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Vale announcement

Companhia Vale do Rio Doce (Vale), reaffirming its commitment to the sustainable development of the regions where it is present and in compliance with environmental and labor legislation, announces that:

1) On August 28th, the company sent a letter to a group of pig iron producers in the Brazilian states of Pará, Maranhão and Minas Gerais, informing them of decisions made concerning the supply of iron ore.

2) Siderúrgica Ibérica do Pará S/A (Ibérica) and Siderúrgica Marabá S.A (Simara) have been informed that, as of September 1st 2007, they will have 30 days to prove their adherence with to environmental and labor legislation. If this is not implemented, these companies will have their iron ore supply interrupted;

3) Companhia Siderúrgica do Pará (Cosipar) and Usina Siderúrgica de Marabá S/A (Usimar), which had already been informed of the suspension of their commercial contracts, have also been informed of the 30-day period to confirm their compliance with the environmental and labor laws;

4) Brazil's Ibama environmental protection agency, following inspections conducted this year at pig iron mills in the States of Pará and Maranhão, has sent to the environmental bodies in the States mentioned above, as well as the Federal and State Prosecutors' Offices, a report on the environmental liabilities present at these mills. During the month of August, Vale was informed that Ibama filed civil suits against the companies cited in the items 2 and 3 regarding this same matter;

5) Pig iron mills Siderúrgica do Maranhão S/A (Simasa), Siderúrgica Marabá S.A (Simara), Viena Siderúrgica do Maranhão S.A (Viena), Itasider Usina Siderúrgica Itaminas S/A and Ferro Gusa do Maranhão Ltda (Fergumar) have been included in a list released by Brazil's Labor Ministry (document 540, October 15, 2004), published on the ministry's official website. The website lists the names of companies facing lawsuits for buying charcoal coming from charcoal producers which use slave-type labor. These companies will also have a 30-day period to prove their compliance to the labor authorities. If they fail to confirm their compliance, they will have their supply suspended.

6) Acting in accord with the principles of sustainable development to which the company is committed, Vale requires its clients and suppliers to strictly comply with the current environmental and labor legislation.

More information



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