

BHP BILLITON LTD
Form 6-K
May 06, 2016

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
May 6, 2016

BHP BILLITON LIMITED

(ABN 49 004 028 077)

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organisation)

171 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE,

VICTORIA 3000 AUSTRALIA

(Address of principal executive offices)

BHP BILLITON PLC

(REG. NO. 3196209)

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

ENGLAND AND WALES

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organisation)

NEATHOUSE PLACE, LONDON,

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: 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):

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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 No

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

NEWS RELEASE

Release Time IMMEDIATE

Date 06 May 2016

Release Number 12/16

SAMARCO (BRAZIL) UPDATE

On 2 March 2016, BHP Billiton announced that Samarco Mineração S.A (**Samarco**), Vale and BHP Billiton Brasil LTDA (**BHP Billiton Brasil**) had entered into an agreement (**Agreement**) with the Federal Attorney General of Brazil, the States of Espírito Santo and Minas Gerais and certain other public authorities (**Brazilian Authorities**) for the restoration of the environment and communities affected by the Samarco dam failure.

On 5 May 2016, the Federal Court of Appeal in Brasilia ratified the Agreement.

The Agreement provides a framework that Samarco, its shareholders and the Brazilian Authorities agree is the best way of managing the ongoing response to the Samarco tragedy. The Agreement creates a Foundation that will put in place a comprehensive range of programs to address the social, economic and environmental consequences of the dam failure. The programs will be informed by science and reflect the needs of the community.

BHP Billiton's previous announcement on the framework agreement is available here:

<http://www.bhpbilliton.com/investors/news/samarco-agreement-reached-with-brazilian-authorities>.

Further information on BHP Billiton can be found at: **bhpbilliton.com**

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Members of the BHP Billiton Group which is

headquartered in Australia

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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 Limited and BHP Billiton Plc

Date: May 6, 2016

By: /s/ Rachel Agnew
Name: Rachel Agnew
Title: Company Secretary