IVANHOE MINES LTD Form 6-K March 21, 2012

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

FORM 6-K

REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR 15d-16 UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

March 20, 2012

Commission File Number: 001-32403

IVANHOE MINES LTD.

(Translation of Registrant s Name into English)

Suite 654 999 CANADA PLACE, VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA V6C 3E1

(Address of Principal Executive Office)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F-" Form 40-F-x

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1): "

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7): "

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Form 6-K includes our Audited Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2011, and our Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations for the Year Ended December 31, 2011, which information shall be deemed filed for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and is otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

IVANHOE MINES LTD.

Date: March 20, 2012

By: /s/ Beverly A. Bartlett

BEVERLY A. BARTLETT

Vice President & Corporate Secretary

EXHIBIT INDEX

99.1 Annual Financial Statements and Management Discussion and Analysis for the year ended December 31, 2011.