

BHP BILLITON LTD
Form 6-K
March 17, 2005

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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

17 March 2005

BHP Billiton Limited

ABN 49 004 028 077

180 Lonsdale 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"/> |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|--|-----------|--------------------------|

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):

Issued by: BHP Billiton Plc

**To: Company Announcements Office
The London Stock Exchange**

cc:
New York Stock Exchange
Swiss Stock Exchange
Johannesburg Stock Exchange
Deutsche Bank
UBS Zurich

Company Announcements Office
The Australian Stock Exchange

Date: 17 March 2005

For Release: Immediately

Contact: Ines Watson + 44 (0)20 7802 4176

Notification of Major Interests in Shares

The following notification was received on 16 March 2005 by BHP Billiton Plc in a letter from Barclays PLC, dated 10 March 2005, relating to major interests in shares of BHP Billiton Plc as at 8 March 2005:

"I hereby inform you that as at 8 March 2005 Barclays PLC, through the legal entities listed on the attached schedule, has a notifiable interest in the capital of your Company of 3.36%.

Details of this interest, together with a breakdown between registered holders (as required by Section 202(3) of the Act), are enclosed."

LEGAL ENTITY REPORT

BHP BILLITON PLC

SEDOL : 0056650

As at 8 March 2005 Barclays PLC, through the legal entities listed below, had a notifiable interest in 82,811,260 USD0.50 representing 3.36% of the issued share capital of 2,468,147,002 units

| Legal Entity | Holding | Percentage Held |
|---|------------|-----------------|
| Barclays Global Fund Advisors | 5,473,288 | 0.2218 |
| Barclays Global Investors Ltd | 39,847,008 | 1.6145 |
| Barclays Global Investors Japan Trust & Banking | 2,484,953 | 0.1007 |
| Barclays Global Investors Japan Ltd | 1,308,859 | 0.053 |

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| | | |
|---|------------|--------|
| Barclays Life Assurance Co Ltd | 3,296,467 | 0.1336 |
| Barclays Global Investors Australia Ltd | 965,666 | 0.0391 |
| Gerrard Ltd | 381,958 | 0.0155 |
| Barclays Global Investors, N.A. | 29,039,099 | 1.1766 |
| Barclays Private Bank Ltd | 1,596 | 0.0001 |
| Barclays Bank Trust Company Ltd | 12,366 | 0.0005 |
| Group Holding | 82,811,260 | 3.3554 |

REGISTERED HOLDERS REPORT

BHP BILLITON PLC

SEDOL: 0056650

As at 08 March 2005 Barclays PLC, through the registered holders listed below, had a notifiable interest in 82,811,260 USD0.50 representing 3.36% of the issued share capital of 2,468,147,002 units.

| <u>Registered Holder</u> | <u>Account Designation</u> | <u>Holding</u> |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Bank of Ireland | | 345,301 |
| BARCLAYS TRUST CO AS EXEC/ADM | | 866 |
| Barclays Trust Co DMC69 | | 10,000 |
| Barclays Trust Co R69 | | 1,500 |
| BNP PARIBAS | | 168,729 |
| CHASE NOMINEES LTD | 16376 | 1,393,213 |
| CHASE NOMINEES LTD | 20947 | 11,110,938 |
| CIBC MELLON GLOBAL SECURITIES | | 99,091 |
| INVESTORS BANK AND TRUST CO. | | 70,174 |
| INVESTORS BANK AND TRUST CO. | | 474,454 |
| INVESTORS BANK AND TRUST CO. | | 590,285 |
| INVESTORS BANK AND TRUST CO. | | 4,777,096 |
| INVESTORS BANK AND TRUST CO. | | 45,462 |
| INVESTORS BANK AND TRUST CO. | | 596,144 |
| INVESTORS BANK AND TRUST CO. | | 27,982 |
| INVESTORS BANK AND TRUST CO. | | 1,624,140 |

| <u>Registered Holder</u> | <u>Account Designation</u> | <u>Holding</u> |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| INVESTORS BANK AND TRUST CO. | | 3,437,519 |
| INVESTORS BANK AND TRUST CO. | | 46,217 |
| INVESTORS BANK AND TRUST CO. | | 4,299,723 |
| INVESTORS BANK AND TRUST CO. | | 12,631,659 |
| INVESTORS BANK AND TRUST CO. | | 728,093 |
| INVESTORS BANK AND TRUST CO. | | 690,505 |
| INVESTORS BANK AND TRUST CO. | | 24,512 |
| INVESTORS BANK AND TRUST CO. | | 32,793 |
| JP MORGAN (BGI CUSTODY) | 16331 | 796,492 |
| JP MORGAN (BGI CUSTODY) | 16338 | 160,262 |
| JP MORGAN (BGI CUSTODY) | 16341 | 284,977 |
| JP MORGAN (BGI CUSTODY) | 16341 | 1,447,897 |
| JP MORGAN (BGI CUSTODY) | 16342 | 300,858 |
| JP MORGAN (BGI CUSTODY) | 16344 | 105,492 |
| JP MORGAN (BGI CUSTODY) | 16345 | 159,827 |
| JP MORGAN (BGI CUSTODY) | 16400 | 27,200,771 |
| JP MORGAN (BGI CUSTODY) | 17011 | 40,662 |
| JP MORGAN (BGI CUSTODY) | 18408 | 142,086 |
| JPMorgan Chase Bank | | 158,501 |
| JPMorgan Chase Bank | | 24,366 |
| JPMorgan Chase Bank | | 151,410 |
| JPMorgan Chase Bank | | 180,668 |
| JPMorgan Chase Bank | | 267,331 |
| JPMorgan Chase Bank | | 179,107 |
| JPMorgan Chase Bank | | 314,525 |
| JPMorgan Chase Bank | | 20,870 |
| JPMorgan Chase Bank | | 26,525 |
| JPMorgan Chase Bank | | 122,862 |
| JPMorgan Chase Bank | | 6,140 |
| JPMorgan Chase Bank | | 35,459 |

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| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| JPMorgan Chase Bank | | 104,074 |
| JPMorgan Chase Bank | | 65,662 |
| JPMorgan Chase Bank | | 6,000 |
| JPMorgan Chase Bank | | 312,735 |
| JPMorgan Chase Bank | | 1,313,440 |
| JPMorgan Chase Bank | | 20,491 |
| JPMorgan Chase Bank | | 5,770 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK | | 550,449 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK | | 415,217 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK | | 74,464 |
| Master Trust Bank | | 33,268 |
| Mellon Trust - Boston & SF | | 359,379 |
| Mellon Trust - Boston & SF | | 251,448 |
| MELLON TRUST OF NEW ENGLAND | | 314,711 |
| Mitsubishi Trust International | | 16,210 |
| Mitsubishi Trust International | | 24,661 |
| NORTHERN TRUST BANK - BGI SEPA | | 402,338 |
| NORTHERN TRUST BANK - BGI SEPA | | 83,222 |
| NORTHERN TRUST BANK - BGI SEPA | | 339,848 |
| R C Greig Nominees Limited a/c | BL1 | 123,574 |
| R C Greig Nominees Limited a/c | CM1 | 69,210 |
| <u>Registered Holder</u> | <u>Account Designation</u> | <u>Holding</u> |
| R C Greig Nominees Limited GP1 | GP1 | 109,459 |
| R C Greig Nominees Limited SA1 | SA1 | 79,715 |
| State Street | | 42,216 |
| State Street | | 3,561 |
| STATE STREET BOSTON | | 2,067,789 |
| STATE STREET BOSTON | | 212,541 |
| Sumitomo TB | | 12,659 |
| WELLS FARGO SEATTLE - WIRE BAN | | 42,069 |
| ZEBAN NOMINEES LIMITED | | 1,596 |
| Total | | 82,811,260 |

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BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077

Registered in Australia
Registered Office: Level 27, 180 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria
3000
Telephone +61 1300 554 757 Facsimile +61 3 9609 3015

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

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

Karen Wood
Title: Company Secretary
Date:

17 March 2005