

BHP BILLITON PLC
Form 6-K
December 09, 2011

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 8, 2011

BHP BILLITON PLC

(REG. NO. 3196209)

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

ENGLAND AND WALES

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organisation)

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NEATHOUSE PLACE, VICTORIA, 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):

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

Issued by: BHP Billiton Plc
Date: 8 December 2011
To: London Stock Exchange
Australian Securities Exchange
cc: JSE Limited
New York Stock Exchange
For Release: Immediately
Contact: **Geof Stapledon +44 (0) 20 7802 4176**

BHP Billiton Plc Notification of Major Interest in Shares

The following notification was received yesterday, 7 December 2011, by BHP Billiton Plc from Norges Bank relating to major interests in shares of BHP Billiton Plc.

BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077

Registered in Australia

Registered Office: 180 Lonsdale Street

Melbourne Victoria 3000 Australia

Tel +61 1300 55 4757 Fax +61 3 9609 3015

BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209

Registered in England and Wales

Registered Office: Neathouse Place

London SW1V 1BH United Kingdom

Tel +44 20 7802 4000 Fax +44 20 7802 4111

Members of the BHP Billiton group which is headquartered in Australia

TR-1: NOTIFICATION OF MAJOR INTEREST IN SHARESⁱ

1. Identity of the issuer or the underlying issuer of existing shares to which voting rights are attached: ⁱⁱ

BHP Billiton Plc

GB0000566504

2 Reason for the notification (please tick the appropriate box or boxes):

- An acquisition or disposal of voting rights x
- An acquisition or disposal of qualifying financial instruments which may result in the acquisition of shares already issued to which voting rights are attached ..
- An acquisition or disposal of instruments with similar economic effect to qualifying financial instruments ..
- An event changing the breakdown of voting rights ..
- Other (please specify): ..

3. Full name of person(s) subject to the notification obligation: ⁱⁱⁱ **Norges Bank**

4. Full name of shareholder(s)

(if different from 3.):^{iv} **N/A**

5. Date of the transaction and date on which the threshold is crossed or reached: ^v **5th December 2011**

6. Date on which issuer notified: **7th December 2011**

7. Threshold(s) that is/are crossed or reached: ^{vi, vii} **3%**

8. Notified details:

A: Voting rights attached to shares ^{viii, ix}

| Class/type of shares if possible using the ISIN CODE | Situation previous to the triggering transaction | | Resulting situation after the triggering transaction | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| | Number of Shares | Number of Voting Rights | Number of shares Direct | Number of voting rights Direct ^{xi} Indirect ^{xii} | | % of voting rights ^x Direct Indirect |
| GB0000566504 | 63,352,826 | 63,352,826 | 63,447,560 | 63,447,560 | | 3.00% |

B: Qualifying Financial Instruments

Resulting situation after the triggering transaction

| Type of financial instrument | Expiration date ^{xiii} | Exercise/Conversion Period ^{xiv} | Number of voting rights that may be acquired if the instrument is exercised/converted. | % of voting rights |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--|--------------------|
| N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

C: Financial Instruments with similar economic effect to Qualifying Financial Instruments ^{xv, xvi}

Resulting situation after the triggering transaction

| Type of financial instrument | Exercise price | Expiration date ^{xvii} | Exercise/Conversion period ^{xviii} | Number of voting rights instrument refers to | % of voting rights ^{xix, xx} Nominal Delta | |
|------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|---|--|---|---------|
| CFD | N/A | N/A | N/A | 3,000 | 0.0001% | 0.0001% |
| Total (A+B+C) | | | | | | |

| Number of voting rights | Percentage of voting rights |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 63,447,560 | 3.00% |

9. Chain of controlled undertakings through which the voting rights and/or the financial instruments are effectively held, if applicable:

xxi

N/A

Proxy Voting:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| 10. Name of the proxy holder: | Norges Bank |
| 11. Number of voting rights proxy holder will cease to hold: | N/A |
| 12. Date on which proxy holder will cease to hold voting rights: | N/A |
| 13. Additional information: | None |
| 14. Contact name: | Jeanette Rønne |
| 15. Contact telephone number: | +47 24 07 33 30 |

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 Plc

Date: December 8, 2011

By: Jane McAloon

/s/ Jane McAloon

Name: Jane McAloon

Title: Group Company Secretary