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For Release:	**Immediately**
Contact:	**Robert Franklin, Company Secretary** **Tel: +44 (0) 20 7802 4116**

BHP BILLITON PLC - TRANSACTION IN OWN SHARES

BHP Billiton Plc announces that on 8 September 2006 it purchased 1,000,000 of its ordinary shares at an average price of 977.1098 pence per ordinary share. It is intended that all of the purchased shares will be held as treasury shares.

Following the above purchase, BHP Billiton Plc holds 21,320,000 of its ordinary shares as treasury shares. The total number of ordinary shares in issue (excluding shares held as treasury shares) is 2,446,827,002.

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