

NEWS RELEASE

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TERMS OF RETIREMENT FOR OUTGOING CEO MARIUS KLOPPERS

The Board of BHP Billiton today announced the terms of retirement for outgoing Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Marius Kloppers. As previously announced Mr Kloppers will step down as CEO, a member of the Group Management Committee and a Director of the Company on 10 May 2013, and will retire from the Group on 1 October 2013.

Mr Kloppers will work through the applicable notice period and accordingly no severance payment will be made. He will receive his base salary and pension entitlement to the date of his retirement, namely, 1 October 2013.

Other aspects of Mr Kloppers' remuneration will be handled in accordance with the shareholder approved plans. In summary:

- Any short term incentive payment under the Group Incentive Scheme (GIS) for the 2013 financial year can only be assessed by the Remuneration Committee after year end. That payment will be pro rated to reflect his period of service as CEO during the 2013 financial year (namely, 1 July 2012 to 10 May 2013).
- Awards granted in previous years under the Long Term Incentive Plan (LTIP) will be pro-rated in accordance with the Company's usual practice. They will vest only if the performance hurdle is met at the end of each five year performance period; and
- Mr Kloppers will be entitled to the value of the pension and superannuation funds that he has accumulated over his 20 years with the Company.

In announcing the details, BHP Billiton Chairman, Jac Nasser, said "The terms of Marius' departure reflect the Group's remuneration policy and the rules of our incentive plans as approved by shareholders. No additional payments are being made."

A summary of the key terms of Mr Kloppers' retirement is set out in the attached schedule.

Further information on BHP Billiton can be found at: www.bhpbilliton.com.

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Summary of terms of retirement for Mr Marius Kloppers

1. Fixed remuneration

Mr Kloppers will continue to be employed by the Company until 1 October 2013. The Company will pay him a salary and make pension contributions until then. His base salary is US\$2,215,200 per annum and pension contributions are 40 per cent of salary. Upon retiring, Mr Kloppers will be entitled to receive the accumulated value of funds under relevant pension and superannuation plans, together with the value of any accrued leave to 1 October 2013.

2. Severance payment

Mr Kloppers will receive no severance payment and no payment in lieu of notice.

3. Incentive arrangements

Mr Kloppers' entitlements under the Group Incentive Scheme (GIS) and Long Term Incentive Plan (LTIP) are governed by the shareholder-approved plan rules and the Group's termination policy as approved by shareholders at the 2011 Annual General Meetings. Copies of the rules of the GIS and the LTIP are available on the BHP Billiton website at www.bhpbilliton.com.

Short Term Incentives - GIS

Mr Kloppers will serve as CEO for almost the whole of the 2013 financial year. He will be considered for a bonus under the GIS at the end of the year (i.e. for the year ending 30 June 2013). Whether any bonus will be paid, and the amount, will be determined by the Remuneration Committee after an assessment of the Company's and his personal performance after the year end. This is consistent with the rules governing the GIS as approved by shareholders and the established practice of the Company. Any amount assessed as payable will be reported in the Remuneration Report that will be published in September 2013.

While the maximum possible bonus under the GIS is 320 per cent of salary, the full bonus is "at-risk". Mr Kloppers did not receive any bonus in the 2012 financial year.

Even though he will be serving as an employee for a quarter of the 2014 financial year he will not receive any bonus under the GIS for that year. While the GIS does allow the Remuneration Committee the discretion to grant a pro rata cash bonus where a part year has been worked, in this case the Remuneration Committee will not be using that discretion. Under the rules of the GIS, unvested Deferred Shares are transferred to a retiring executive on leaving; however, as no Deferred Shares were awarded to Mr Kloppers in the 2012 financial year (because he did not receive any bonus for that year), he will have no unvested Deferred Shares as of 1 October 2013 (assuming that the 2011 financial year GIS award vests as estimated in August 2013).

Long Term Incentives - LTIP

Mr Kloppers is a participant in the LTIP approved by shareholders. The LTIP requires BHP Billiton to outperform our comparator group's Total Shareholder Return (TSR) by 5.5 per cent per annum over a five year performance period for all the awards to vest. Accordingly, the awards made under the LTIP are fully "at-risk". The actual value of any LTIP awards may ultimately be zero. The Remuneration Committee reviews performance and takes advice from its independent adviser, Kepler Associates, before making any

decisions about vesting. Importantly, even if the performance hurdle is met the Committee has an overriding discretion under the plan rules to reduce the amount of shares that vest.

The performance hurdle is stretching and ensures alignment with shareholders. For example, over the life of our most recently vested LTIP award, BHP Billiton's TSR was 41.6 per cent. In contrast, the weighted average TSR for the peer group of mining and oil and gas companies against which the Group's performance is measured was negative 4.0 per cent. The impact of this 45.6 per cent TSR outperformance by BHP Billiton was to add US\$75.4 billion of shareholder value from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2012 over and above performance in line with the weighted average of the comparators. Since the inception of the LTIP in 2004, with the first outcomes measured in 2009, BHP Billiton has delivered significant and consistent TSR outperformance over the peer group of mining and oil and gas companies, leading to full vesting in each period, shown in the table below:

LTIP five year performance period	BHP Billiton TSR	Peer group TSR
1 July 2004 to 30 June 2009	220.0%	71.8%
1 July 2005 to 30 June 2010	187.7%	113.6%
1 July 2006 to 30 June 2011	138.3%	66.8%
1 July 2007 to 30 June 2012	41.6%	-4.0%

Under the terms of the LTIP, employees who retire are entitled to hold awards granted in prior years. However, the number of awards is reduced to reflect the period of service in relation to each grant. They will vest only if the performance hurdle is met, and the Remuneration Committee confirms vesting, at the expiration of the term. The actual value of the LTIP awards may ultimately be zero.

Mr Kloppers' 2008 LTIP award will be assessed for vesting before he leaves, but the LTIP awards granted in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 will therefore be pro rated according to the rules of the plan and in each case must be held for the full five years from the date of grant (see table on page five). He will not be granted any LTIP awards in 2013.

4. Outstanding share awards

A. Awards that will vest before retirement date

The table below provides details of the awards, granted in prior years under the GIS, which will vest prior to Mr Kloppers' departure. These Deferred Shares were awarded in 2011 and represented half of the bonus paid under the short term incentive plan as approved by shareholders. The shares must be held for two years and therefore will vest in 2013.

Award	Original number of awards	Estimated vesting date	Vesting outcome	Awards to vest
GIS FY11	64,705	Aug-13	100%	64,705

B. Awards that will be assessed for vesting before retirement date

The table below provides details of the awards, granted in prior years under the LTIP, that may vest to Mr Kloppers prior to his departure. These performance shares were granted in 2008. Whether they vest will depend on BHP Billiton's relative TSR performance over the five year period from 1 June 2008 to 30 June 2013. The Remuneration Committee will review performance and take independent advice before making a decision about vesting. Importantly, even if the performance hurdle is met the Committee has an overriding discretion under the plan rules to reduce the amount of awards that vest. Accordingly, the vesting outcome and the number of LTIP awards which will vest is unknown at this time.

Award	Original number of awards	Estimated vesting date	Estimated vesting outcome	Estimated awards to vest
LTIP 2008	500,000	Aug-13	Unknown	Unknown

C. Awards that will be unvested at the retirement date

The table below provides details of the awards, granted in prior years under the LTIP that may vest in the four years after Mr Kloppers' departure.

As noted above, under the terms of the LTIP employees who retire are entitled to hold awards granted in prior years. However, the number of awards is reduced to reflect the period of service in relation to each grant. The pro rata rule of the LTIP will thus impact the number of awards Mr Kloppers retains on departure. To determine the award Mr Kloppers will retain on departure, each individual award needs to be calculated on a pro rata basis according to the time worked over the relevant five year performance period (e.g. if Mr Kloppers had worked half the five year performance period then he would retain half the awards). The details of the awards Mr Kloppers will retain are set out below.

Whether the awards vest will depend on BHP Billiton's relative TSR performance over the five year periods to 30 June 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017, respectively. In addition, as indicated above, even if the performance hurdle is met the Committee has an overriding discretion under the plan rules to reduce the amount of awards that vest. Accordingly, the vesting outcome and the number of LTIP awards which will vest is unknown at this time.

Award	Original number of awards	Awards to lapse on retirement	Pro rated awards retained on retirement	Estimated vesting date	Estimated vesting outcome	Estimated awards to vest
LTIP 2009	250,000	37,500	212,500	Aug-14	Unknown	Unknown
LTIP 2010	200,000	70,000	130,000	Aug-15	Unknown	Unknown
LTIP 2011	226,721	124,697	102,024	Aug-16	Unknown	Unknown
LTIP 2012	240,603	180,452	60,151	Aug-17	Unknown	Unknown
Total	917,324	412,649	504,675			

D. Awards vested and shares held

Mr Kloppers holds 88,327 vested LTIP awards, vested in 2012, yet to be exercised. These awards were unable to be exercised upon vesting in 2012 as a consequence of the LTIP rules limiting annual exercises to no more than four times base salary.

In addition, in his personal capacity, Mr Kloppers has a direct interest in 363,520 BHP Billiton Plc shares and an indirect interest through family trusts in 265,462 BHP Billiton Plc shares. He also has an indirect interest in 373,535 ordinary shares in BHP Billiton Limited through his family trusts. These shares were earned over Mr Kloppers' 20 year career with BHP Billiton.