

NEWS RELEASE



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BHP BILLITON PRODUCTION REPORT FOR THE HALF YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

- The release of latent capacity at a number of our highest margin businesses and strong growth across our broader portfolio is expected to deliver a compound annual growth rate of 10% in copper equivalent terms over the two years to the end of the 2014 financial year.
- Western Australia Iron Ore (WAIO) delivered a twelfth consecutive December half year production and sales record. First ore was received by the fifth car dumper, which is the last major piece of infrastructure required to increase WAIO port capacity to 220 million tonnes per annum (100% basis). WAIO production guidance remains unchanged with a 5% increase anticipated in the 2013 financial year.
- Petroleum production of 121 million barrels of oil equivalent during the December 2012 half year underpins full year guidance, which remains unchanged at 240 million barrels of oil equivalent.
- Copper in concentrate production at Escondida increased by 70% in the December 2012 half year when compared with the prior corresponding period. Total Escondida copper production is on track to increase by 20% in the 2013 financial year.
- At the end of the December 2012 quarter, Queensland Coal production was approaching full supply chain capacity. The associated increase in productivity, broader economies of scale and the closure of high cost capacity is expected to deliver a substantial reduction in unit costs in the second half of the 2013 financial year.

Petroleum

	DEC 2012 HALF	DEC 2012 QTR	DEC H12 vs DEC H11	DEC Q12 vs DEC Q11	DEC Q12 vs SEP Q12
Crude oil, condensate and natural gas liquids ('000 boe)	45,739	23,292	4%	5%	4%
Natural gas (bcf)	452.51	219.66	15%	2%	-6%
Total petroleum products (million boe)	121.15	59.90	11%	3%	-2%

Total petroleum production – Petroleum production of 121 million barrels of oil equivalent during the December 2012 half year underpins full year guidance, which remains unchanged at 240 million barrels of oil equivalent.

Crude oil, condensate and natural gas liquids – Liquids volumes increased by four per cent from the September 2012 quarter and reflected continued growth in Onshore US liquids production, development drilling at Shenzi (US) and a full quarter contribution from the Atlantis and Mad Dog facilities (both US). These strong results were partially offset by a seasonal reduction in Bass Strait (Australia) production and natural field decline at Pyrenees (Australia).

Record Onshore US liquids production of 48 thousand barrels per day during the December 2012 quarter represented a 13 per cent increase from the prior period. A focused drilling program in the liquids-rich areas of the Eagle Ford and Permian is expected to drive strong growth in Onshore US liquids production over the remainder of the 2013 financial year.

Natural gas – Lower gas production in the December 2012 quarter reflected the seasonal reduction in demand for Bass Strait natural gas that followed a particularly strong September 2012 quarter.

Aluminium and Nickel

	DEC 2012 HALF	DEC 2012 QTR	DEC H12 vs DEC H11	DEC Q12 vs DEC Q11	DEC Q12 vs SEP Q12
Alumina ('000 tonnes)	2,402	1,232	17%	23%	5%
Aluminium ('000 tonnes)	567	297	-10%	-5%	10%
Nickel ('000 tonnes)	71.7	34.7	-2%	-10%	-6%

Alumina – Strong performance at Worsley (Australia) contributed to record alumina production in the December 2012 quarter and half year. Worsley operated at 95 per cent of design capacity during the December 2012 quarter following the successful ramp up of the Efficiency and Growth project.

Aluminium – Metal production increased by 10 per cent from the September 2012 quarter as Hillside (South Africa) production returned to full technical capacity, ahead of schedule.

Nickel – Nickel production declined by six per cent from the September 2012 quarter as strong operating performance at Cerro Matoso (Colombia) was more than offset by planned maintenance at the Nickel West Kalgoorlie smelter and Kwinana refinery (both Australia), which was completed during the period.

From a broader perspective, the strong Australian dollar and weak pricing environment continued to place pressure on the Group's Australian alumina and nickel operations.

Base Metals

	DEC 2012 HALF	DEC 2012 QTR	DEC H12 vs DEC H11	DEC Q12 vs DEC Q11	DEC Q12 vs SEP Q12
Copper ('000 tonnes)	569.1	295.2	14%	5%	8%
Lead (tonnes)	98,318	46,135	-20%	-31%	-12%
Zinc (tonnes)	52,131	26,209	1%	-7%	1%
Silver ('000 ounces)	17,722	8,557	-12%	-22%	-7%
Uranium oxide concentrate (Uranium) (tonnes)	2,056	1,014	8%	12%	-3%

Copper – Copper in concentrate production at Escondida (Chile) increased by 70 per cent in the December 2012 half year when compared with the prior corresponding period. Production benefited from the transition to higher grade ore feed and the successful completion of large scale maintenance programs that have increased concentrator throughput. The average copper grade mined during the December 2012 quarter increased to 1.39 per cent. Total Escondida copper production is on track to increase by 20 per cent in the 2013 financial year.

Record production at Antamina (Peru) over the six month period also contributed to the 14 per cent increase in total copper production for the December 2012 half year, while a 26 per cent reduction in copper production at Olympic Dam (Australia) reflected the impact of a planned smelter outage in the period. The Olympic Dam smelter is expected to return to full capacity during the March 2013 quarter.

At 31 December 2012, the Group had 311,847 tonnes of outstanding copper sales that were revalued at a weighted average price of US\$3.59 per pound. The final price of these sales will be determined over the remainder of the 2013 financial year. In addition, 278,547 tonnes of copper sales from the 2012 financial year were subject to a finalisation adjustment in the current period. The finalisation adjustment and provisional pricing impact as at 31 December 2012 will increase earnings before interest and tax by US\$48 million for the period.

Lead/silver – Lead and silver production was lower than all comparable periods and reflected lower head grades at Cannington (Australia).

Zinc – Production was broadly in line with all comparable periods.

Uranium – Higher recoveries associated with improved plant availability at Olympic Dam led to an eight per cent increase in production in the December 2012 half year when compared with the prior corresponding period.

Diamonds and Specialty Products

	DEC 2012 HALF	DEC 2012 QTR	DEC H12 vs DEC H11	DEC Q12 vs DEC Q11	DEC Q12 vs SEP Q12
Diamonds ('000 carats)	608	295	-35%	-39%	-6%

Diamonds – EKATI (Canada) production was lower than all comparable periods.

BHP Billiton has agreed to sell its diamonds business, comprising its interests in the EKATI Diamond Mine and Diamonds Marketing operations, to Harry Winston Diamond Mines Ltd for an aggregate cash consideration of US\$500 million. The transactions are subject to regulatory approval and other customary conditions. Completion is expected in the first half of calendar year 2013.

Iron Ore

	DEC 2012 HALF	DEC 2012 QTR	DEC H12 vs DEC H11	DEC Q12 vs DEC Q11	DEC Q12 vs SEP Q12
Iron ore ('000 tonnes)	81,962	42,190	2%	3%	6%

Iron ore – Western Australia Iron Ore (WAIO) delivered a twelfth consecutive December half year production and sales record as the business continued to benefit from the Company's decade long investment in supply chain capacity. Our Pilbara operations achieved another significant milestone during the December 2012 quarter with first ore received by the recently installed fifth car dumper at Finucane Island. This car dumper is the last major piece of infrastructure required to increase WAIO port capacity from the December 2012 quarter run-rate of 188 million tonnes per annum to 220 million tonnes per annum (100 per cent basis).

The Jimblebar Mine Expansion, which is on schedule for first production in the March 2014 quarter, will broadly match mine and port capacity at this expanded rate, while the progressive debottlenecking of the supply chain is expected to underpin substantial low cost, longer term growth in our WAIO business.

The strong outlook for our WAIO business is underpinned by an anticipated five per cent increase in production in the 2013 financial year, for unchanged guidance of 183 million tonnes (100 per cent basis).

Samarco's (Brazil) three pellet plants continued to operate at capacity during the period.

Manganese

	DEC 2012 HALF	DEC 2012 QTR	DEC H12 vs DEC H11	DEC Q12 vs DEC Q11	DEC Q12 vs SEP Q12
Manganese ore ('000 tonnes)	4,263	2,117	11%	17%	-1%
Manganese alloy ('000 tonnes)	283	153	-27%	-22%	18%

Manganese ore – Record ore production in the December 2012 half year reflected a substantial improvement in plant availability at GEMCO (Australia).

Manganese alloy – Alloy volumes increased by 18 per cent from the September 2012 quarter as TEMCO (Australia) production returned to full capacity following the temporary suspension of operations that occurred during the 2012 financial year.

The decline in alloy production in the December 2012 half year when compared with the prior corresponding period reflected the permanent closure of energy intensive silicomanganese production at Metalloys (South Africa) in January 2012.

Metallurgical Coal

	DEC 2012 HALF	DEC 2012 QTR	DEC H12 vs DEC H11	DEC Q12 vs DEC Q11	DEC Q12 vs SEP Q12
Metallurgical coal ('000 tonnes)	17,826	8,888	0%	5%	-1%

Metallurgical coal – Queensland Coal (Australia) sales increased by 30 per cent from the September 2012 quarter. However, the strong recovery in production that followed the conclusion of the BMA Enterprise Agreement was largely offset by planned wash plant outages at South Walker Creek and Goonyella, and the closure of high cost capacity at Gregory. The Gregory open-cut mine ceased production on 10 October 2012.

At the end of the December 2012 quarter, Queensland Coal production was approaching full supply chain capacity. The associated increase in productivity, broader economies of scale and the closure of high cost capacity is expected to deliver a substantial reduction in unit costs in the second half of the 2013 financial year.

At Illawarra Coal (Australia), a longwall move at the Dendrobium mine commenced at the end of the December 2012 quarter. Illawarra Coal achieved record sales during the December 2012 half year.

Energy Coal

	DEC 2012 HALF	DEC 2012 QTR	DEC H12 vs DEC H11	DEC Q12 vs DEC Q11	DEC Q12 vs SEP Q12
Energy coal ('000 tonnes)	37,863	18,256	7%	8%	-7%

Energy coal – A seven per cent increase in production in the December 2012 half year when compared with the prior corresponding period was underpinned by record production at New South Wales Energy Coal (Australia), which continued to benefit from the ramp up of the RX1 project. However, dragline outages at Navajo Coal and an unplanned shutdown at San Juan Coal (both US) contributed to a seven per cent decline in volumes from the September 2012 quarter.

The New South Wales Energy Coal and BECSA (South Africa) product mix continued to evolve with an increase in the overall proportion of high ash coal sold to key growth markets during the December 2012 half year.

Further information on BHP Billiton can be found at: www.bhpbilliton.com

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BHP BILLITON PRODUCTION SUMMARY

		QUARTER ENDED			YEAR TO DATE		% CHANGE		
		DEC	SEP	DEC	DEC	DEC	DEC YTD12	DEC Q12	DEC Q12
		2011	2012	2012	2012	2011	vs DEC YTD11	vs DEC Q11	vs SEP Q12
PETROLEUM									
Crude oil & condensate	('000 bbl)	18,866	<i>18,036</i>	19,228	37,264	37,348	0%	2%	7%
Natural gas	(bcf)	214.49	<i>232.85</i>	219.66	452.51	391.84	15%	2%	-6%
NGL	('000 boe)	3,362	<i>4,411</i>	4,064	8,475	6,718	26%	21%	-8%
Total petroleum products	(million boe)	57.98	61.25	59.90	121.15	109.38	11%	3%	-2%
ALUMINIUM AND NICKEL									
Alumina	('000 tonnes)	1,001	1,170	1,232	2,402	2,061	17%	23%	5%
Aluminium	('000 tonnes)	313	270	297	567	628	-10%	-5%	10%
Nickel	('000 tonnes)	38.4	37.0	34.7	71.7	73.50	-2%	-10%	-6%
BASE METALS									
Copper	('000 tonnes)	280.3	273.9	295.2	569.1	500.6	14%	5%	8%
Lead	(tonnes)	66,992	52,183	46,135	98,318	122,651	-20%	-31%	-12%
Zinc	(tonnes)	28,298	25,922	26,209	52,131	51,742	1%	-7%	1%
Gold	(ounces)	44,007	32,436	38,092	70,528	83,446	-15%	-13%	17%
Silver	('000 ounces)	10,903	9,165	8,557	17,722	20,054	-12%	-22%	-7%
Uranium oxide concentrate	(tonnes)	909	1,042	1,014	2,056	1,909	8%	12%	-3%
Molybdenum	(tonnes)	766	454	410	864	1,361	-37%	-46%	-10%
DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS									
Diamonds	('000 carats)	481	313	295	608	938	-35%	-39%	-6%
IRON ORE									
Iron ore	('000 tonnes)	41,072	39,772	42,190	81,962	80,644	2%	3%	6%
MANGANESE									
Manganese ore	('000 tonnes)	1,806	2,146	2,117	4,263	3,825	11%	17%	-1%
Manganese alloy	('000 tonnes)	195	130	153	283	389	-27%	-22%	18%
METALLURGICAL COAL									
Metallurgical coal	('000 tonnes)	8,493	8,938	8,888	17,826	17,784	0%	5%	-1%
ENERGY COAL									
Energy coal	('000 tonnes)	16,919	19,607	18,256	37,863	35,379	7%	8%	-7%

Throughout this report figures in italics indicate that this figure has been adjusted since it was previously reported.

BHP BILLITON ATTRIBUTABLE PRODUCTION

	BHP Billiton interest	QUARTER ENDED					YEAR TO DATE	
		DEC 2011	MAR 2012	JUN 2012	SEP 2012	DEC 2012	DEC 2012	DEC 2011
PETROLEUM								
Production								
Crude oil & condensate ('000 bbl)		18,866	18,127	15,726	18,036	19,228	37,264	37,348
Natural gas (bcf)		214.49	209.17	221.25	232.85	219.66	452.51	391.84
NGL ('000 boe) (a)		3,362	3,609	3,758	4,411	4,064	8,475	6,718
Total petroleum products (million boe)		57.98	56.60	56.36	61.25	59.90	121.15	109.38
ALUMINIUM AND NICKEL								
ALUMINA								
Production ('000 tonnes)								
Worsley	86%	694	741	730	859	944	1,803	1,446
Alumar	36%	307	311	309	311	288	599	615
Total		1,001	1,052	1,039	1,170	1,232	2,402	2,061
ALUMINIUM								
Production ('000 tonnes)								
Hillside	100%	180	144	117	139	166	305	360
Bayside	100%	24	26	23	25	25	50	49
Alumar	40%	42	42	42	39	39	78	86
Mozal	47%	67	65	66	67	67	134	133
Total		313	277	248	270	297	567	628
NICKEL								
Production ('000 tonnes)								
CMSA	99.9%	12.3	13.4	12.8	13.3	12.4	25.7	22.7
Nickel West	100%	26.1	28.3	29.9	23.7	22.3	46.0	50.8
Total		38.4	41.7	42.7	37.0	34.7	71.700	73.5
BASE METALS (b)								
COPPER								
Payable metal in concentrate ('000 tonnes)								
Escondida	57.5%	80.4	87.7	115.8	101.2	120.7	221.9	130.3
Antamina	33.8%	30.9	30.9	34.9	40.2	39.6	79.8	61.2
Pinto Valley	100%	-	-	-	-	0.5	0.5	-
Total		111.3	118.6	150.7	141.4	160.8	302.2	191.5
Cathode ('000 tonnes)								
Escondida	57.5%	43.0	47.4	48.7	41.6	40.8	82.4	75.9
Pampa Norte (c)	100%	70.0	66.2	62.1	52.7	58.8	111.5	135.4
Pinto Valley	100%	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.2	2.4	2.8
Olympic Dam	100%	54.6	47.8	49.8	37.0	33.6	70.6	95.0
Total		169.0	162.8	161.8	132.5	134.4	266.9	309.1
Total Copper		280.3	281.4	312.5	273.9	295.2	569.1	500.6
LEAD								
Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes)								
Cannington	100%	66,787	53,412	63,334	51,923	45,937	97,860	122,344
Antamina	33.8%	205	148	333	260	198	458	307
Total		66,992	53,560	63,667	52,183	46,135	98,318	122,651
ZINC								
Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes)								
Cannington	100%	14,745	12,904	12,540	11,408	13,622	25,030	29,233
Antamina	33.8%	13,553	16,823	18,208	14,514	12,587	27,101	22,509
Total		28,298	29,727	30,748	25,922	26,209	52,131	51,742

Refer footnotes on page 4.

BHP BILLITON ATTRIBUTABLE PRODUCTION

	BHP Billiton interest	QUARTER ENDED					YEAR TO DATE	
		DEC 2011	MAR 2012	JUN 2012	SEP 2012	DEC 2012	DEC 2012	DEC 2011
BASE METALS (continued)								
GOLD								
Payable metal in concentrate (ounces)								
Escondida	57.5%	14,242	12,732	12,817	9,419	13,877	23,296	25,305
Olympic Dam (refined gold)	100%	29,765	31,952	27,752	23,017	24,215	47,232	58,141
Total		44,007	44,684	40,569	32,436	38,092	70,528	83,446
SILVER								
Payable metal in concentrate ('000 ounces)								
Escondida	57.5%	549	481	488	350	481	831	952
Antamina	33.8%	1,087	1,170	1,043	919	934	1,853	2,059
Cannington	100%	9,056	7,836	9,757	7,689	6,949	14,638	16,615
Olympic Dam (refined silver)	100%	211	228	251	207	193	400	428
Total		10,903	9,715	11,539	9,165	8,557	17,722	20,054
URANIUM OXIDE CONCENTRATE								
Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes)								
Olympic Dam	100%	909	896	1,080	1,042	1,014	2,056	1,909
Total		909	896	1,080	1,042	1,014	2,056	1,909
MOLYBDENUM								
Payable metal in concentrate (tonnes)								
Antamina	33.8%	766	521	464	454	410	864	1,361
Total		766	521	464	454	410	864	1,361
DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS								
DIAMONDS								
Production ('000 carats)								
EKATI™	80%	481	433	413	313	295	608	938

Refer footnotes on page 4.

BHP BILLITON ATTRIBUTABLE PRODUCTION

	BHP Billiton interest	QUARTER ENDED					YEAR TO DATE	
		DEC 2011	MAR 2012	JUN 2012	SEP 2012	DEC 2012	DEC 2012	DEC 2011
IRON ORE								
Production ('000 tonnes) (d)								
Newman (e)	85%	13,247	11,789	13,132	11,752	12,809	24,561	26,405
Goldsworthy Joint Venture	85%	334	37	143	432	378	810	588
Area C Joint Venture	85%	10,437	10,343	11,166	10,937	10,245	21,182	20,916
Yandi Joint Venture	85%	14,170	13,063	13,595	13,771	15,954	29,725	26,878
Samarco	50%	2,884	2,711	2,855	2,880	2,804	5,684	5,857
Total		41,072	37,943	40,891	39,772	42,190	81,962	80,644
MANGANESE								
MANGANESE ORES								
Saleable production ('000 tonnes)								
South Africa (f)	44.4%	808	917	989	858	834	1,692	1,719
Australia (f)	60%	998	1,123	1,077	1,288	1,283	2,571	2,106
Total		1,806	2,040	2,066	2,146	2,117	4,263	3,825
MANGANESE ALLOYS								
Saleable production ('000 tonnes)								
South Africa (f) (g)	60%	124	81	75	93	91	184	248
Australia (f)	60%	71	57	-	37	62	99	141
Total		195	138	75	130	153	283	389
METALLURGICAL COAL								
Production ('000 tonnes) (h)								
BMA	50%	5,006	4,226	4,105	5,182	5,440	10,622	10,280
BHP Mitsui Coal (i)	80%	1,580	1,649	1,661	1,766	1,589	3,355	3,383
Illawarra	100%	1,907	1,462	2,343	1,990	1,859	3,849	4,121
Total		8,493	7,337	8,109	8,938	8,888	17,826	17,784
ENERGY COAL								
Production ('000 tonnes)								
South Africa	100%	7,976	7,895	8,313	8,454	7,969	16,423	17,071
USA	100%	2,163	2,109	2,673	3,871	2,798	6,669	4,630
Australia	100%	4,027	4,291	4,393	4,453	4,827	9,280	8,073
Colombia	33%	2,753	2,953	3,105	2,829	2,662	5,491	5,605
Total		16,919	17,248	18,484	19,607	18,256	37,863	35,379

- (a) LPG and ethane are reported as Natural Gas Liquid (NGL). Product-specific conversions are made and NGL is reported in barrels of oil equivalent (boe).
- (b) Metal production is reported on the basis of payable metal.
- (c) Includes Cerro Colorado and Spence.
- (d) Iron ore production is reported on a wet tonnes basis.
- (e) Newman includes Mt Newman Joint Venture and Jimblebar.
- (f) Shown on 100% basis. BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 60%, except Hotazel Manganese Mines which is 44.4%.
- (g) Production includes Medium Carbon Ferro Manganese.
- (h) Metallurgical coal production is reported on the basis of saleable product. Production figures include some thermal coal.
- (i) Shown on 100% basis. BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 80%.

PRODUCTION AND SALES REPORT

	QUARTER ENDED					YEAR TO DATE	
	DEC	MAR	JUN	SEP	DEC	DEC	DEC
	2011	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2011
PETROLEUM							
BHP Billiton attributable production unless otherwise stated.							
CRUDE OIL & CONDENSATE ('000 barrels)							
Bass Strait	2,190	2,285	2,357	2,569	2,081	4,650	4,717
North West Shelf	1,686	1,671	1,587	1,867	1,829	3,696	3,086
Stybarrow	836	618	635	534	464	998	2,007
Pyrenees	3,207	2,540	2,482	2,605	2,379	4,984	7,108
Other Australia (a)	13	13	13	17	15	32	26
Atlantis (b)	2,390	2,262	39	1,554	2,376	3,930	4,471
Mad Dog (b)	-	-	-	369	906	1,275	-
Shenzi (b)	4,119	4,071	3,607	3,783	4,008	7,791	7,967
Onshore US (c)	1,631	2,202	2,434	2,358	2,658	5,016	2,303
Trinidad/Tobago	466	453	488	376	362	738	932
Other Americas (b) (d)	374	373	348	367	410	777	747
UK	433	328	367	260	355	615	880
Algeria (e)	1,437	1,236	1,291	1,309	1,316	2,625	2,935
Pakistan	84	75	78	68	69	137	169
Total	18,866	18,127	15,726	18,036	19,228	37,264	37,348
NATURAL GAS (billion cubic feet)							
Bass Strait	23.65	19.74	31.47	40.06	26.67	66.73	55.53
North West Shelf	32.56	29.60	29.80	35.33	34.09	69.42	65.53
Other Australia (a)	4.56	4.42	4.87	6.20	5.48	11.68	9.01
Atlantis (b)	0.67	1.18	0.01	0.59	0.89	1.48	1.31
Mad Dog (b)	-	-	-	0.06	0.18	0.24	-
Shenzi (b)	0.57	0.56	0.47	2.11	0.94	3.05	1.19
Onshore US (c)	121.63	124.17	124.53	122.59	123.03	245.62	199.22
Trinidad/Tobago	9.72	9.50	9.54	9.21	9.15	18.36	19.03
Other Americas (b) (d)	0.98	1.09	0.79	0.35	0.48	0.83	2.17
UK	5.51	5.03	5.54	3.29	5.26	8.55	9.42
Pakistan	14.64	13.88	14.23	13.06	13.49	26.55	29.43
Total	214.49	209.17	221.25	232.85	219.66	452.51	391.84
NGL ('000 barrels of oil equivalent)							
Bass Strait	1,407	1,355	1,738	2,053	1,342	3,395	3,230
North West Shelf	434	421	342	385	354	739	857
Atlantis (b)	123	221	1	54	209	263	243
Mad Dog (b)	-	-	-	16	72	88	-
Shenzi (b)	293	291	244	370	324	694	589
Onshore US (c)	943	1,275	1,388	1,516	1,736	3,252	1,359
Other Americas (b) (d)	34	34	24	17	16	33	75
UK	45	12	21	-	11	11	63
Algeria (e)	83	-	-	-	-	-	302
Total	3,362	3,609	3,758	4,411	4,064	8,475	6,718
TOTAL PETROLEUM PRODUCTS (million barrels of oil equivalent) (f)	57.98	56.60	56.36	61.25	59.90	121.15	109.38

(a) Other Australia includes Minerva.

(b) Gulf of Mexico volumes are net of royalties.

(c) Petrohawk Energy Corporation acquisition completed on 20 August 2011. Onshore US volumes are net of mineral holder royalties.

(d) Other Americas includes Neptune, West Cameron 76, Genesis and Starlifter. West Cameron 76 and Starlifter were divested in May 2012.

(e) Algeria includes ROD and Ohanet. The Ohanet Risk Sharing Contract expired in October 2011.

(f) Total barrels of oil equivalent (boe) conversions are based on 6,000 scf of natural gas equals 1 boe.

(g) Minor restatements across individual conventional fields have been made to September 2012 quarter production numbers, however total quarterly production has not changed.

PRODUCTION AND SALES REPORT

QUARTER ENDED					YEAR TO DATE	
DEC	MAR	JUN	SEP	DEC	DEC	DEC
2011	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2011

ALUMINIUM AND NICKEL

BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.

('000 tonnes)

ALUMINA

Saleable production

Worsley, Australia	694	741	730	859	944	1,803	1,446
Alumar, Brazil	307	311	309	311	288	599	615
Total	1,001	1,052	1,039	1,170	1,232	2,402	2,061

Sales

Worsley, Australia	745	713	750	820	916	1,736	1,465
Alumar, Brazil	349	216	356	352	298	650	629
Total	1,094	929	1,106	1,172	1,214	2,386	2,094

ALUMINIUM

Production

Hillside, South Africa	180	144	117	139	166	305	360
Bayside, South Africa	24	26	23	25	25	50	49
Alumar, Brazil	42	42	42	39	39	78	86
Mozal, Mozambique	67	65	66	67	67	134	133
Total	313	277	248	270	297	567	628

Sales

Hillside, South Africa	186	141	126	139	171	310	349
Bayside, South Africa	25	27	21	26	26	52	49
Alumar, Brazil	43	31	45	46	41	87	87
Mozal, Mozambique	85	66	54	58	65	123	145
Total	339	265	246	269	303	572	630

NICKEL

Cerro Matoso, Colombia

Production	12.3	13.4	12.8	13.3	12.4	25.7	22.7
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Sales	13.1	13.8	12.9	12.3	13.7	26.0	20.8
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Nickel West, Australia

Saleable production

Nickel contained in concentrate	1.8	2.3	2.3	1.3	4.1	5.4	4.4
Nickel contained in finished matte	15.2	10.5	14.2	5.8	7.6	13.4	24.2
Nickel metal	9.1	15.5	13.4	16.6	10.6	27.2	22.2
Nickel production	26.1	28.3	29.9	23.7	22.3	46.0	50.8

Sales

Nickel contained in concentrate	2.6	1.5	3.6	1.6	2.9	4.5	3.8
Nickel contained in finished matte	13.9	10.2	16.7	6.7	7.0	13.7	24.0
Nickel metal	10.9	14.2	15.7	14.2	12.8	27.0	20.3
Nickel sales	27.4	25.9	36.0	22.5	22.7	45.2	48.1

PRODUCTION AND SALES REPORT

QUARTER ENDED					YEAR TO DATE	
DEC	MAR	JUN	SEP	DEC	DEC	DEC
2011	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2011

BASE METALS

BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated. Metals production is payable metal unless otherwise stated.

Escondida, Chile

Material mined (100%)	('000 tonnes)	96,152	103,321	109,724	102,499	96,938	199,437	165,158
Sulphide ore milled (100%)	('000 tonnes)	18,663	16,449	18,640	16,850	18,796	35,646	30,692
Average copper grade	(%)	0.97%	1.14%	1.37%	1.35%	1.39%	1.37%	0.97%
Production ex mill (100%)	('000 tonnes)	144.3	153.1	211.7	185.2	216.6	401.8	236.2

Production

Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	80.4	87.7	115.8	101.2	120.7	221.9	130.3
Payable gold concentrate	(fine ounces)	14,242	12,732	12,817	9,419	13,877	23,296	25,305
Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	43.0	47.4	48.7	41.6	40.8	82.4	75.9
Payable silver concentrate	('000 ounces)	549	481	488	350	481	831	952

Sales

Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	82.1	82.6	113.1	95.7	134.7	230.4	131.3
Payable gold concentrate	(fine ounces)	14,435	11,998	12,683	8,999	11,060	20,059	25,409
Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	45.3	44.3	53.4	38.8	46.8	85.6	71.0
Payable silver concentrate	('000 ounces)	558	454	483	324	444	768	962

Pampa Norte, Chile

<u>Cerro Colorado</u>								
Material mined	('000 tonnes)	16,792	16,320	16,246	16,067	15,722	31,789	31,528
Ore milled	('000 tonnes)	4,601	4,300	4,388	4,505	4,206	8,711	9,209
Average copper grade	(%)	0.71%	0.72%	0.61%	0.55%	0.66%	0.60%	0.72%

Production

Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	23.5	18.7	18.7	17.8	17.9	35.7	46.0
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Sales

Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	23.8	20.2	19.1	16.1	18.8	34.9	46.2
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Spence

Material mined	('000 tonnes)	26,511	29,982	28,594	27,541	25,999	53,540	46,327
Ore milled	('000 tonnes)	4,909	4,279	3,604	3,752	4,161	7,913	8,771
Average copper grade	(%)	1.46%	1.20%	1.28%	1.17%	1.29%	1.23%	1.39%

Production

Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	46.5	47.5	43.4	34.9	40.9	75.8	89.4
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Sales

Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	46.6	44.1	51.3	31.1	42.6	73.7	89.8
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PRODUCTION AND SALES REPORT

	QUARTER ENDED					YEAR TO DATE	
	DEC	MAR	JUN	SEP	DEC	DEC	DEC
	2011	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2011

BASE METALS

BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated. Metals production is payable metal unless otherwise stated.

Antamina, Peru

Material mined (100%)	('000 tonnes)	38,759	41,474	48,256	54,482	49,246	103,728	82,971
Sulphide ore milled (100%)	('000 tonnes)	9,656	10,162	12,295	12,274	11,752	24,026	19,052
Average head grades								
- Copper	(%)	1.15%	1.10%	1.01%	1.15%	1.16%	1.15%	1.13%
- Zinc	(%)	0.72%	0.84%	0.80%	0.66%	0.64%	0.65%	0.70%

Production

Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	30.9	30.9	34.9	40.2	39.6	79.8	61.2
Payable zinc	(tonnes)	13,553	16,823	18,208	14,514	12,587	27,101	22,509
Payable silver	('000 ounces)	1,087	1,170	1,043	919	934	1,853	2,059
Payable lead	(tonnes)	205	148	333	260	198	458	307
Payable molybdenum	(tonnes)	766	521	464	454	410	864	1,361

Sales

Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	31.7	30.7	32.7	39.7	42.7	82.4	59.9
Payable zinc	(tonnes)	12,654	13,464	18,174	15,519	17,874	33,393	22,240
Payable silver	('000 ounces)	940	1,114	896	849	1,101	1,950	1,773
Payable lead	(tonnes)	139	200	48	330	597	927	230
Payable molybdenum	(tonnes)	591	669	488	536	381	917	1,140

Cannington, Australia

Material mined	('000 tonnes)	778	756	880	717	817	1,534	1,597
Ore milled	('000 tonnes)	888	778	845	773	793	1,566	1,714
Average head grades								
- Silver	(g/t)	370	367	417	355	317	336	352
- Lead	(%)	8.8%	8.0%	8.6%	7.6%	7.0%	7.3%	8.4%
- Zinc	(%)	2.9%	2.7%	2.5%	2.5%	2.9%	2.7%	2.9%

Production

Payable silver	('000 ounces)	9,056	7,836	9,757	7,689	6,949	14,638	16,615
Payable lead	(tonnes)	66,787	53,412	63,334	51,923	45,937	97,860	122,344
Payable zinc	(tonnes)	14,745	12,904	12,540	11,408	13,622	25,030	29,233

Sales

Payable silver	('000 ounces)	8,960	7,081	10,784	8,506	6,694	15,200	15,394
Payable lead	(tonnes)	66,657	49,027	73,400	59,042	46,319	105,361	114,915
Payable zinc	(tonnes)	14,078	10,780	14,399	10,379	16,321	26,700	29,812

PRODUCTION AND SALES REPORT

	QUARTER ENDED					YEAR TO DATE	
	DEC	MAR	JUN	SEP	DEC	DEC	DEC
	2011	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2011

BASE METALS

BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated. Metals production is payable metal unless otherwise stated.

Olympic Dam, Australia

Material mined (a)	('000 tonnes)	2,440	2,389	2,629	2,226	2,123	4,349	4,983
Ore milled	('000 tonnes)	2,440	2,195	2,475	2,471	2,435	4,906	4,911
Average copper grade	(%)	2.08%	2.01%	1.86%	1.90%	1.71%	1.81%	2.03%
Average uranium grade	(kg/t)	0.50	0.57	0.55	0.54	0.51	0.53	0.52

Production

Copper cathode (ER)	('000 tonnes)	51.5	45.2	46.0	34.0	30.4	64.4	89.1
Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	3.1	2.6	3.8	3.0	3.2	6.2	5.9
Uranium oxide concentrate	(tonnes)	909	896	1,080	1,042	1,014	2,056	1,909
Refined gold	(fine ounces)	29,765	31,952	27,752	23,017	24,215	47,232	58,141
Refined silver	('000 ounces)	211	228	251	207	193	400	428

Sales

Copper cathode (ER)	('000 tonnes)	51.7	44.4	47.8	35.1	33.2	68.3	88.1
Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	2.5	3.0	3.1	3.4	2.7	6.1	6.0
Uranium oxide concentrate	(tonnes)	1,126	640	1,252	615	1,343	1,958	2,036
Refined gold	(fine ounces)	24,327	36,832	29,257	20,949	25,227	46,176	53,306
Refined silver	('000 ounces)	155	268	200	265	169	434	444

(a) Material mined refers to run of mine ore mined and hoisted.

Pinto Valley, US (a)

Production

Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	-	-	-	-	0.5	0.5	-
Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.2	2.4	2.8

Sales

Payable copper	('000 tonnes)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Copper cathode (EW)	('000 tonnes)	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	2.4	2.9

(a) Mining operations at Pinto Valley were restarted during the December 2012 quarter.

PRODUCTION AND SALES REPORT

QUARTER ENDED					YEAR TO DATE	
DEC	MAR	JUN	SEP	DEC	DEC	DEC
2011	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2011

DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS

BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated.

DIAMONDS**EKATI™, Canada** (a)

Ore Processed (100%)	('000 tonnes)	1,090	1,001	1,214	1,042	982	2,024	2,267
Production	('000 carats)	481	433	413	313	295	608	938

(a) The sale of the diamonds business was announced on 13 November 2012. The transaction is subject to regulatory approval and completion is expected in the first half of calendar year 2013.

PRODUCTION AND SALES REPORT

	QUARTER ENDED					YEAR TO DATE	
	DEC	MAR	JUN	SEP	DEC	DEC	DEC
	2011	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2011
IRON ORE							
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated. (’000 tonnes)							
IRON ORE (a)							
Pilbara, Australia							
Production							
Newman (b)	13,247	11,789	13,132	11,752	12,809	24,561	26,405
Goldsworthy Joint Venture	334	37	143	432	378	810	588
Area C Joint Venture	10,437	10,343	11,166	10,937	10,245	21,182	20,916
Yandi Joint Venture	14,170	13,063	13,595	13,771	15,954	29,725	26,878
Total (BHP Billiton share)	38,188	35,232	38,036	36,892	39,386	76,278	74,787
Total production (100%)	44,927	41,449	44,748	43,403	46,337	89,740	87,985
Sales							
Lump	8,700	8,235	9,100	8,338	9,806	18,144	16,444
Fines	28,406	26,523	28,870	28,718	30,479	59,197	57,717
Total (BHP Billiton share)	37,106	34,758	37,970	37,056	40,285	77,341	74,161
Total sales (100%)	43,654	40,892	44,670	43,595	47,393	90,988	87,248
Samarco, Brazil							
Production	2,884	2,711	2,855	2,880	2,804	5,684	5,857
Sales	2,961	2,453	2,778	2,622	3,227	5,849	5,887

(a) Iron ore production and sales are reported on a wet tonnes basis.

(b) Newman includes Mt Newman Joint Venture and Jimblebar.

PRODUCTION AND SALES REPORT

	QUARTER ENDED					YEAR TO DATE	
	DEC 2011	MAR 2012	JUN 2012	SEP 2012	DEC 2012	DEC 2012	DEC 2011
MANGANESE							
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated. (’000 tonnes)							
MANGANESE ORE							
South Africa (a)							
Saleable production	808	917	989	858	834	1,692	1,719
Sales	853	871	866	878	808	1,686	1,714
Australia (a)							
Saleable production	998	1,123	1,077	1,288	1,283	2,571	2,106
Sales	876	1,115	1,343	1,171	979	2,150	1,970
MANGANESE ALLOY							
South Africa (a) (b)							
Saleable production	124	81	75	93	91	184	248
Sales	138	122	104	74	112	186	233
Australia (a)							
Saleable production	71	57	-	37	62	99	141
Sales	58	57	23	46	52	98	149

(a) Shown on 100% basis. BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 60%, except Hotazel Manganese Mines which is 44.4%.

(b) Production includes Medium Carbon Ferro Manganese.

PRODUCTION AND SALES REPORT

	QUARTER ENDED					YEAR TO DATE	
	DEC	MAR	JUN	SEP	DEC	DEC	DEC
	2011	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2011
METALLURGICAL COAL							
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated. ('000 tonnes)							
METALLURGICAL COAL (a)							
Queensland, Australia							
Production							
BMA							
Blackwater	1,122	955	991	1,148	1,588	2,736	2,489
Goonyella	1,375	1,153	1,012	1,535	1,392	2,927	2,838
Peak Downs	992	788	783	1,029	1,151	2,180	1,963
Saraji	900	627	724	773	994	1,767	1,702
Norwich Park (b)	369	248	193	-	-	-	734
Gregory Joint Venture (c)	248	455	402	697	315	1,012	554
BMA total	5,006	4,226	4,105	5,182	5,440	10,622	10,280
BHP Mitsui Coal (d)							
South Walker Creek	901	1,040	1,034	1,084	864	1,948	2,007
Poitrel	679	609	627	682	725	1,407	1,376
BHP Mitsui Coal total	1,580	1,649	1,661	1,766	1,589	3,355	3,383
Queensland total	6,586	5,875	5,766	6,948	7,029	13,977	13,663
Sales							
Coking coal	4,845	4,522	4,007	4,058	5,561	9,619	9,911
Weak coking coal	1,747	1,595	1,512	1,545	1,820	3,365	3,438
Thermal coal	20	111	90	239	237	476	196
Total	6,612	6,228	5,609	5,842	7,618	13,460	13,545
Illawarra, Australia							
Production	1,907	1,462	2,343	1,990	1,859	3,849	4,121
Sales							
Coking coal	1,255	1,460	1,845	1,775	1,785	3,560	2,928
Thermal coal	441	219	279	502	327	829	600
Total	1,696	1,679	2,124	2,277	2,112	4,389	3,528

(a) Metallurgical coal production is reported on the basis of saleable product. Production figures include some thermal coal.

(b) Norwich Park ceased production on 11 May 2012.

(c) Gregory open-cut ceased production on 10 October 2012.

(d) Shown on 100% basis. BHP Billiton interest in saleable production is 80%.

PRODUCTION AND SALES REPORT

	QUARTER ENDED					YEAR TO DATE	
	DEC	MAR	JUN	SEP	DEC	DEC	DEC
	2011	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2011
ENERGY COAL							
BHP Billiton attributable production and sales unless otherwise stated. (’000 tonnes)							
South Africa							
Production	7,976	7,895	8,313	8,454	7,969	16,423	17,071
Sales							
Export	3,546	3,807	3,314	3,385	3,583	6,968	6,985
Local utility	4,582	4,397	4,571	4,869	4,615	9,484	10,204
Inland	165	124	74	38	28	66	250
Total	8,293	8,328	7,959	8,292	8,226	16,518	17,439
New Mexico, US							
Production							
Navajo Coal	2,060	1,913	1,853	1,804	1,377	3,181	3,238
San Juan Coal	103	196	820	2,067	1,421	3,488	1,392
Total	2,163	2,109	2,673	3,871	2,798	6,669	4,630
Sales - local utility	3,108	3,057	2,773	3,420	3,265	6,685	6,738
NSW Energy Coal, Australia							
Production	4,027	4,291	4,393	4,453	4,827	9,280	8,073
Sales							
Export	3,566	3,160	4,388	4,488	4,187	8,675	7,089
Inland	333	297	404	250	265	515	958
Total	3,899	3,457	4,792	4,738	4,452	9,190	8,047
Cerrejon Coal, Colombia							
Production	2,753	2,953	3,105	2,829	2,662	5,491	5,605
Sales - export	2,784	2,652	2,942	2,630	2,702	5,332	5,685