

BHP BILLITON LTD  
Form 6-K  
November 12, 2015

**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**  
**November 12, 2015**

**BHP BILLITON LIMITED**

**(ABN 49 004 028 077)**

**(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)**

**VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA**  
**(Jurisdiction of incorporation**

**or organisation)**

**171 COLLINS 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, 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):

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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

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12 November 2015

To: Australian Securities Exchange  
London Stock Exchange

cc: New York Stock Exchange  
JSE Limited

**JOINT STATEMENT BY VALE AND BHP BILLITON**

BHP Billiton CEO, Andrew Mackenzie, and Vale CEO, Murilo Ferreira, gave a joint statement regarding the incident at the Samarco joint venture iron ore operation in Minas Gerais, Brazil.

A copy of the joint statement 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: 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**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Release Time** IMMEDIATE

**Date** Mariana, Brazil: 11 November 2015

**JOINT STATEMENT BY VALE AND BHP BILLITON**

*The below statement is attributable to the CEO of Vale, Murilo Ferreira, and the CEO of BHP Billiton, Andrew Mackenzie:*

Together with Jimmy Wilson, BHP Billiton President Iron Ore and Peter Poppinga, Vale Executive Director, Ferrous Minerals, we spent this morning on site at the Samarco mine with CEO, Ricardo Vescovi De Aragão, and meeting with community leaders.

Our immediate priority is to understand the full extent of the consequences of the tailings dam breach and how we can provide further help.

We visited the tailings dam complex, including the site of the failed Fundão dam and affected downstream Santarém dam as well as the Germano dam which is being closely-monitored by Samarco.

We also met with the Samarco incident response teams and civil authorities who have worked tirelessly to evacuate the local community and search for missing people.

On behalf of all of the employees of Vale and BHP Billiton, we offer our profound sympathies to the family, friends and loved ones of the people who died as a result of this tragic incident. We are deeply concerned for the welfare of the employees, contractors and members of the local community who are still missing. Our thoughts are with you all in this distressing and uncertain time.

We were overcome when we saw the devastation in and around Bento Rodrigues. We cannot rebuild the lives of the families who have lost loved ones but we redouble our commitment to Samarco to support the response effort.

As an immediate step, Vale and BHP Billiton pledge to support Samarco in creating an Emergency Fund for rebuilding works and to help the affected families and communities. It is our intention to work with the authorities to get this fund functioning as soon as practicable.

Vale and BHP Billiton also have health, safety, environment and geotechnical experts onsite supporting Samarco's response. We have also had discussions with Samarco and authorities about the additional support we can provide. Investigations are continuing and Samarco will provide further updates relating to the response and operations.

Again, as joint shareholders in Samarco, we would like to offer our sympathies and prayers to the people of Minas Gerais, Espírito Santo and the people of Brazil.

**Murilo Ferreira**

**Chief Executive Officer, Vale**

**Andrew Mackenzie**

**Chief Executive Officer, BHP Billiton**

Further information on Vale can be found at: [www.vale.com](http://www.vale.com)

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

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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: November 12, 2015

By: /s/ Rachel Agnew

Name: Rachel Agnew

Title: Company Secretary