

BHP BILLITON LTD
Form 6-K
August 28, 2012

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

August 27, 2012

| Commission File Number | Translation of registrant's name into English; Address of principal executive offices |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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|--|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | 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 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):

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

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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): 82-.

NEWS RELEASE

Release Time:
IMMEDIATE

Date:
27 August 2012

Number:
21/12

SALE OF YEELIRRIE URANIUM DEPOSIT

BHP Billiton has signed an agreement to sell its wholly owned Yeelirrie uranium deposit in Western Australia to Cameco Corporation for US\$430 million.

BHP Billiton Uranium President, Dean Dalla Valle, said:

“Cameco is one of the world’s largest publicly listed uranium producers and is highly respected in the industry. We believe they are well placed to carry this project forward in a responsible manner.”

The sale is subject to relevant approvals from the Australian Foreign Investment Review Board and the Government of Western Australia.

About Yeelirrie

Yeelirrie is located 630 kilometres north-east of Perth in the Northern Goldfields region of Western Australia. Uranium was discovered at the Yeelirrie site in 1972 by Western Mining Corporation, which was acquired by BHP Billiton in 2005.

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

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Registered in Australia
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BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209
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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.

Date : August 27, 2012

BHP Billiton Limited (ABN 49 004 028 077) BHP Billiton
Plc (REG. NO. 3196209)

By: /s/ Jane McAloon
Name: Jane McAloon
Title: Group Company Secretary