BHP BILLITON LTD Form 6-K January 03, 2008

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

December 14, 2007

BHP BILLITON LIMITED

BHP BILLITON PLC

(ABN 49 004 028 077)

(REG. NO. 3196209)

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

ENGLAND AND WALES

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organisation)

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organisation)

180 LONSDALE STREET, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

NEATHOUSE PLACE, VICTORIA, LONDON,

3000 AUSTRALIA

UNITED KINGDOM

(Address of principal executive offices)

 $(Address\ of\ principal\ executive\ offices)$

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F: [x] Form 20-F [y] Form 40-F

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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)(1): []
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 [x] No
If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b):n/a

Issued by: BHP Billiton Plc

BHP Billiton Limited

To:

London Stock Exchange Australian Securities Exchange

Cc:

New York Stock Exchange JSE Limited Swiss Stock Exchange Deutsche Bank UBS Zurich

Date: 14 December 2007

For Release: Immediately

BHP BILLITON PLC - TRANSACTION IN SHARES

BHP Billiton Limited announces that on 14 December 2007 it purchased 1,500,000 ordinary shares of BHP Billiton Plc at an average price of 1545.83 pence per ordinary share. The highest price paid was 1,596 pence per ordinary share and the lowest price paid was 1,524 pence per ordinary share.

Following the above transaction, BHP Billiton Plc holds 24,165,516 of its ordinary shares as treasury shares and BHP Billiton Limited holds 25,515,350 of the ordinary shares in BHP Billiton Plc, forming a total of 49,680,866 shares. The total number of BHP Billiton Plc ordinary shares in issue (excluding shares held as treasury shares and shares held by BHP Billiton Limited) is 2,206,955,686.

For further information, please contact:

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Company Secretary Company Secretary **Investor Relations BHP Billiton Plc BHP Billiton Limited** Andre Liebenberg Robert Franklin Jane McAloon

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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 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

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Edgar Filing: BHP BILLITON LTD - Form 6-K 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: 14 December 2007 By: Jane McAloon

Name: Jane McAloon

Title: Group Company Secretary