

BHP BILLITON LTD  
Form 6-K  
April 10, 2008

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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

April 9, 2008

**BHP BILLITON LIMITED**

**(ABN 49 004 028 077)**

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

**VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA**

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organisation)

**180 LONSDALE STREET, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA**

**3000 AUSTRALIA**

(Address of principal executive offices)

**BHP BILLITON PLC**

**(REG. NO. 3196209)**

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

**ENGLAND AND WALES**

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organisation)

**NEATHOUSE PLACE, VICTORIA, LONDON,**

**UNITED KINGDOM**

(Address of principal executive offices)

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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 [x] No

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

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9 April 2008  
Number 13/08

### BHP BILLITON METALLURGICAL COAL PRICE NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

BHP Billiton today announced that 2008 terms for a significant portion of annually-priced metallurgical coking coal contracts, relating to the BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance (BMA) operations in Queensland, have been concluded following settlements initially outside Japan and more recently with key Japanese customers.

Based on contract settlements to date, FOB(\$US) prices for Peak Downs and other similar BMA metallurgical coking coal products are expected to increase within the range of 206-240 per cent over 2007 levels.

Further information on BHP Billiton can be found on our Internet site: [www.bhpbilliton.com](http://www.bhpbilliton.com)

#### Australia

Emma Meade, Media Relations  
Tel: +61 3 9609 2896 Mobile: +61 409 199 236  
Email: [Emma.Meade@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Emma.Meade@bhpbilliton.com)

Leng Lau, Investor Relations  
Tel: +61 3 9609 4202 Mobile: +61 403 533 706  
Email: [Leng.Y.Lau@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Leng.Y.Lau@bhpbilliton.com)

#### United States

Tracey Whitehead, Investor & Media Relations  
Tel: US +1 713 599 6100 or UK +44 20 7802 4031  
Mobile: +44 7917 648 093  
Email: [Tracey.Whitehead@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Tracey.Whitehead@bhpbilliton.com)

#### United Kingdom

Andre Liebenberg, Investor Relations  
Tel: +44 20 7802 4131 Mobile: +44 7920 236 974  
Email: [Andre.Liebenberg@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Andre.Liebenberg@bhpbilliton.com)

Illtud Harri, Media Relations  
Tel: +44 20 7802 4195 Mobile: +44 7920 237 246  
Email: [Illtud.Harri@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Illtud.Harri@bhpbilliton.com)

#### South Africa

Alison Gilbert, Investor Relations  
Tel: SA +27 11 376 2121 or UK +44 20 7802 4183

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Mobile: +44 7769 936 227

Email: [Alison.Gilbert@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Alison.Gilbert@bhpbilliton.com)

**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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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: 9 April 2008

By: Jane McAloon

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Name: Jane McAloon  
Title: Group Company Secretary