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Vale about agreement regarding the use of Timbopeba pit

A definitive agreement with BHP and Samarco remains subject to a successful commercial negotiation

Vale informs that it agreed with BHP Billiton Brasil Ltda. and Samarco Mineração a non-binding term sheet outlining the general terms and conditions for the use of Vale's Timbopeba pit by Samarco to deposit its tailings, should Samarco restart. Vale would transfer the Timbopeba pit to Samarco and, as compensation, Samarco would supply to Vale an amount of non-processed ore (Run-of-Mine – ROM) for a certain period.

A definitive agreement remains subject to a successful commercial negotiation, due diligence and relevant government approvals. These processes are likely to occur during 2017.

After obtaining the required environmental licenses, Samarco is expected to temporarily deposit its tailings in its own pit, Alegria Sul, for a period of 2 to 3 years of operations. The use of the Timbopeba pit may allow Samarco to operate for up several years without new tailings structure.

More information



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