

BHP BILLITON PLC  
Form 6-K  
March 22, 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 22 March 2005

BHP Billiton Plc

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                      X                      Form 40-F

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    No    X

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

[BHP Billiton Logo]

NEWS RELEASE

RELEASE TIME                IMMEDIATE  
DATE                          21 March 2005  
NUMBER                        12/05

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## BHP BILLITON LODGES BIDDER'S STATEMENT FOR WMC RESOURCES LTD

BHP Billiton today lodged with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission the Bidder's Statement for its cash offer of A\$7.85 per share for the entire issued capital of WMC Resources Ltd (WMC).

BHP Billiton intends to mail both the Bidder's Statement and WMC's Target's Statement to WMC shareholders from 29 March 2005.

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

### AUSTRALIA

Jane Belcher, Investor Relations  
Tel: +61 3 9609 3952 Mobile: +61 417 031 653  
email: Jane.H.Belcher@bhpbilliton.com

Tania Price, Media Relations  
Tel: +61 3 9609 3815 Mobile: +61 419 152 780  
email: Tania.Price@bhpbilliton.com

### UNITED STATES

Tel: +1 713 599 6100 or +44 20 7802 4031  
email: Mark.Lidiard@bhpbilliton.com

### UNITED KINGDOM

Mark Lidiard, Investor & Media Relations  
Tel: +44 20 7802 4156  
email: Mark.Lidiard@bhpbilliton.com

Ariane Gentil, Media Relations  
Tel: +44 20 7802 4177  
email: Ariane.Gentil@bhpbilliton.com

### SOUTH AFRICA

Michael Campbell, Investor & Media Relations  
Tel: +27 11 376 3360 Mobile: +27 82 458  
email: Michael.J.Campbell@bhpbilliton.com

### FURTHER INFORMATION FOR U.S. HOLDERS

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BHP Billiton will file the Bidder's Statement with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) under cover of Form CB. Investors and holders of WMC securities are strongly advised to read the Bidder's Statement and any other relevant documents filed with the SEC, as well as any amendments and supplements to those documents, because they will contain important information. Investors and holders of WMC securities may obtain free copies of the informational document (when available), as well as other relevant documents filed with the SEC, at the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). WMC will issue a target's statement in connection with the offer which investors and holders of WMC securities are strongly advised to read.

This communication is for information purposes only. It shall not constitute an offer to purchase, sell or exchange or the solicitation of an offer to purchase, sell or exchange any securities of WMC. The distribution of this communication may, in some countries, be restricted by law or regulation. Accordingly, persons who come into possession of this document should inform themselves of and observe these restrictions.

BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077  
Registered in Australia  
Registered Office: 180 Lonsdale Street  
Melbourne Victoria 3000 Australia

BHP Billiton Plc Registered  
Registered in England and  
Neathouse Place  
London SW1V 1BH United

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Tel +61 1300 55 4757 Fax +61 3 9609 3015 Tel +44 20 7802 4000 Fa

A member of the BHP Billiton group which is headquartered in Austr

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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:22 March 2005