

BHP BILLITON LTD  
Form 6-K  
March 02, 2004

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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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

12 February 2004

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

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Issued by: BHP Billiton Plc

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To:  
 London Stock Exchange  
 Old Broad Street  
 London EC2N 1HP  
 United Kingdom  
 Company Announcements Office

cc: New York Stock Exchange  
 Swiss Stock Exchange  
 NZX  
 Johannesburg Stock Exchange  
 Euronext  
 Deutsche Bank

The Australian Stock Exchange  
 4th Floor, 20 Bridge Street  
 Sydney NSW 2000  
 Australia

Date: 12 February 2004

For Release: Immediately

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

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Notification of Major Interests in Shares

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The following notification was received yesterday by BHP Billiton Plc in a communication from Old Mutual plc dated 11 February 2004 relating to major interests in shares of BHP Billiton Plc as at 6 February 2004:

"Please find notification pursuant to section 198 of the Companies Act 1985, that as at 6th February 2004, Old Mutual Plc and its direct and indirect subsidiaries had a material interest in 197,616,150 ordinary shares of BHP Billiton Plc, representing 8.01% of the issued share capital. The shares are registered as per the attached schedule."

Registered holdings of BHP Billiton Plc share capital by Old Mutual Companies at 6 February 2004

Total Shares issued	Number of Shares	Company	Registered Holder	% of issued shares
2,468,147,002	103,654,830	Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd	Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (South Africa) Ltd	4.20%
	1,134,769	Stanlib Asset Management Ltd (not an Old Mutual Company)	Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (South Africa) Ltd	0.05%
	534,713	Prudential Portfolio Managers SA (Pty) Ltd	Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (South Africa) Ltd	0.02%

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		(not an Old Mutual Company)		
	220,270	PeregrineQuant (Pty) Ltd (Not an Old Mutual Company)	Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (South Africa) Ltd	0.01%
	265,325	Coronation Fund Managers Ltd (Not an Old Mutual Company)	Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (South Africa) Ltd	0.01%
	3,380,528	Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd	Old Mutual Unit Trusts (SA) Limited	0.14%
	47,438,404	Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd	Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (Managed Fund Client Assets)	1.92%
	206,309	Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd	Omnibon No 13 (Pty) Limited	0.01%
	1,953,383	Old Mutual Asset Managers (Namibia) (Pty) Ltd	Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (Namibia) Ltd	0.08%
	232,849	Old Mutual Asset Managers (Namibia) (Pty) Ltd	Old Mutual Holdings (Namibia) (Pty) Ltd	0.01%
	992,581	Old Mutual Asset Managers (Namibia) (Pty) Ltd	Old Mutual Asset Managers (Namibia) (Pty) Ltd (Managed Fund Client Assets)	0.04%
	45,728	Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd	Old Mutual Unit Trusts (Namibia) Limited	0.00%
	4,679,874	Old Mutual Asset Managers (Bermuda) Ltd	Old Mutual Global Asset Fund	0.19%
	12,280,448	Old Mutual Asset Managers (Bermuda) Ltd	Old Mutual South Africa Equity Trust Limited	0.50%
	1,139,599	Old Mutual Asset Managers (Bermuda) Ltd	Old Mutual South African Trust Plc	0.05%
	53,835	Quantitative Asset Management	ABSA Nominees	0.00%
	3,235,985	Quantitative Asset Management	Nedbank Nominees Ltd	0.13%
	2,907,495	Quantitative Asset Management	Standard Bank Nominees Ltd	0.12%
	7,407	Syfrets Securities		0.00%

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			Syfrets Securities Nominees (Pty) Ltd	
	79,300	Franklin Templeton/NIB Investments	Nedcor Bank Nominees Ltd	0.00%
	0	Old Mutual	Nedcor Bank Nominees	0.00%
	2,408,372	BOE Private Clients	Standard Bank Nominees	0.10%
	30,684	BOE Private Clients	Registered Own Name	0.00%
	1,345,035	BOE Private Clients (NTRAC)	Nedcor Bank Nominees	0.05%
	134,582	BOE Fiduciary	Nedcor Bank Nominees	0.01%
	1,936,848	Mutual & Federal Limited	Mutual & Federal Limited	0.08%
	5,185,603	Quaystone Ltd	Standard Bank Nominees (Transvaal) (Pty) Limited	0.21%
	1,626,652	Quaystone Ltd	Nedcor Bank Nominees Ltd	0.07%
	504,742	Quaystone Ltd	ABSA	0.02%
	197,616,150			8.01%

BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077

BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209

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

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

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Karen Wood  
Title: Company Secretary  
Date:

12 February 2004

