

BHP BILLITON PLC
Form 6-K
August 13, 2003

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K

REPORT OF FOREIGN ISSUER

PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR 15d-16 OF

THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the Date of

12 August 2003

BHP Billiton Plc

Registration Number 3196209

Neathouse Place

London SW1V 1BH

United Kingdom

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Form 40-F	<input type="checkbox"/>
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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	<input type="checkbox"/>		No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b):

Date 12 August 2003
Number 28/03

BHP BILLITON TO RESUME MINING AT TINTAYA

BHP Billiton today announced that it will re-start sulphide mining operations at its Tintaya copper mine in southern Peru during August. This follows the approval of a new mine plan and a review of projected copper market conditions. Shipments of copper concentrates from Tintaya are expected to recommence in early calendar 2004. Production from Tintaya was originally curtailed in January 2002 due to rising global copper inventory levels and a belief that reducing production during this period of low demand would enhance the long-term value of BHP Billiton's copper business.

Brad Mills, President, BHP Billiton Base Metals said, "The new mine plan at Tintaya will reduce operating costs to a level that makes it very competitive in the global copper industry. We believe the demand fundamentals of the copper market are improving such that metal produced from Tintaya's concentrate production will be needed by the second quarter of next year, when the first refined metal becomes available."

Tintaya is capable of producing 90,000 tonnes of copper contained in concentrate per annum. It is currently producing 34,000 tonnes of copper cathode per annum from its oxide SX-EW operations.

Further information on BHP Billiton can be found on our Internet site: <http://www.bhpbilliton.com>

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BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077

Registered in Australia
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BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209

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The BHP Billiton Group is headquartered in Australia

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
/s/ KAREN WOOD

Karen Wood
Title: Company Secretary
Date: 12 August 2003