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BHP BILLITON LTD
Form 6-K
March 22, 2005

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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 22 March 2005

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

Form 40-F

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):

[BHP Billiton Logo]

NEWS RELEASE

RELEASE TIME

IMMEDIATE

DATE

21 March 2005

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NUMBER 12/05

BHP BILLITON LODGES BIDDER'S STATEMENT FOR WMC RESOURCES LTD

BHP Billiton today lodged with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission the Bidder's Statement for its cash offer of A\$7.85 per share for the entire issued capital of WMC Resources Ltd (WMC).

BHP Billiton intends to mail both the Bidder's Statement and WMC's Target's Statement to WMC shareholders from 29 March 2005.

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

AUSTRALIA

Jane Belcher, Investor Relations
Tel: +61 3 9609 3952 Mobile: +61 417 031 653
email: Jane.H.Belcher@bhpbilliton.com

Tania Price, Media Relations
Tel: +61 3 9609 3815 Mobile: +61 419 152 780
email: Tania.Price@bhpbilliton.com

UNITED STATES

Tel: +1 713 599 6100 or +44 20 7802 4031
email: Mark.Lidiard@bhpbilliton.com

UNITED KINGDOM

Mark Lidiard, Investor & Media Relations
Tel: +44 20 7802 4156
email: Mark.Lidiard@bhpbilliton.com

Ariane Gentil, Media Relations
Tel: +44 20 7802 4177
email: Ariane.Gentil@bhpbilliton.com

SOUTH AFRICA

Michael Campbell, Investor & Media Relations
Tel: +27 11 376 3360 Mobile: +27 82 458
email: Michael.J.Campbell@bhpbilliton.com

FURTHER INFORMATION FOR U.S. HOLDERS

BHP Billiton will file the Bidder's Statement with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) under cover of Form CB. Investors and holders of WMC securities are strongly advised to read the Bidder's Statement and any other relevant documents filed with the SEC, as well as any amendments and supplements to those documents, because they will contain important information. Investors and holders of WMC securities may obtain free copies of the informational document (when available), as well as other relevant documents filed with the SEC, at the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. WMC will issue a target's statement in connection with the offer which investors and holders of WMC securities are strongly advised to read.

This communication is for information purposes only. It shall not constitute an offer to purchase, sell or exchange or the solicitation of an offer to purchase, sell or exchange any securities of WMC. The distribution of this communication may, in some countries, be restricted by law or regulation. Accordingly, persons who come into possession of this document should inform themselves of and observe these restrictions.

BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077
Registered in Australia
Registered Office: 180 Lonsdale Street

BHP Billiton Plc Registered
Registered in England and
Neathouse Place

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Melbourne Victoria 3000 Australia London SW1V 1BH United
Tel +61 1300 55 4757 Fax +61 3 9609 3015 Tel +44 20 7802 4000 Fa

A member 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

/s/ KAREN WOOD

Karen Wood
Title: Company Secretary
Date: 22 March 2005