

BHP BILLITON PLC  
Form 6-K  
December 09, 2011

**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 8, 2011

**BHP BILLITON PLC**

**(REG. NO. 3196209)**

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

**ENGLAND AND WALES**

**(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organisation)**

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NEATHOUSE PLACE, VICTORIA, 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):

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

**Issued by:** BHP Billiton Plc  
**Date:** 8 December 2011  
**To:** London Stock Exchange  
Australian Securities Exchange  
**cc:** JSE Limited  
New York Stock Exchange  
**For Release:** Immediately  
**Contact:** **Geof Stapledon +44 (0) 20 7802 4176**

**BHP Billiton Plc Notification of Major Interest in Shares**

The following notification was received yesterday, 7 December 2011, by BHP Billiton Plc from Norges Bank relating to major interests in shares of BHP Billiton Plc.

BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077

Registered in Australia

Registered Office: 180 Lonsdale Street

Melbourne Victoria 3000 Australia

Tel +61 1300 55 4757 Fax +61 3 9609 3015

BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209

Registered in England and Wales

Registered Office: Neathouse Place

London SW1V 1BH United Kingdom

Tel +44 20 7802 4000 Fax +44 20 7802 4111

Members of the BHP Billiton group which is headquartered in Australia

**TR-1: NOTIFICATION OF MAJOR INTEREST IN SHARES<sup>i</sup>**

**1. Identity of the issuer or the underlying issuer of existing shares to which voting rights are attached:** <sup>ii</sup>

**BHP Billiton Plc**

**GB0000566504**

**2 Reason for the notification** (please tick the appropriate box or boxes):

- An acquisition or disposal of voting rights x
- An acquisition or disposal of qualifying financial instruments which may result in the acquisition of shares already issued to which voting rights are attached ..
- An acquisition or disposal of instruments with similar economic effect to qualifying financial instruments ..
- An event changing the breakdown of voting rights ..
- Other (please specify): ..

**3. Full name of person(s) subject to the notification obligation:** <sup>iii</sup> **Norges Bank**

**4. Full name of shareholder(s)**

(if different from 3.):<sup>iv</sup> **N/A**

**5. Date of the transaction and date on which the threshold is crossed or reached:** <sup>v</sup> **5<sup>th</sup> December 2011**

**6. Date on which issuer notified:** **7<sup>th</sup> December 2011**

**7. Threshold(s) that is/are crossed or reached:** <sup>vi, vii</sup> **3%**

8. Notified details:

A: Voting rights attached to shares <sup>viii, ix</sup>

Class/type of shares  if possible using the ISIN CODE	Situation previous to the triggering transaction		Resulting situation after the triggering transaction			
	Number of Shares	Number of Voting Rights	Number of shares Direct	Number of voting rights Direct <sup>xi</sup> Indirect <sup>xii</sup>		% of voting rights <sup>x</sup> Direct      Indirect
GB0000566504	63,352,826	63,352,826	63,447,560	63,447,560		3.00%

B: Qualifying Financial Instruments

Resulting situation after the triggering transaction

Type of financial instrument	Expiration date <sup>xiii</sup>	Exercise/Conversion Period <sup>xiv</sup>	Number of voting rights that may be acquired if the instrument is exercised/converted.	% of voting rights
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

C: Financial Instruments with similar economic effect to Qualifying Financial Instruments <sup>xv, xvi</sup>

Resulting situation after the triggering transaction

Type of financial instrument	Exercise price	Expiration date <sup>xvii</sup>	Exercise/Conversion period <sup>xviii</sup>	Number of voting rights instrument refers to	% of voting rights <sup>xix, xx</sup>	
					Nominal	Delta
CFD	N/A	N/A	N/A	3,000	0.0001%	0.0001%
<b>Total (A+B+C)</b>						

Number of voting rights	Percentage of voting rights
63,447,560	3.00%

**9. Chain of controlled undertakings through which the voting rights and/or the financial instruments are effectively held, if applicable:**

xxi

N/A

**Proxy Voting:**

<b>10. Name of the proxy holder:</b>	Norges Bank
<b>11. Number of voting rights proxy holder will cease to hold:</b>	N/A
<b>12. Date on which proxy holder will cease to hold voting rights:</b>	N/A
<b>13. Additional information:</b>	None
<b>14. Contact name:</b>	Jeanette Rønne
<b>15. Contact telephone number:</b>	+47 24 07 33 30

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 Plc

Date: December 8, 2011

By: Jane McAloon

*/s/ Jane McAloon*

Name: Jane McAloon

Title: Group Company Secretary