

# NEWS RELEASE

**Release Time** IMMEDIATE

**Date** 9 May 2006

**Number** 15/06

## SALE OF SOUTHERN CROSS FERTILISERS

BHP Billiton announced today that it has entered into an agreement for the sale of Southern Cross Fertilisers Pty Ltd (SCF) to Incitec Pivot Limited.

SCF produces high-analysis phosphate fertilisers from its facilities in northern Queensland and was originally acquired by BHP Billiton as part of the acquisition of WMC Resources Limited (WMC). The WMC fertilisers business was identified as a non-core asset at the time of the acquisition and its sale follows the earlier sale of SCF's one third interest in Hi-Fert Pty Ltd in December 2005.

Completion of the transaction is expected to occur during July 2006, following the conclusion of SCF's scheduled triennial major maintenance outage, with the final consideration subject to working capital adjustments, if any. Completion is subject to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission not opposing the sale.

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

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