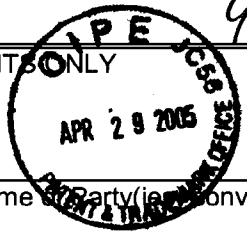


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PATENTS ONLY

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Please record the attach.

1. Name of Party(ies) conveying an interest:
 JOZEF MARIE SCHAEKERS
 NOELENE AHERN

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?
 Yes No

2. Name of Party(ies) receiving an interest:
 Name: BHP BILLITON SA LIMITED
 Internal Address:
 Street Address: 200 Hans Strijdom Drive
 City: 2194, Randburg SOUTH AFRICA
 State/Zip:
 Additional name(s) and addresses attached?
 Yes No

3. Description of the interest conveyed:
 Assignment Change of Name Other:
 Security Agreement Merger

Execution Dates: April 7, 2005; April 7, 2005

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s).
 If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is:
 Date

A. Patent Application No.(s)
 10/658,635 filed September 8, 2003

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? Yes No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:
 BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
 P.O. BOX 10395
 CHICAGO, IL 60610
 (312)321-4200

6. Number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41) \$ 40.00
 Enclosed
 Authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 23-1925

8. Please charge any deficiencies in fee or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

9. Statement and signature.
 To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

G. Peter Nichols
 Name of Person Signing

Signature

April 27, 2005
 Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: 3

05/02/2005 ECOOPER 00000061 10650635
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PATENT
REEL: 016506 FRAME: 0039

Case No. 10908/5**ASSIGNMENT**

WHEREAS, Noelene Ahern, and Jozef Marie Schackers, hereinafter called the "Assignors", have made the invention described in the United States patent application entitled **RECOVERY OF METAL FROM JAROSITE-CONTAINING MATERIALS**, for a full description of which reference is here made to an application for Letters Patent of the United States filed on September 8, 2003 and assigned Application Serial No. 10/658,635;

WHEREAS, BHP Billiton SA Limited, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of South Africa, having a place of business at 200 Hans Strijdom Drive, 2194, Randburg, South Africa, hereinafter called the "Assignee", desires to acquire the entire right, title and interest in and to the invention and the patent application identified above, and all patents which may be obtained for said invention, as set forth below;


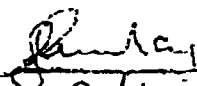
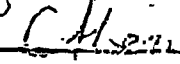



NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), and other valuable and legally sufficient consideration, the receipt of which by the Assignors from the Assignee is hereby acknowledged, the Assignors have sold, assigned and transferred, and by these presents do sell, assign and transfer to the Assignee, the entire right, title and interest for the United States in and to the invention and the patent application identified above, and any patents that may issue for said invention in the United States; together with the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and all patent applications and patents therefor in all countries foreign to the United States, including the full right to claim for any such application all benefits and priority rights under any applicable convention; together with the entire right, title and interest in and to all continuations, divisions, renewals and extensions of any of the patent applications and patents defined above; to have and to hold for the sole and exclusive use and benefit of the Assignee, its successors and assigns, to the full end of the term or terms for all such patents.

The Assignors hereby covenant and agree, for both the Assignors and the Assignors' legal representatives, that the Assignors will assist the Assignee in the prosecution of the patent application identified above; in the making and prosecution of any other patent applications that the Assignee may elect to make covering the invention identified above; in vesting in the Assignee like exclusive title in and to all such other patent applications and

patents; and in the prosecution of any interference which may arise involving said invention or any such patent application or patent; and that the Assignors will execute and deliver to the Assignee any and all additional papers which may be requested by the Assignee to carry out the terms of this Assignment.

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized and requested to issue patents to the Assignee in accordance with the terms of this Assignment.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the Assignors have executed this agreement.

| | | |
|------------|----------------------|---|
| DATE: | <u>7 April 2005</u> | <u></u> Noeline Ahera |
| WITNESSED: | | |
| DATE: | <u>07-04-2005</u> | <u></u> |
| DATE: | <u>07 Apr 2005</u> | <u></u> |
| DATE: | <u>07 April 2005</u> | <u></u> Josef Maria Seirackers |
| WITNESSED: | | |
| DATE: | <u>07/04/2005</u> | <u></u> |
| DATE: | <u>07-04-2005</u> | <u></u> |