

# NEWS RELEASE

**Release Time** UNDER STRICT EMBARGO until 8.30am, 23 September 2015

**Date** 23 September 2015

## **BHP BILLITON RELEASES FIRST ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION AND PAYMENTS TO GOVERNMENTS REPORT**

BHP Billiton today released a new Economic Contribution and Payments to Governments Report as part of its long-standing commitment to transparency and voluntary disclosure.

Published in conjunction with the Company's Annual Reporting suite, the new report discloses payments made to governments during the 2015 financial year on a country-by-country and project-by-project basis.

Introducing the Report, BHP Billiton CFO Peter Beaven said the Company had increased its disclosure ahead of regulatory requirements.

"The additional information we are providing builds on the annual tax and royalty payments information we have provided in our Sustainability Report for the last 15 years," he said.

"We create value for our communities and shareholders through the development of natural resources – and our tax and royalty payments are an essential part of this contribution."

For the 2015 financial year, BHP Billiton paid US\$7.3 billion globally in taxes, royalties and other payments to governments.

In the period, BHP Billiton's global adjusted effective tax rate was 31.8 per cent, compared to the OECD average corporate income tax rate of 25 per cent, and the Company's effective income tax and royalties paid rate was in excess of 45 per cent.

"Tax and royalty payments are just one way in which we make a difference," Mr Beaven said.

"Last financial year our total economic contribution was US\$35.7 billion which included taxes and royalties, voluntary contributions to host communities, payments to suppliers, wages and employee benefits – as well as dividends to more than six hundred thousand shareholders."

Mr Beaven reinforced BHP Billiton's commitment to disclosure and transparency.

"We began to voluntarily disclose our tax and royalty payments in 2000 and since then we have progressively increased the detail in these disclosures," he said.

"BHP Billiton is committed to the highest standards of corporate governance and we seek to encourage reforms that enhance disclosure and transparency around the world.

"This includes support for the creation of a globally-consistent mandatory disclosure framework with formal equivalency agreements between jurisdictions."

BHP Billiton was also a founding supporter of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) in 2002 and in the 2014 assessment by Transparency International, BHP Billiton ranks as the most transparent mining company and fourth overall globally.

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

## **Media Relations**

### **Australia**

Emily Perry  
Tel: +61 3 9609 2800 Mobile: +61 477 325 803  
email: [Emily.Perry@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Emily.Perry@bhpbilliton.com)

Paul Hitchins  
Tel: + 61 3 9609 2592 Mobile: + 61 419 315 001  
email: [Paul.Hitchins@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Paul.Hitchins@bhpbilliton.com)

Eleanor Nichols  
Tel: +61 3 9609 2360 Mobile: +61 407 064 748  
email: [Eleanor.Nichols@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Eleanor.Nichols@bhpbilliton.com)

### **United Kingdom and Americas**

Ruban Yogarajah  
Tel: +44 20 7802 4033 Mobile: +44 7827 082 022  
email: [Ruban.Yogarajah@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Ruban.Yogarajah@bhpbilliton.com)

Jennifer White  
Tel: +44 20 7802 7462 Mobile: +44 7827 253 764  
email: [Jennifer.White@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Jennifer.White@bhpbilliton.com)

BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077  
Registered in Australia  
Registered Office: Level 16, 171 Collins Street  
Melbourne Victoria 3000 Australia  
Tel +61 1300 55 4757 Fax +61 3 9609 3015

## **Investor Relations**

### **Australia**

Tara Dines  
Tel: +61 3 9609 2222 Mobile: +61 499 249 005  
email: [Tara.Dines@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Tara.Dines@bhpbilliton.com)

Andrew Gunn  
Tel: +61 3 9609 3575 Mobile: +61 402 087 354  
email: [Andrew.Gunn@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Andrew.Gunn@bhpbilliton.com)

### **United Kingdom and South Africa**

Jonathan Price  
Tel: +44 20 7802 4131 Mobile: +44 7990 527 726  
email: [Jonathan.H.Price@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Jonathan.H.Price@bhpbilliton.com)

Dean Simon  
Tel: +44 20 7802 7461 Mobile: +44 7717 511 193  
email: [Dean.Simon@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Dean.Simon@bhpbilliton.com)

### **Americas**

James Agar  
Tel: +1 212 310 1421 Mobile: +1 347 882 3011  
email: [James.Agar@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:James.Agar@bhpbilliton.com)

Joseph Suarez  
Tel: +1 212 310 1422 Mobile: +1 646 400 3803  
email: [Joseph.Suarez@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Joseph.Suarez@bhpbilliton.com)

BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209  
Registered in England and Wales  
Registered Office: Neathouse Place  
London SW1V 1LH United Kingdom  
Tel +44 20 7802 4000 Fax +44 20 7802 4111

Members of the BHP Billiton Group which is headquartered in Australia



Follow us on social media