

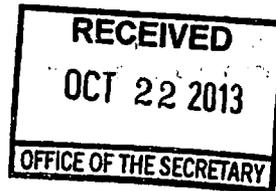
ES150790

DF Title XV



15 October, 2013

Mary Jo White
SEC Chair
Securities and Exchange Commission
100 F Street, NE
Washington DC 20549
U.S.A.



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Dear Mary,

I am writing to you to share BHP Billiton's views regarding the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules for the implementation of section 1504 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

BHP Billiton has promoted transparency for more than a decade. As a founding member of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) and current board member, BHP Billiton supports and encourages countries to establish disclosure frameworks. Although EITI is a national voluntary initiative, we also endorse extra-territorial corporate reporting. BHP Billiton has publicly reported payments to governments on a region by region and then country by country basis since 2003.

As a company that operates globally using Joint Ventures and other partnering arrangements we are concerned with the requirement to report on entities using the definition of control that is contained within Exchange Act Rule 12b-2. Under this broad definition of control there is the potential that organizations will need to report information for minority owned and non-operated entities that are not reported under other reporting frameworks.

The requirement for an organization to report data for these additional entities has the potential to reduce the transparency and reliability of the reports produced. We foresee instances where payments to government will be overstated through duplicate reporting, and confusion created amongst report users where entities being reported on do not align with other publicly available financial reports.

As a proposed solution, we advocate strongly for the adoption of a definition of control that is aligned with international accounting standards. In addition to the benefits this would bring to both report issuers and recipients, it would also align more closely with the position being taken by the European Parliament in the adoption of a revised Accounting and Transparency Directive and improve integration with other transparency reporting legislation currently in development globally.

BHP Billiton is committed to operating responsibly, with integrity and with shared community values. We ask that you consider our views in the drafting of any implementation rules.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "GK" or similar initials.

Graham Kerr
Chief Financial Officer

A member of the BHP Billiton group
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