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

March 08, 2010

Commission File Number	Translation of registrant's name into English; Address of principal executive offices BHP Billiton Limited (ABN 49 004 028 077) 180 LONSDALE STREET, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA 3000 AUSTRALIA BHP Billiton Plc (REG. NO. 3196209) NEATHOUSE PLACE, VICTORIA, LONDON, 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		
cate by check mark if the registran	at is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1):		
cate by check mark if the registran	at 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.

No <u>X</u> Yes _

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** 8 March 2010 Date

Number 09/10

BHP BILLITON METALLURGICAL COAL NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

BHP Billiton today announced that it had reached terms for a significant portion of its hard coking coal volumes for 2010, based on a structural change to shorter term market based pricing for the contract period.

The company has reached agreement with a range of customers throughout Europe, China, India and Japan.

These settlements reflect the company's commitment to achieving market clearing prices over time across all its bulk commodities.

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

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BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077

Registered in Australia

Date: March 08, 2010

Registered Office: 180 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000 Australia

Tel +61 1300 55 4757 Fax +61 3 9609 3015

BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209

Registered in England and Wales Registered Office: Neathouse Place London SW1V 1BH United Kingdom

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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.

BHP Billiton Limited (ABN 49 004 028 077)

By: /s/ Jane McAloon
Name: Jane McAloon

Title: Group Company Secretary