

BHP BILLITON LTD  
Form 6-K  
March 08, 2016

**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**  
**March 8, 2016**

<b>BHP BILLITON LIMITED</b> <b>(ABN 49 004 028 077)</b> <b>(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)</b>	<b>BHP BILLITON PLC</b> <b>(REG. NO. 3196209)</b> <b>(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)</b>
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**VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA**  
**(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organisation)**

**171 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE,**

**ENGLAND AND WALES**  
**(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organisation)**

**NEATHOUSE PLACE, LONDON,**

**VICTORIA 3000 AUSTRALIA**  
**(Address of principal executive offices)**

**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

BHP Billiton Limited  
171 Collins Street  
Melbourne Victoria 3000 Australia  
GPO BOX 86  
Melbourne Victoria 3001 Australia  
Tel +61 1300 55 47 57 Fax +61 3 9609 3015  
bhpbilliton.com

BHP Billiton Plc  
Neathouse Place  
London SW1V 1LH UK  
Tel +44 20 7802 4000  
Fax + 44 20 7802 4111  
bhpbilliton.com

8 March 2016

To: Australian Securities Exchange  
London Stock Exchange

cc: New York Stock Exchange  
JSE Limited

**GLOBAL IRON ORE AND STEEL FORECAST CONFERENCE**

BHP Billiton Asset President, Western Australia Iron Ore, Edgar Basto, will present at the Global Iron Ore and Steel Forecast Conference, in Perth, Western Australia today.

A copy of the presentation is attached.

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

**Rachel Agnew**  
Company Secretary

**BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077**  
Registered in Australia  
Registered Office: Level 18, 171 Collins Street Melbourne  
Victoria 3000

**BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209**  
Registered in England and Wales  
Registered Office: Neathouse Place, London SW1V  
1LH United Kingdom

**The BHP Billiton Group is headquartered in Australia**

**NEWS RELEASE**

**Release Time** IMMEDIATE

**Date** 8 March 2016

**Release Number** 9/16

**BUILDING ON PRODUCTIVITY LEADERSHIP AND A STRONG ASSET BASE**

BHP Billiton is meeting the challenges of the global iron ore market through a focus on productivity and a relentless pursuit of the basics in its Western Australia Iron Ore (WAIO) operations.

In a key note address at this year's Global Iron Ore and Steel Forecast Conference, Asset President WAIO, Edgar Basto, spoke to the global market dynamics affecting one of Australia's most important exports.

Following a decade of strong growth driven by fixed assets investments, the Chinese economy is transitioning to a more consumer and services based model, with future growth likely to be inherently less steel intensive, he said.

The Chinese Government's steel industry restructure plans will take time to implement but it's important to note a reduction in excess capacity will mean improved sustainability of the industry and our customers are likely to benefit from any consolidation.

Mr Basto reiterated that the mining industry would need to continue to meet the challenges of a lower price environment through productivity.

Our structured approach to safely increasing the availability, utilisation and rate of our existing infrastructure will support continued productivity improvements at WAIO, he said.

We continue to increase our productivity in Port and Rail as we approach our targeted run rate of approximately 270 million tonnes per annum.

This has been achieved through a range of measures such as the optimisation of our pit-to-port scheduling strategy and alignment of maintenance shutdowns across our mines, port and track.

Mr Basto said BHP Billiton's new Operating Model would also support safe delivery of further productivity gains from WAIO's Tier 1 asset base in the Pilbara.

Our productivity drive has supported an EBITDA margin of over 50 per cent at WAIO despite the iron ore price halving since 2012, he said.

Through the new Operating Model we will deliver faster replication of leading practices and improved technologies across all of BHP Billiton's global operations as well as a major reduction in the costs of our functions.

Mr Basto reinforced the Company's commitment to Western Australia and its local communities.

WAIO remains a strong supporter of the communities in which we operate, having committed A\$300 million over the past five years to health, education and Indigenous development programs and community infrastructure.

We are proud of the contribution we have made, and continue to make in WA. Despite the challenging market conditions faced by the industry, BHP Billiton is unwavering in its commitment to the State and our local communities.

Further information on BHP Billiton can be found at: **[bhpbilliton.com](http://bhpbilliton.com)**

## Media Relations

### Australia and Asia

Emily Perry  
Tel: +61 3 9609 2800 Mobile +61 477 325 803  
Email: [Emily.Perry@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Emily.Perry@bhpbilliton.com)

Eleanor Colonico  
Tel: +61 3 9609 2360 Mobile +61 407 064 748  
Email: [Eleanor.Colonico@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Eleanor.Colonico@bhpbilliton.com)

Paul Hitchins  
Tel: +61 3 9609 2592 Mobile +61 419 315 001  
Email: [Paul.Hitchins@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Paul.Hitchins@bhpbilliton.com)

### United Kingdom and South Africa

Ruban Yogarajah  
Tel: +44 207 802 4033 Mobile +44 7827 082 022  
Email: [Ruban.Yogarajah@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Ruban.Yogarajah@bhpbilliton.com)

Jennifer White  
Tel: +44 207 802 7462 Mobile +44 7827 253 764  
Email: [Jennifer.White@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Jennifer.White@bhpbilliton.com)

### North America

Jaryl Strong  
Tel: +1 713 499 5548 Mobile: +1 281 222 6627  
Email: [Jaryl.Strong@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Jaryl.Strong@bhpbilliton.com)

BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077  
Registered in Australia  
Registered Office: Level 18, 171 Collins Street  
Melbourne Victoria 3000 Australia  
Tel +61 1300 55 4757 Fax +61 3 9609 3015  
Members of the BHP Billiton Group which is

headquartered in Australia

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## Investor Relations

### Australia and Asia

Tara Dines  
Tel: +61 3 9609 2222 Mobile: +61 499 249 005  
Email: [Tara.Dines@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Tara.Dines@bhpbilliton.com)

Andrew Gunn  
Tel: +61 3 9609 3575 Mobile: +61 402 087 354  
Email: [Andrew.Gunn@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Andrew.Gunn@bhpbilliton.com)

### United Kingdom and South Africa

Jonathan Price  
Tel: +44 20 7802 4131 Mobile: +44 7990 527 726  
Email: [Jonathan.H.Price@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Jonathan.H.Price@bhpbilliton.com)

### Americas

James Wear  
Tel: +1 212 310 1421 Mobile: +1 347 882 3011  
Email: [James.Wear@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:James.Wear@bhpbilliton.com)

Joseph Suarez  
Tel: +1 212 310 1422 Mobile: +1 646 400 3803  
Email: [Joseph.Suarez@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Joseph.Suarez@bhpbilliton.com)

BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209  
Registered in England and Wales  
Registered Office: Neathouse Place  
London SW1V 1LH United Kingdom  
Tel +44 20 7802 4000 Fax +44 20 7802 4111





























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: March 8, 2016

By: /s/ Rachel Agnew

Name: Rachel Agnew

Title: Company Secretary