



Issued by: BHP Billiton Plc

To: London Stock Exchange
Old Broad Street
London EC2N 1HP
United Kingdom

cc: New York Stock Exchange
Swiss Stock Exchange
Johannesburg Stock Exchange
Deutsche Bank
UBS Zurich

Company Announcements Office
The Australian Stock Exchange
4th Floor, 20 Bridge Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Australia

Date: 13 April 2005

For Release: Immediately

Contact: Jamin Lawton +44 (0)20 7802 4108

Notification of Major Interests in Shares

The following notification was received on 12 April 2005 by BHP Billiton Plc in a communication from Old Mutual plc dated 12 April 2005 relating to major interests in shares of BHP Billiton Plc as at 1 April 2005:

"Please find notification pursuant to section 198 of the Companies Act 1985, that as at 1st April 2005, Old Mutual Plc and its direct and indirect subsidiaries had a material interest in 220,657,724 ordinary shares of BHP Billiton Plc, representing 8.94% of the issued share capital. The shares are registered as per the attached schedule."

Registered holdings of BHP Billiton Plc share capital by Old Mutual Companies at 1 April 2005

Total Shares issued	Number of Shares	Company	Registered Holder	% of issued shares
2,468,147,002	130,020,077	Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd	Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (South Africa) Ltd	5.27%
	288,092	Prudential Portfolio Managers SA (Pty) Ltd (not an Old Mutual Company)	Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (South Africa) Ltd	0.01%
	37,674	PeregrineQuant (Pty) Ltd (Not an Old Mutual Company)	Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (South Africa) Ltd	0.00%
	225,000	Polaris Capital (Pty) Ltd (Not and Old Mutual Company)	Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (South Africa) Ltd	0.01%
	7,772,565	Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd	Old Mutual Unit Trusts (SA) Limited	0.31%
	47,037,817	Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd	Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (Managed Fund Client Assets)	1.91%
	3,196,237	Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd	Mutual & Federal Limited	0.13%
	330,902	Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd	BoE Life Ltd	0.01%
	188,096	Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd	BoE Life Assurance Company Ltd	0.01%
	2,741,191	Old Mutual Asset Managers (Namibia) (Pty) Ltd	Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (Namibia) Ltd	0.11%
	212,849	Old Mutual Asset Managers (Namibia) (Pty) Ltd	Old Mutual Holdings (Namibia) (Pty) Ltd	0.01%
	1,318,601	Old Mutual Asset Managers (Namibia) (Pty) Ltd	Old Mutual Asset Managers (Namibia) (Pty) Ltd (Managed Fund Client Assets)	0.05%
	87,784	Old Mutual Asset Managers (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd	Old Mutual Unit Trusts (Namibia) Limited	0.00%
	1,269,492	Old Mutual Asset Managers (Bermuda) Ltd	Old Mutual Global Asset Fund	0.05%
	4,988,023	Old Mutual Asset Managers (Bermuda) Ltd	Old Mutual South Africa Equity Trust Limited	0.20%
	1,221,777	Old Mutual Asset Managers (Bermuda) Ltd	Old Mutual South African Trust Plc	0.05%
	161,100	Quantitive Asset Management	ABSA Nominees	0.01%
	305,211	Quantitive Asset Management	Nedbank Nominees Ltd	0.01%
	5,004,255	Quantitive Asset Management	Standard Bank Nominees Ltd	0.20%
	710,548	Syfrets Securities	Syfrets Securities Nominees (Pty) Ltd	0.03%
	5,058,614	NIB Collective Investment Schemes	Nedcor Bank Nominees	0.20%
	168,879	NIB Securities	NIB IPS Nominees (Pty) Ltd	0.01%
	3,806,350	BOE Personal Stockbrokers	BNS Nominees	0.15%
	3,129	Old Mutual (STRAC)	Nedcor Bank Nominees	0.00%
	4,341,476	BOE Private Clients	Nedbank Nominees Ltd	0.18%

	31,491	BOE Private Clients	Registered Own Name	0.00%
	130,494	BOE Fiduciary	Nedcor Bank Nominees	0.01%
TOTAL	220,657,724			8.94

BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077

Registered in Australia

Registered Office: 180 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

Telephone +61 1300 55 4757 Facsimile +61 3 9609 3015

BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209

Registered in England and Wales

Registered Office: Neathouse Place, London SW1V 1BH United Kingdom

Telephone +44 20 7802 4000 Facsimile +44 20 7802 4111

The BHP Billiton Group is headquartered in Australia