



UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

DIVISION OF  
CORPORATION FINANCE

March 31, 2014

Via E-Mail

Mr. Graham Kerr  
Chief Financial Officer  
BHP Billiton Limited and BHP Billiton PLC  
171 Collins Street  
Melbourne, Victoria 3000  
Australia

**Re: BHP Billiton Limited and BHP Billiton PLC  
Form 20-F for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2013  
Filed September 25, 2013  
Response letter dated March 18, 2014  
File Nos. 001-09526 and 001-31714**

Dear Mr. Kerr:

We have reviewed your response letter and have the following comment. In our comment, we may ask you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure.

Please respond to this letter within ten business days by amending your filing, by providing the requested information, or by advising us when you will provide the requested response. If you do not believe our comments apply to your facts and circumstances or do not believe an amendment is appropriate, please tell us why in your response.

After reviewing any amendment to your filing and the information you provide in response to these comments, we may have additional comments.

Form 20-F for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2013

9.1 Consolidated Financial Statements

9.1.6 Notes to Financial Statements

1. Accounting policies, page F-15

1. We note your response to prior comment one in our letter dated February 11, 2014 and understand that you do not consider your Jansen Potash project to be in the development stage as the project feasibility study is still in progress and you have not yet established reserves. However, we note that your disclosures at page 41 also indicate that you have

Graham Kerr  
BHP Billiton Limited and BHP Billiton PLC  
March 31, 2014  
Page 2

conducted activities on the project that are developmental in nature, such as building surface infrastructure and sinking service and production shafts, starting in December 2012. Please tell us how you are accounting for the costs associated with these activities and how your accounting is consistent with your policy related to exploration and evaluation assets and development expenditures as outlined at page F-15. Please specify the accounting literature that supports your basis for capitalization or expense.

You may contact Joanna Lam at (202) 551-3476 or Craig Arakawa, Branch Chief at (202) 551- 3650 if you have questions regarding comments on the financial statements and related matters.

Sincerely,

/s/Tia L. Jenkins

Tia L. Jenkins  
Senior Assistant Chief Accountant  
Office of Beverages, Apparel, and  
Mining