BHP BILLITON LTD Form 6-K July 23, 2018

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 6-K

REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER

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

UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

July 23, 2018

BHP BILLITON LIMITED (ABN 49 004 028 077) (Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA (Jurisdiction of incorporation or organisation)

171 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE,

VICTORIA 3000 AUSTRALIA

(Address of principal executive offices)

BHP BILLITON PLC (REG. NO. 3196209) (Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

ENGLAND AND WALES (Jurisdiction of incorporation or organisation)

NOVA SOUTH, 160 VICTORIA STREET

LONDON, SW1E 5LB

UNITED KINGDOM

(Address of principal executive offices)

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 Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1):

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7):

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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 No

If Yes is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): n/a

NEWS RELEASE

Release Time IMMEDIATE

Date 23 July 2018

Location Melbourne

Release Number 11/18 BHP TO DEFEND SAMARCO CLASS ACTION

BHP notes the media reports today concerning the Australian class action in relation to the Samarco dam failure.

BHP confirms it has been served with a class action proceeding filed in the Federal Court of Australia in Victoria.

BHP intends to defend the claim.

Further information on BHP can be found at: bhp.com

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Media Relations	Investor Relations
Email: media.relations@bhpbilliton.com	Email: investor.relations@bhpbilliton.com
Australia and Asia	Australia and Asia
Ben Pratt	Tara Dines
Tel: +61 3 9609 3672 Mobile: +61 419 968 734	Tel: +61 3 9609 2222 Mobile: +61 499 249 005
United Kingdom and South Africa	United Kingdom and South Africa
Neil Burrows	Elisa Morniroli
Tel: +44 20 7802 7484 Mobile: +44 7786 661 683	Tel: +44 20 7802 7611 Mobile: +44 7825 926 646
North America	Americas
Judy Dane	James Wear
Tel: +1 713 961 8283 Mobile: +1 713 299 5342	Tel: +1 713 993 3737 Mobile: +1 347 882 3011
BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077	BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209
LEI WZE1WSENV6JSZFK0JC28	LEI 549300C116EOWV835768
Registered in Australia	Registered in England and Wales
Registered Office: Level 18, 171 Collins Street	Registered Office: Nova South, 160 Victoria Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000 Australia	London SW1E 5LB United Kingdom
Tel +61 1300 55 4757 Fax +61 3 9609 3015 Members of the BHP Group which is	Tel +44 20 7802 4000 Fax +44 20 7802 4111

headquartered in Australia

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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 Limited and BHP Billiton Plc

By:/s/ Margaret TaylorName:Margaret TaylorTitle:Group Company Secretary

Date: July 23, 2018