

BHP BILLITON LTD  
Form 6-K  
April 30, 2013

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# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

## FORM 6-K

### REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of

the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

April 29, 2013

<u>Commission File Number</u>	<u>Translation of registrant's name into English; Address of principal executive offices</u>
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	BHP Billiton Limited (ABN 49 004 028 077) 180 LONSDALE STREET, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA 3000 AUSTRALIA
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-	BHP Billiton Plc (REG. NO. 3196209) NEATHOUSE PLACE, VICTORIA, LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM
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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

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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): 82-

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NEWS RELEASE

Release Time:  
IMMEDIATE

Date:  
29 April 2013

Number:  
11/13

#### SALE OF PINTO VALLEY

BHP Billiton has signed a definitive agreement to sell its Pinto Valley mining operation (Pinto Valley) and the associated San Manuel Arizona Railroad Company (SMARRCO) to Capstone Mining Corp. (Capstone) for an aggregate cash consideration of US\$650 million. The transaction is subject to regulatory approval, and other customary conditions, and is expected to be completed in the second half of the 2013 calendar year.

Under the terms of the agreement, Capstone will assume the business's environmental liabilities. BHP Billiton employees working at Pinto Valley and SMARRCO will become employees of Capstone as part of the transaction.

BHP Billiton President Copper, Peter Beaven, said: "The sale of Pinto Valley is an excellent outcome for BHP Billiton shareholders. It is consistent with our strategy and it takes the transaction value of divestments announced over the last 12 months to US\$5.0 billion. We are pleased to have reached agreement with Capstone, particularly given their commitment to maintain our environmental and safety standards."

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

#### About Pinto Valley and SMARRCO

BHP Billiton currently has a 100% ownership interest in both Pinto Valley and SMARRCO.

Pinto Valley is an open-pit copper mining operation located east of Phoenix in the Globe-Miami district of Arizona.

SMARRCO owns and operates a 47 km railway from San Manuel to Hayden, Arizona.

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BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077

Registered in Australia

Registered Office: 180 Lonsdale Street

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BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209

Registered in England and Wales

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Members of the BHP Billiton Group which 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.

Date : April 29, 2013

BHP Billiton Limited (ABN 49 004 028 077) BHP Billiton  
Plc (REG. NO. 3196209)

By: /s/ Jane McAloon

Name: Jane McAloon

Title: Group Company Secretary