

BHP BILLITON LTD  
Form 6-K  
May 04, 2006

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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

May 3, 2006

**BHP Billiton**

**Limited**

..... (Translation of registrant's name into English) 180 Lonsdale Street Melbourne VIC 3000 Australia  
.....

(Address of principal executive office)

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  

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Issued by: **BHP Billiton Plc**

To:  
**London Stock Exchange**  
**Australian Stock Exchange**

**Cc:**  
**New York Stock Exchange**  
**JSE Limited**  
**Swiss Stock Exchange**  
**Deutsche Bank**  
**UBS Zurich**

**Date: 3 May 2006**

**For Release: Immediately**

**Contact: Elizabeth Hobley, Deputy Secretary**

**Tel: +44 (0) 20 7802 4054**

**BHP BILLITON PLC - TRANSACTION IN OWN SHARES**

BHP Billiton Plc announces that on 3 May 2006 it purchased 2,500,000 of its ordinary shares at an average price of 1163.8441 pence per ordinary share. It is intended that all of the purchased shares will be held as treasury shares.

Following the above purchase, BHP Billiton Plc holds 7,250,000 of its ordinary shares as treasury shares. The total number of ordinary shares in issue (excluding shares held as treasury shares) is 2,460,897,002.

For further information, please contact:

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Company Secretariat

Elizabeth Hobley  
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**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







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

Date: 3 May 2006

By: Karen Wood

Name: Karen Wood

Title: Company Secretary