	38%

Nickel Production was higher than all comparative periods due to record performance at Nickel West (Australia). The September 2009 quarter was impacted by planned maintenance at Cerro Matoso (Colombia) and a restriction in hydrogen supply at the Kwinana Nickel Refinery (Australia). The December 2008 half year also included the major furnace rebuild at the Kalgoorlie Nickel Smelter (Australia). In the December 2009 quarter, the Kalgoorlie Nickel Smelter achieved record quarterly production.

Iron Ore

	DEC 2009 HALF	DEC 2009 QTR	DEC H09 vs DEC H08	DEC Q09 vs DEC Q08	DEC Q09 vs SEPT Q09
Iron Ore (000 tonnes)	62,555	32,449	6%	11%	8%

Iron Ore Record production and shipments were achieved for the half year and quarter ended December 2009 through the utilisation of rail and port infrastructure improvements as part of RGP4. Ramp up of RGP4 is continuing with full capacity expected to be achieved by the end of calendar year 2011. Including RGP4, the full installed capacity across the Western Australia Iron Ore operations is 155 million tonnes per annum (100 per cent basis).

For the half year ended December 2009, 54 per cent of Western Australia Iron Ore shipments on a wet metric tonne basis were based on annually agreed pricing, with the remainder sold on shorter term reference pricing.

Manganese

	DEC 2009 HALF	DEC 2009 QTR	DEC H09 vs DEC H08	DEC Q09 vs DEC Q08	DEC Q09 vs SEPT Q09
Manganese Ore (000 tonnes)	2,693	1,537	-17%	9%	33%
Manganese Alloy (000 tonnes)	194	131	-49%	-28%	108%

Manganese Ore As expected, production for the December 2009 quarter was higher in line with improved demand. Production is expected to return to normal levels in the March 2010 quarter.

Manganese Alloy As highlighted in the previous report, December 2009 quarter production was approximately 65 per cent of capacity. Furnaces restarted since the September 2009 quarter are progressively ramping up as the demand environment improves. Production is expected to be at full capacity towards the end of the March 2010 quarter.

Metallurgical Coal

	DEC 2009 HALF	DEC 2009 QTR	DEC H09 vs DEC H08	DEC Q09 vs DEC Q08	DEC Q09 vs SEPT Q09
Metallurgical Coal (000 tonnes)	18,297	8,893	-5%	-12%	-5%

Metallurgical Coal The December 2009 quarterly production was impacted by planned maintenance at Queensland Coal and planned longwall moves at Illawarra Coal (both Australia). The Illawarra Coal longwall moves will continue to impact production in the March 2010 quarter. Despite lower production, record quantities of coking coal were shipped during the half year in response to stronger demand conditions.

Energy Coal

	DEC 2009 HALF	DEC 2009 QTR	DEC H09 vs DEC H08	DEC Q09 vs DEC Q08	DEC Q09 vs SEPT Q09
Energy Coal (000 tonnes)	35,519	15,460	-1%	-3%	-14%

Energy Coal Production in the December 2009 quarter was impacted by planned and unplanned interruptions

across various operations. Production at Cerrejon (Colombia) was constrained by lower demand. New Mexico (USA) was impacted by planned outages and South African mines were impacted by unplanned maintenance and weather interruptions.

(a) Excluding Suriname which was sold effective 31 July 2009.

(b) Earnings before interest and tax.

(c) Excluding Yabulu which was sold effective 31 July 2009.

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

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

Australia

Samantha Evans, Media Relations

Tel: +61 3 9609 2898 Mobile: +61 400 693 915

email: Samantha.Evans@bhpbilliton.com

Amanda Buckley, Media Relations

Tel: +61 3 9609 2209 Mobile: +61 419 801 349

email: Amanda.Buckley@bhpbilliton.com

Kelly Quirke, Media Relations

Tel: +61 3 9609 2896 Mobile: +61 429 966 312

email: Kelly.Quirke@bhpbilliton.com

Leng Lau, Investor Relations

Tel: +61 3 9609 4202 Mobile: +61 403 533 706

email: Leng.Y.Lau@bhpbilliton.com

United Kingdom & South Africa

Andre Liebenberg, Investor Relations

Tel: +44 20 7802 4131 Mobile: +44 7920 236 974

email: Andre.Liebenberg@bhpbilliton.com

Illtud Harri, Media Relations

Tel: +44 20 7802 4195 Mobile: +44 7920 237 246

email: Illtud.Harri@bhpbilliton.com

Americas

Scott Espenshade, Investor Relations

Tel: +1 713 599 6431 Mobile: +1 713 208 8565

email: Scott.Espenshade@bhpbilliton.com

Ruban Yogarajah, Media Relations

Tel: US +1 713 966 2907 or UK +44 20 7802 4033

Mobile: UK +44 7827 082 022

email: Ruban.Yogarajah@bhpbilliton.com

BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077

Registered in Australia

Registered Office: 180 Lonsdale Street

Melbourne Victoria 3000 Australia

BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209

Registered in England and Wales

Registered Office: Neathouse Place

London SW1V 1BH United Kingdom

Tel +61 1300 55 4757 Fax +61 3 9609 3015 Tel +44 20 7802 4000 Fax +44 20 7802 4111
A member of the BHP Billiton group which is headquartered in Australia

BHP BILLITON PRODUCTION SUMMARY - CONTINUING OPERATIONS

		QUARTER ENDED			HALF YEAR ENDED		% CHANGE		
		DEC 2008	SEPT 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2008	DEC H09 vs DEC H08	DEC Q09 vs DEC Q08	DEC Q09 vs SEPT Q09
PETROLEUM									
Crude oil & condensate	(000 bbl)	16,012	21,648	**20,506**	**42,154**	32,192	31%	28%	-5%
Natural gas	(bcf)	90.23	99.24	**92.81**	**192.05**	185.50	4%	3%	-6%
Natural gas liquid	(000 bbl)	2,107	*3,020*	**2,387**	**5,407**	4,847	12%	13%	-21%
Total Petroleum Products	(million boe)	33.16	41.21	**38.36**	**79.57**	67.96	17%	16%	-7%
ALUMINIUM									
Alumina (a)	(000 tonnes)	897	841	**939**	**1,780**	1,754	1%	5%	12%
Aluminium	(000 tonnes)	310	313	**313**	**626**	619	1%	1%	0%
BASE METALS									
Copper	(000 tonnes)	308.2	283.9	**271.1**	**555.0**	617.1	-10%	-12%	-5%
Lead	(tonnes)	66,022	61,370	**63,073**	**124,443**	124,274	0%	-4%	3%
Zinc	(tonnes)	37,870	46,425	**59,835**	**106,260**	79,631	33%	58%	29%
Gold	(ounces)	45,790	39,911	**45,041**	**84,952**	87,541	-3%	-2%	13%
Silver	(000 ounces)	11,515	10,769	**11,689**	**22,458**	21,815	3%	2%	9%
Uranium oxide concentrate	(tonnes)	860	1,130	**348**	**1,478**	1,970	-25%	-60%	-69%
Molybdenum	(tonnes)	411	241	**113**	**354**	1,019	-65%	-73%	-53%
DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS									
Diamonds	(000 carats)	594	780	**760**	**1,540**	1,367	13%	28%	-3%
STAINLESS STEEL MATERIALS									
Nickel (b)	(000 tonnes)	40.7	35.4	**49.0**	**84.4**	58.4	45%	20%	38%

IRON ORE									
Iron ore	(000 tonnes)	29,355	30,106	**32,449**	**62,555**	59,179	6%	11%	8%
MANGANESE									
Manganese ore	(000 tonnes)	1,412	1,156	**1,537**	**2,693**	3,242	-17%	9%	33%
Manganese alloy	(000 tonnes)	181	63	**131**	**194**	384	-49%	-28%	108%
METALLURGICAL COAL									
Metallurgical coal	(000 tonnes)	10,150	9,404	**8,893**	**18,297**	19,360	-5%	-12%	-5%
ENERGY COAL									
Energy coal	(000 tonnes)	15,929	18,059	**15,460**	**33,519**	33,993	-1%	-3%	-14%

(a) Excluding Suriname which was sold effective 31 July 2009.
(b) Excluding Yabulu which was sold effective 31 July 2009.
Throughout this report figures in italics indicate that this figure has been adjusted since it was previously reported.

BHP BILLITON ATTRIBUTABLE PRODUCTION

		QUARTER ENDED					HALF YEAR ENDED	
	BHP Billiton Interest	DEC 2008	MAR 2009	JUNE 2009	SEPT 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2008
PETROLEUM								
Production								
Crude oil & condensate (000 bbl)		16,012	15,613	18,523	21,648	**20,506**	**42,154**	32,192
Natural gas (bcf)		90.23	82.19	97.17	99.24	**92.81**	**192.05**	185.50
NGL (000 bbl) (a)		2,107	2,361	2,840	*3,020*	**2,387**	**5,407**	4,847
Total Petroleum Products (million boe)		33.16	31.67	37.56	41.21	**38.36**	**79.57**	67.96
ALUMINIUM								
ALUMINA								
Production (000 tonnes)								
Worsley	86%	756	688	747	709	**755**	**1,464**	1,489
Suriname (b)	45%	242	226	226	78		**78**	483
Alumar	36%	141	137	135	132	**184**	**316**	265
Total		1,139	1,051	1,108	919	**939**	**1,858**	2,237
ALUMINIUM								
Production (000 tonnes)								
Hillside	100%	176	174	177	179	**180**	**359**	351
Bayside	100%	25	24	25	25	**25**	**50**	50
Alumar	40%	44	44	44	44	**43**	**87**	89
Mozal	47%	65	62	64	65	**65**	**130**	129
Total		310	304	310	313	**313**	**626**	619
BASE METALS (c)								
COPPER								
Payable metal in concentrate (000 tonnes)								

Escondida	57.5%	102.7	86.6	111.5	102.8	**130.6**	**233.4**	219.5
Antamina	33.8%	28.6	25.7	26.3	24.3	**26.6**	**50.9**	57.0
Pinto Valley (d)	100%	14.7	4.4					28.9
Total		146.0	116.7	137.8	127.1	**157.2**	**284.3**	305.4
Cathode (000 tonnes)								
Escondida	57.5%	42.1	45.0	49.4	47.9	**45.9**	**93.8**	77.7
Cerro Colorado	100%	26.3	26.5	27.5	18.6	**21.6**	**40.2**	48.1
Spence	100%	44.5	47.7	44.8	51.0	**18.8**	**69.8**	80.2
Pinto Valley (d)	100%	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.6	**1.5**	**3.1**	3.3
Olympic Dam	100%	47.6	45.4	46.3	37.7	**26.1**	**63.8**	102.4
Total		162.2	166.1	169.4	156.8	**113.9**	**270.7**	311.7

LEAD								
Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes)								
Cannington	100%	65,622	46,259	57,145	60,879	**61,701**	**122,580**	123,390
Antamina	33.8%	400	976	1,397	491	**1,372**	**1,863**	884
Total		66,022	47,235	58,542	61,370	**63,073**	**124,443**	124,274
ZINC								
Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes)								
Cannington	100%	14,199	12,943	13,258	15,190	**18,324**	**33,514**	28,648
Antamina	33.8%	23,671	26,454	30,929	31,235	**41,511**	**72,746**	50,983
Total		37,870	39,397	44,187	46,425	**59,835**	**106,260**	79,631
BASE METALS (continued)								
GOLD								
Payable metal in concentrate (ounces)								
Escondida	57.5%	17,840	17,496	17,595	13,905	**20,924**	**34,829**	32,231
Olympic Dam (refined gold)	100%	27,950	23,331	29,398	26,006	**24,117**	**50,123**	55,310
Pinto Valley (d)	100%		920					
Total		45,790	41,747	46,993	39,911	**45,041**	**84,952**	87,541
SILVER								
Payable metal in concentrate (000 ounces)								
Escondida	57.5%	738	673	686	512	**825**	**1,337**	1,406
Antamina	33.8%	915	1,003	1,240	1,039	**1,360**	**2,399**	1,847
Cannington	100%	9,565	6,802	8,609	9,013	**9,334**	**18,347**	17,956
Olympic Dam (refined silver)	100%	234	200	259	205	**170**	**375**	478
Pinto Valley (d)	100%	63	52	2				128
Total		11,515	8,730	10,796	10,769	**11,689**	**22,458**	21,815
URANIUM OXIDE CONCENTRATE								
Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes)								
Olympic Dam	100%	860	883	1,154	1,130	**348**	**1,478**	1,970
Total		860	883	1,154	1,130	**348**	**1,478**	1,970
MOLYBDENUM								
Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes)								
Antamina	33.8%	365	318	166	241	**113**	**354**	879
Pinto Valley (d)	100%	46	19					140
Total		411	337	166	241	**113**	**354**	1,019
DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS								
DIAMONDS								
Production (000 carats)								
Ekati	80%	594	951	903	780	**760**	**1,540**	1,367
STAINLESS STEEL MATERIALS								
NICKEL								
Production (000 tonnes)								

CMSA	99.9%	13.0	13.1	13.7	12.0	**13.0**	**25.0**	23.7
Yabulu (e)	100%	9.5	7.5	7.8	2.8		**2.8**	18.6
Nickel West	100%	27.7	26.9	27.1	23.4	**36.0**	**59.4**	34.7
Total		50.2	47.5	48.6	38.2	**49.0**	**87.2**	77.0

IRON ORE								
Production (000 tonnes) (f)								
Newman (g)	85%	8,046	7,510	7,123	7,549	**8,174**	**15,723**	16,717
Goldsworthy Joint Venture	85%	346	558	280	428	**417**	**845**	578
Area C Joint Venture	85%	8,716	9,181	8,407	9,189	**10,207**	**19,396**	17,925
Yandi Joint Venture	85%	10,026	9,370	9,461	10,194	**10,885**	**21,079**	18,987
Samarco	50%	2,221	1,569	1,777	2,746	**2,766**	**5,512**	4,972
Total		29,355	28,188	27,048	30,106	**32,449**	**62,555**	59,179
MANGANESE								
MANGANESE ORES								
Saleable production (000 tonnes)								
South Africa (h)	60%	755	351	156	428	**664**	**1,092**	1,684
Australia (h)	60%	657	382	344	728	**873**	**1,601**	1,558
Total		1,412	733	500	1,156	**1,537**	**2,693**	3,242
MANGANESE ALLOYS								
Saleable production (000 tonnes)								
South Africa (h) (i)	60%	112	51	5	30	**76**	**106**	245
Australia (h)	60%	69	53	20	33	**55**	**88**	139
Total		181	104	25	63	**131**	**194**	384
METALLURGICAL COAL								
Production (000 tonnes) (j)								
BMA	50%	6,781	5,165	6,378	5,822	**5,609**	**11,431**	13,165
BHP Mitsui Coal (k)	80%	1,771	549	1,482	1,597	**1,829**	**3,426**	3,404
Illawarra	100%	1,598	1,882	1,600	1,985	**1,455**	**3,440**	2,791
Total		10,150	7,596	9,460	9,404	**8,893**	**18,297**	19,360
ENERGY COAL								
Production (000 tonnes)								
South Africa	100%	7,484	6,453	7,682	8,099	**7,382**	**15,481**	15,761
USA	100%	3,017	2,907	4,207	4,162	**2,978**	**7,140**	7,022
Australia	100%	2,993	2,768	3,039	3,173	**2,887**	**6,060**	5,968
Colombia	33%	2,435	2,618	2,734	2,625	**2,213**	**4,838**	5,242
Total		15,929	14,746	17,662	18,059	**15,460**	**33,519**	33,993

(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) Suriname was sold effective 31 July 2009.
(c) Metal production is reported on the basis of payable metal.
(d) The Pinto Valley operations were placed on care and maintenance in February 2009.
(e) Yabulu was sold effective 31 July 2009.
(f) Iron ore production is reported on a wet tonnes basis.
(g) Newman includes Mt Newman Joint Venture and Jimblebar.

(h) Shown on 100% basis. BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 60%.
(i) Production includes Medium Carbon Ferro Manganese.
(j) Metallurgical coal production is reported on the basis of saleable product. Production figures include some thermal coal.
(k) Shown on 100% basis. BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 80%.

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT

	QUARTER ENDED				HALF YEAR ENDED		
	DEC 2008	MAR 2009	JUNE 2009	SEPT 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2008
PETROLEUM							
BHP Billiton attributable production unless otherwise stated.							
CRUDE OIL & CONDENSATE (000 barrels)							
Bass Strait	3,230	3,057	3,744	3,501	**3,031**	**6,532**	6,642
North West Shelf (a)	2,434	2,150	2,178	2,305	**2,362**	**4,667**	4,549
Stybarrow	2,720	1,843	1,538	1,328	**979**	**2,307**	6,096
Other Australia (b)	185	158	150	172	**46**	**218**	391
Atlantis (c) (d)	2,319	2,449	3,333	4,630	**4,301**	**8,931**	4,551
Mad Dog (c)	1,090	1,403	1,355	1,268	**906**	**2,174**	1,915
Shenzi (c) (e)		49	2,788	5,001	**5,528**	**10,529**	186
Trinidad /Tobago	568	542	354	445	**398**	**843**	1,273
Other Americas (c) (f)	935	613	505	473	**453**	**926**	1,671
UK	777	796	869	629	**677**	**1,306**	1,457
Algeria	1,664	2,457	1,611	1,793	**1,717**	**3,510**	3,288
Pakistan	90	96	98	103	**108**	**211**	173
Total	16,012	15,613	18,523	21,648	**20,506**	**42,154**	32,192
NATURAL GAS (billion cubic feet)							
Bass Strait	25.12	17.02	28.98	31.31	**24.20**	**55.51**	62.20
North West Shelf (a)	31.79	31.63	32.97	32.86	**33.98**	**66.84**	58.80
Other Australia (b)	6.35	6.75	6.11	5.83	**5.47**	**11.30**	13.68
Atlantis (c) (d)	1.16	1.32	1.95	2.85	**2.38**	**5.23**	2.41
Mad Dog (c)	0.25	0.33	0.33	0.35	**0.20**	**0.55**	0.44
Shenzi (c) (e)			0.73	1.75	**1.90**	**3.65**	0.04
Other Americas (c) (f)	1.43	1.76	1.68	1.75	**1.54**	**3.29**	2.98
UK	9.70	8.95	8.11	5.20	**5.08**	**10.28**	17.21
Pakistan	14.43	14.43	16.31	17.34	**18.06**	**35.40**	27.74
Total	90.23	82.19	97.17	99.24	**92.81**	**192.05**	185.50
NGL (000 barrels)							
Bass Strait	1,352	982	1,875	2,080	**1,572**	**3,652**	3,501
North West Shelf (a)	402	416	437	438	**464**	**902**	766
UK	89	31	97	51		**51**	130
Algeria	264	932	431	451	**351**	**802**	450

Total	2,107	2,361	2,840	3,020	**2,387**	**5,407**	4,847
TOTAL PETROLEUM PRODUCTS	33.16	31.67	37.56	41.21	**38.36**	**79.57**	67.96
(million barrels of oil equivalent) (g)							

(a) North West Shelf LNG Train 5 was commissioned during the September 2008 quarter. North West Shelf Angel was commissioned during the December 2008 quarter.
(b) Other Australia includes Griffin and Minerva. Griffin ceased production on 23 October 2009.
(c) Gulf of Mexico volumes are net of royalties.
(d) Atlantis North achieved first production on 5 June 2009.
(e) The Genghis Khan operation is reported in Shenzi. The Shenzi operation was commissioned during the March 2009 quarter.
(f) Other Americas includes Neptune, West Cameron 76, Mustang, Genesis and Starlifter. The Neptune operation was commissioned during the September 2008 quarter.
(g) Total barrels of oil equivalent (boe) conversions are based on 6000scf of natural gas equals 1 boe.

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT

	QUARTER ENDED				HALF YEAR ENDED		
	DEC 2008	MAR 2009	JUNE 2009	SEPT 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2008
ALUMINIUM							
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.							
(000 tonnes)							
ALUMINA							
Production							
Worsley, Australia	756	688	747	709	**755**	**1,464**	1,489
Paranam, Suriname (a)	242	226	226	78		**78**	483
Alumar, Brazil	141	137	135	132	**184**	**316**	265
Total	1,139	1,051	1,108	919	**939**	**1,858**	2,237
Sales							
Worsley, Australia	763	683	731	716	**773**	**1,489**	1,544
Paranam, Suriname (a)	252	218	246	74		**74**	468
Alumar, Brazil	140	110	145	154	**180**	**334**	268
Total (b)	1,155	1,011	1,122	944	**953**	**1,897**	2,280
ALUMINIUM							
Production							
Hillside, South Africa	176	174	177	179	**180**	**359**	351
Bayside, South Africa	25	24	25	25	**25**	**50**	50
Alumar, Brazil	44	44	44	44	**43**	**87**	89
Mozal, Mozambique	65	62	64	65	**65**	**130**	129
Total	310	304	310	313	**313**	**626**	619
Sales							
Hillside, South Africa	185	173	189	147	**203**	**350**	345
Bayside, South Africa	24	26	22	26	**27**	**53**	48
Alumar, Brazil	50	48	47	44	**45**	**89**	87
Mozal, Mozambique	105	41	88	67	**56**	**123**	141
Total	364	288	346	284	**331**	**615**	621
Tolling Agreement (b)	27	40	31	15		**15**	58
	391	328	377	299	**331**	**630**	679

(a) Suriname was sold effective 31 July 2009.

(b) Equity Alumina from Suriname was converted into Aluminium under a third party tolling agreement. These tonnages were allocated to equity sales. This Aluminium is now treated as third party product following the sale of Suriname.

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT

		QUARTER ENDED					HALF YEAR ENDED	
		DEC 2008	MAR 2009	JUNE 2009	SEPT 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2008
BASE METALS								
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated. Metals production is payable metal unless otherwise stated.								
Escondida, Chile								
Material mined (100%)	(000 tonnes)	100,544	97,357	102,558	102,352	**101,976**	**204,328**	199,919
Sulphide ore milled (100%)	(000 tonnes)	22,516	21,381	19,898	16,224	**20,246**	**36,470**	42,932
Average copper grade	(%)	1.04%	0.93%	1.22%	1.40%	**1.38%**	**1.39%**	1.17%
Production ex Mill (100%)	(000 tonnes)	186.3	156.4	199.6	188.4	**233.0**	**421.4**	394.9
Production								
Payable copper	(000 tonnes)	102.7	86.6	111.5	102.8	**130.6**	**233.4**	219.5
Payable gold concentrate	(fine ounces)	17,840	17,496	17,595	13,905	**20,924**	**34,829**	32,231
Copper cathode (EW)	(000 tonnes)	42.1	45.0	49.4	47.9	**45.9**	**93.8**	77.7
Payable silver concentrate	(000 ounces)	738	673	686	512	**825**	**1,337**	1,406
Sales								
Payable copper	(000 tonnes)	93.8	93.0	114.2	88.9	**144.3**	**233.2**	212.0
Payable gold concentrate	(fine ounces)	16,377	19,050	17,816	11,991	**23,031**	**35,022**	30,898
Copper cathode (EW)	(000 tonnes)	41.8	45.6	48.4	40.7	**51.1**	**91.8**	73.0
Payable silver concentrate	(000 ounces)	678	732	685	441	**910**	**1,351**	1,344
Cerro Colorado, Chile								
Material mined	(000 tonnes)	18,598	17,927	17,289	17,019	**16,586**	**33,605**	35,124
Ore milled	(000 tonnes)	4,379	4,405	3,598	3,758	**4,314**	**8,072**	8,973
Average copper grade	(%)	0.86%	0.86%	0.89%	0.79%	**0.78%**	**0.78%**	0.86%
Production								
Copper cathode (EW)	(000 tonnes)	26.3	26.5	27.5	18.6	**21.6**	**40.2**	48.1
Sales								
Copper cathode (EW)	(000 tonnes)	26.2	26.5	30.5	18.3	**21.2**	**39.5**	49.1
Spence, Chile								
Material mined	(000 tonnes)	20,562	19,505	20,049	19,111	**3,800**	**22,911**	39,300
Ore milled	(000 tonnes)	4,154	4,300	4,921	4,670	**1,190**	**5,860**	8,644
Average copper grade	(%)	1.66%	1.51%	1.36%	1.55%	**1.22%**	**1.48%**	1.93%
Production								
Copper cathode (EW)	(000 tonnes)	44.5	47.7	44.8	51.0	**18.8**	**69.8**	80.2
Sales								
Copper cathode (EW)	(000 tonnes)	43.3	45.1	45.2	42.2	**32.7**	**74.9**	77.9
Antamina, Peru								

Material mined (100%)	('000 tonnes)	28,111	27,060	29,381	27,571	**29,485**	**57,056**	58,137
Sulphide ore milled (100%)	('000 tonnes)	8,058	7,853	8,437	8,321	**8,962**	**17,283**	16,191
Average head grades								
- Copper	(%)	1.25%	1.22%	1.19%	1.10%	**1.15%**	**1.13%**	1.20%
- Zinc	(%)	1.33%	1.57%	1.73%	1.65%	**2.04%**	**1.85%**	1.43%
Production								
Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	28.6	25.7	26.3	24.3	**26.6**	**50.9**	57.0
Payable zinc	(tonnes)	23,671	26,454	30,929	31,235	**41,511**	**72,746**	50,983
Payable silver	('000 ounces)	915	1,003	1,240	1,039	**1,360**	**2,399**	1,847
Payable lead	(tonnes)	400	976	1,397	491	**1,372**	**1,863**	884
Payable molybdenum	(tonnes)	365	318	166	241	**113**	**354**	879
Sales								
Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	29.4	28.7	24.2	25.6	**26.6**	**52.2**	56.1
Payable zinc	(tonnes)	27,024	24,457	29,110	30,633	**40,280**	**70,913**	53,426
Payable silver	('000 ounces)	844	754	987	1,079	**1,135**	**2,214**	1,563
Payable lead	(tonnes)	518	207	724	1,707	**703**	**2,410**	905
Payable molybdenum	(tonnes)	398	382	171	264	**107**	**371**	880
Cannington, Australia								
Material mined	('000 tonnes)	863	824	793	840	**839**	**1,679**	1,587
Ore milled	('000 tonnes)	817	628	746	798	**859**	**1,657**	1,641
Average head grades								
- Silver	(g/t)	438	398	427	418	**405**	**411**	411
- Lead	(%)	9.5%	8.8%	9.0%	9.0%	**8.5%**	**8.7%**	8.9%
- Zinc	(%)	3.1%	3.3%	3.0%	3.1%	**3.4%**	**3.3%**	3.0%
Production								
Payable silver	('000 ounces)	9,565	6,802	8,609	9,013	**9,334**	**18,347**	17,956
Payable lead	(tonnes)	65,622	46,259	57,145	60,879	**61,701**	**122,580**	123,390
Payable zinc	(tonnes)	14,199	12,943	13,258	15,190	**18,324**	**33,514**	28,648
Sales								
Payable silver	('000 ounces)	9,958	5,490	9,841	7,978	**9,652**	**17,630**	19,465
Payable lead	(tonnes)	67,467	36,945	64,544	53,778	**66,088**	**119,866**	132,447
Payable zinc	(tonnes)	10,990	11,195	15,649	10,697	**19,766**	**30,463**	27,939

Olympic Dam, Australia								
Material mined (a)	('000 tonnes)	2,419	2,415	2,370	2,479	**734**	**3,213**	5,047
Ore milled	('000 tonnes)	2,456	2,301	2,608	2,453	**717**	**3,170**	4,974
Average copper grade	(%)	1.80%	1.83%	1.75%	1.70%	**1.99%**	**1.77%**	1.94%
Average uranium grade	kg/t	0.50	0.52	0.57	0.58	**0.58**	**0.58**	0.53
Production								
Copper cathode (ER)	('000 tonnes)	44.6	42.7	42.6	34.5	**25.0**	**59.5**	96.5
Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	3.0	2.7	3.7	3.2	**1.1**	**4.3**	5.9
Uranium oxide concentrate	(tonnes)	860	883	1,154	1,130	**348**	**1,478**	1,970
Refined gold	(fine ounces)	27,950	23,331	29,398	26,006	**24,117**	**50,123**	55,310
Refined silver	('000 ounces)	234	200	259	205	**170**	**375**	478
Sales								
Copper cathode (ER)	('000 tonnes)	48.3	42.7	40.5	36.1	**23.7**	**59.8**	97.8
Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	2.8	2.7	3.8	3.2	**1.5**	**4.7**	6.1
Uranium oxide concentrate	(tonnes)	1,262	829	1,261	537	**1,540**	**2,077**	2,130
Refined gold	(fine ounces)	26,383	24,298	35,876	25,053	**22,666**	**47,719**	52,504
Refined silver	('000 ounces)	250	79	400	173	**198**	**371**	482

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

Pinto Valley, USA (a)								
Production								
Copper concentrate	('000 tonnes)	14.7	4.4					28.9
Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.6	**1.5**	**3.1**	3.3
Payable silver	('000 ounces)	63	52	2				128
Payable gold	(ounces)		920					
Payable molybdenum	(tonnes)	46	19					140
Sales								
Copper concentrate	('000 tonnes)	13.0	10.5					27.0
Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.3	**1.6**	**2.9**	3.0
Payable silver	('000 ounces)	63	52	2				128
Payable gold	(ounces)		920					

Payable molybdenum	(tonnes)	44	100					59

(a) During February 2009 the operations were placed on care and maintenance.

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT

		QUARTER ENDED					HALF YEAR ENDED	
		DEC 2008	MAR 2009	JUNE 2009	SEPT 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2008
DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS								
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.								
DIAMONDS								
<u>EkatiTM, Canada</u>								
Ore Processed (100%)	(000 tonnes)	910	1,250	1,410	1,223	**1,216**	**2,439**	2,102
Production	(000 carats)	594	951	903	780	**760**	**1,540**	1,367

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT

	QUARTER ENDED				HALF YEAR ENDED		
	DEC 2008	MAR 2009	JUNE 2009	SEPT 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2008
STAINLESS STEEL MATERIALS							
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.							
(000 tonnes)							
NICKEL							
<u>CMSA, Colombia</u>							
Production	13.0	13.1	13.7	12.0	**13.0**	**25.0**	23.7
Sales	11.0	11.6	18.1	11.4	**11.4**	**22.8**	21.7
<u>Yabulu, Australia (a)</u>							
Production							
Nickel metal	9.5	7.5	7.8	2.8		**2.8**	18.6
Cobalt	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.1		**0.1**	0.8
Sales							
Nickel metal	9.4	9.1	7.9	2.2		**2.2**	16.6
Cobalt	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1		**0.1**	0.7

(a) Yabulu was sold effective 31 July 2009.

<u>Nickel West, Australia</u>							
Production							
Nickel contained in concentrate	5.4	4.5	5.0	4.1	**5.3**	**9.4**	11.8
Nickel contained in finished matte	10.8	6.1	4.1	5.0	**13.0**	**18.0**	11.4
Nickel metal	11.5	16.3	18.0	14.3	**17.7**	**32.0**	11.5
Nickel production	27.7	26.9	27.1	23.4	**36.0**	**59.4**	34.7
Sales							
Nickel contained in concentrate	5.6	4.3	5.2	3.9	**5.2**	**9.1**	11.7
Nickel contained in finished matte	10.2	5.9	5.5	3.7	**11.8**	**15.5**	10.2
Nickel metal	6.6	15.1	19.0	14.1	**17.5**	**31.6**	11.3

Nickel sales	22.4	25.3	29.7	21.7	**34.5**	**56.2**	33.2

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT

	QUARTER ENDED					HALF YEAR ENDED	
	DEC 2008	MAR 2009	JUNE 2009	SEPT 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2008
IRON ORE							
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.							
(000 tonnes)							
IRON ORE (a)							
Pilbara, Australia							
Production							
Newman (b)	8,046	7,510	7,123	7,549	**8,174**	**15,723**	16,717
Goldsworthy Joint Venture	346	558	280	428	**417**	**845**	578
Area C Joint Venture	8,716	9,181	8,407	9,189	**10,207**	**19,396**	17,925
Yandi Joint Venture	10,026	9,370	9,461	10,194	**10,885**	**21,079**	18,987
Total (BHP Billiton share)	27,134	26,619	25,271	27,360	**29,683**	**57,043**	54,207
Total production (100%)	31,922	31,316	29,731	32,188	**34,921**	**67,109**	63,773
Shipments							
Lump	7,598	8,163	7,989	7,839	**8,141**	**15,980**	16,770
Fines	18,917	19,486	17,035	19,932	**20,787**	**40,719**	37,930
Total (BHP Billiton share)	26,515	27,649	25,024	27,771	**28,928**	**56,699**	54,700
Total sales (100%)	31,194	32,528	29,441	32,672	**34,033**	**66,705**	64,353

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

	DEC 2008	MAR 2009	JUNE 2009	SEPT 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2008
Samarco, Brazil							
Production	2,221	1,569	1,777	2,746	**2,766**	**5,512**	4,972
Shipments	1,808	1,428	1,788	3,076	**2,933**	**6,009**	4,644

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT

	QUARTER ENDED				HALF YEAR ENDED		
	DEC 2008	MAR 2009	JUNE 2009	SEPT 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2008
MANGANESE							
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.							
(000 tonnes)							
MANGANESE ORE							
South Africa (a)							
Saleable production	755	351	156	428	**664**	**1,092**	1,684
Sales	490	221	367	712	**751**	**1,463**	1,407
Australia (a)							
Saleable production	657	382	344	728	**873**	**1,601**	1,558
Sales	323	442	530	838	**985**	**1,823**	1,195
MANGANESE ALLOY							
South Africa (a) (b)							
Saleable production	112	51	5	30	**76**	**106**	245
Sales	56	54	70	101	**66**	**167**	162
Australia (a)							
Saleable production	69	53	20	33	**55**	**88**	139
Sales	57	36	32	60	**68**	**128**	113

(a) Shown on 100% basis. BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 60%.
(b) Production includes Medium Carbon Ferro Manganese.

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT

	QUARTER ENDED				HALF YEAR ENDED		
	DEC 2008	MAR 2009	JUNE 2009	SEPT 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2008
METALLURGICAL COAL							
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.							
(000 tonnes)							
METALLURGICAL COAL (a)							
Queensland, Australia							
Production							
BMA							
Blackwater	1,239	1,165	1,521	1,352	**1,500**	**2,852**	2,696
Goonyella	1,915	1,346	1,725	1,507	**1,548**	**3,055**	3,614
Peak Downs	1,103	1,105	1,268	1,187	**817**	**2,004**	2,017
Saraji	1,027	651	723	779	**726**	**1,505**	2,131
Norwich Park	605	427	513	392	**575**	**967**	1,044
Gregory Joint Venture	892	471	628	605	**443**	**1,048**	1,663
BMA total	6,781	5,165	6,378	5,822	**5,609**	**11,431**	13,165

BHP Mitsui Coal (b)							
South Walker Creek	943	386	600	821	**1,063**	**1,884**	1,992
Poitrel	828	163	882	776	**766**	**1,542**	1,412
BHP Mitsui Coal total	1,771	549	1,482	1,597	**1,829**	**3,426**	3,404
Queensland total	8,552	5,714	7,860	7,419	**7,438**	**14,857**	16,569
Shipments							
Coking coal	5,590	4,703	5,087	5,725	**5,935**	**11,660**	11,513
Weak coking coal	1,547	1,041	1,796	1,613	**1,778**	**3,391**	3,508
Thermal coal	297	253	461	453	**204**	**657**	759
Total	7,434	5,997	7,344	7,791	**7,917**	**15,708**	15,780

(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%.

Illawarra, Australia							
Production	1,598	1,882	1,600	1,985	**1,455**	**3,440**	2,791
Shipments							
Coking coal	1,195	1,637	1,696	2,097	**1,408**	**3,505**	2,090
Thermal coal	166	346	46	159	250	409	326
Total	1,361	1,983	1,742	2,256	1,658	3,914	2,416

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT REPORT

	QUARTER ENDED					HALF YEAR ENDED	
	DEC 2008	MAR 2009	JUNE 2009	SEPT 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2009	DEC 2008
ENERGY COAL							
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.							
(000 tonnes)							
South Africa							
Production	7,484	6,453	7,682	8,099	**7,382**	**15,481**	15,761
Sales							
Export	2,945	1,672	1,700	2,377	**2,849**	**5,226**	5,274
Local utility	5,243	4,725	5,446	5,378	**4,687**	**10,065**	10,624
Inland	123	97	70	46	**49**	**95**	499
Total	8,311	6,494	7,216	7,801	**7,585**	**15,386**	16,397
New Mexico, USA							
Production							
Navajo Coal	1,923	1,950	2,426	2,167	**1,785**	**3,952**	3,987
San Juan Coal	1,094	957	1,781	1,995	**1,193**	**3,188**	3,035
Total	3,017	2,907	4,207	4,162	**2,978**	**7,140**	7,022
Sales - local utility	3,605	3,172	3,453	3,604	**3,660**	**7,264**	7,265
Hunter Valley, Australia							
Production	2,993	2,768	3,039	3,173	**2,887**	**6,060**	5,968
Sales							
Export	2,242	2,360	1,958	1,766	**2,959**	**4,725**	4,091
Inland	650	764	573	619	**382**	**1,001**	1,596
Total	2,892	3,124	2,531	2,385	**3,341**	**5,726**	5,687
Cerrejon Coal, Colombia							
Production	2,435	2,618	2,734	2,625	**2,213**	**4,838**	5,242
Sales - export	2,829	2,409	2,623	2,335	**2,745**	**5,080**	5,422