

BHP BILLITON LTD  
Form 6-K  
February 14, 2018

**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**  
**February 13, 2018**

**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)**

**NOVA SOUTH, 160 VICTORIA STREET**

**LONDON, SW1E 5LB**

**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

**NEWS RELEASE**

**Release Time** IMMEDIATE

**Date** 13 February 2018

**Location** Melbourne, Australia

**Release Number** 02/18

**US TAX REFORM**

As a result of the US Tax Cuts and Jobs Act introducing a reduction in the US Federal corporate income tax rate from 35 per cent to 21 per cent as well as other measures, including changes to international tax provisions, BHP expects to recognise an income tax expense of US\$1.8 billion which will be treated as an exceptional item. The two main components of this exceptional item are expected to be:

a non-cash re-measurement of deferred taxes as a result of the reduction in the US Federal corporate income tax rate of US\$898 million; and

a non-cash impairment of foreign tax credits due to reduced forecast utilisation of US\$834 million.

The US tax reform will have a positive impact on the Group's US attributable profits in the longer term mainly due to the lower corporate tax rate.

Further information on BHP can be found at: **bhp.com**

**Media Relations**

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Registered in Australia  
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Members of the BHP Group which is

headquartered in Australia

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BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209  
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Registered in England and Wales  
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London SW1E 5LB United Kingdom  
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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: February 13, 2018

By: /s/ Rachel Agnew  
Name: Rachel Agnew  
Title: Company Secretary