

BHP BILLITON LTD  
Form 6-K  
January 03, 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

December 17, 2007

**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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17 December 2007

Number 39/07

### **BHP BILLITON BOARD APPOINTMENT**

BHP Billiton Chairman, Don Argus, today announced the appointment of a new Non-executive Director, Dr David Morgan, to the BHP Billiton Board, effective 1 January 2008.

Dr Morgan is currently the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Westpac Banking Corporation, with effect until 31 January 2008.

Mr Argus said that Dr Morgan's appointment would be an important and valuable addition to the BHP Billiton Board, bringing with him more than 30 years' experience in the financial sector.

"We are delighted that we have been able to secure the services of someone of David's calibre for our Board. He brings with him a wealth of financial services experience, having worked in both the private and public sector, including heading Westpac, for the past 9 years, and prior to this at the International Monetary Fund in Washington D.C. and as the Senior Deputy Secretary of the Australian Federal Treasury."

Mr Argus said that Dr Morgan's appointment would bring the number of BHP Billiton directors to twelve.

The Group's established process of continually assessing the breadth of skills and competencies of directors will continue to ensure that the Board is made up of members best able to promote shareholder interests and effectively govern the Group.

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

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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  
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**BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209**

Registered in England and Wales  
Registered Office: Neathouse Place London SW1V 1BH  
United Kingdom  
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**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: 17 December 2007

By: Jane McAloon

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Name: Jane McAloon  
Title: Group Company Secretary