DOMINION RESOURCES INC /VA/ Form 424B5 November 25, 2008 Table of Contents

> Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5) File Number 333-131810

The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus are not an offer to sell these securities, and are not soliciting an offer to buy these securities, in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to completion, dated November 25, 2008

Preliminary Prospectus Supplement

(To Prospectus Dated February 13, 2006)

\$

# **Dominion Resources, Inc.**

\$ 2008 Series D % Senior Notes due 2018

The Senior Notes will bear interest at % per year and will mature on November 30, 2018. We will pay interest on the Senior Notes on May 30 and November 30 of each year, beginning May 30, 2009.

We may redeem all or any of the Senior Notes at any time at the redemption prices described in this prospectus supplement, plus accrued interest. Each holder of a Senior Note will have the right to require us to repurchase all or a portion of the Senior Notes held by such holder on November 30, 2013 at a purchase price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Senior Notes tendered by the holder, plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the repurchase date.

We will not make application to list the Senior Notes on any securities exchange or to include them in any automated quotation system.

Investing in the Senior Notes involves risks. For a description of these risks, see Risk Factors beginning on page S-8.

	Public Offering Price <sup>(1)</sup>	Underwriting Discount	Proceeds to Dominion Before Expenses (1)	
Per Senior Note	%	%	%	
Senior Note Total	\$	\$	\$	

<sup>(1)</sup> Plus accrued interest from December , 2008, if settlement occurs after that date.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus supplement or the accompanying base prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The Senior Notes will be ready for delivery in book-entry form only through The Depository Trust Company on or about December , 2008.

Joint Book-Running Managers

# Barclays Capital Co-Managers J.P. Morgan Co-Managers

The date of this prospectus supplement is November , 2008.

# ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document is in two parts. The first part is the prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of the Senior Notes and certain other matters relating to us and our financial condition. The second part, the accompanying base prospectus, gives more general information about Senior Debt Securities we may offer from time to time, some of which does not apply to the Senior Notes we are offering at this time. Generally, when we refer to the prospectus, we are referring to both parts of this document combined. To the extent the description of the Senior Notes in the prospectus supplement differs from the description of Senior Debt Securities in the accompanying base prospectus, you should only rely on the information in the prospectus supplement.

You should rely only on the information contained in this document or to which this document refers you, or in other offering materials filed by us with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). We have not authorized anyone, and we have not authorized the underwriters to authorize anyone, to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. This document may only be used where it is legal to sell these securities. The information which appears in this document and which is incorporated by reference in this document may only be accurate as of the date of this prospectus supplement or the date of the document in which incorporated information appears. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since the date of such information.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

#### **Prospectus Supplement**

	Page
About This Prospectus Supplement	S-2
Where You Can Find More Information	S-3
Forward-Looking Information	S-3
Prospectus Supplement Summary	S-5
Risk Factors	S-8
<u>Dominion</u>	S-14
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	S-16
<u>Capitalization</u>	S-17
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges	S-18
Description of the Senior Notes	S-19
Book-Entry Procedures and Settlement	S-24
Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations for Non-U.S. Holders	S-26
Underwriting	S-28
Legal Matters	S-32
<u>Experts</u>	S-32

# **Base Prospectus**

	Page
About This Prospectus Where You Can Find More Information	
Where You Can Pind More Information	2

Safe Harbor and Cautionary Statements	
The Company	
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	4
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges	4
Description of Senior Debt Securities	(
Legal Matters	14
Experts	14

# WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our file number with the SEC is 001-08489. Our SEC filings are available to the public over the Internet at the SEC s web site at <a href="http://www.sec.gov">http://www.sec.gov</a>. You may also read and copy any document we file at the SEC s public reference room at 100 F. Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference room. You may also read and copy these documents at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus supplement and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update or supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings made with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), until such time as all of the securities covered by this prospectus supplement have been sold:

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007;

Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2008, June 30, 2008, and September 30, 2008; and

Current Reports on Form 8-K, filed January 3, 2008, January 30, 2008 (with respect to Items 5.02 and 9.01), April 2, 2008, May 9, 2008, June 5, 2008 and June 16, 2008.

You may request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at:

Corporate Secretary, Dominion Resources, Inc., 120 Tredegar Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, Telephone (804) 819-2000.

# FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

We have included certain information in this prospectus supplement or other offering materials which is forward-looking information—as defined by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Examples include discussions as to our expectations, beliefs, plans, goals, objectives and future financial or other performance or assumptions concerning matters discussed in this prospectus. This information, by its nature, involves estimates,

projections, forecasts and uncertainties that could cause actual results or outcomes to differ substantially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements.

Our business is influenced by many factors that are difficult to predict, involve uncertainties that may materially affect actual results and are often beyond our ability to control. These factors include unusual weather conditions and their effect on energy sales to customers and energy commodity prices; extreme weather events, including hurricanes and severe storms, that can cause outages and property damage to our facilities; state and federal legislative and regulatory developments and changes to environmental and other laws and regulations, including those related to climate change, greenhouse gases, and other

emissions, to which we are subject; costs of environmental compliance, including those costs related to climate change; risks associated with the operation of nuclear facilities; fluctuations in energy-related commodity prices and the effect these could have on our earnings, liquidity position and the underlying value of our assets; counterparty credit risk; risks associated with our membership and participation in regional transmission organizations (RTOs) related to obligations created by the default of other participants; capital market conditions, including the availability of credit and our ability to obtain financing on reasonable terms; price risk due to securities held as investments in nuclear decommissioning and benefit plan trusts; fluctuations in interest rates; changes in federal and state tax laws and regulations; changes to benefit plan assumptions such as discount rates and the expected rate of return on plan assets; changes in rating agency requirements or credit ratings and their effect on availability and cost of capital; changes in financial or regulatory accounting principles or policies imposed by governing bodies; employee workforce factors including collective bargaining agreements and labor negotiations with union employees; the risks of operating businesses in regulated industries that are subject to changing regulatory structures; changes to regulated gas and electric rates collected by Dominion Resources, Inc. and the timing of such collection as it relates to fuel costs; receipt of approvals for and timing of closing dates for acquisitions and divestitures; changes in rules for RTOs in which we participate, including changes in rate designs and capacity models; adverse outcomes in litigation matters; political and economic conditions, including the threat of domestic terrorism, inflation and deflation; timing and receipt of regulatory approvals necessary for planned construction or expansion projects; the inability to complete planned construction or expansion projects within the terms and time frames initially anticipated; and completing the divestiture of The Peoples Natural Gas Company and Hope Gas, Inc.

Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which it is made, and we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which it is made.

In addition to the factors described above, we have identified a number of these factors in this prospectus supplement, under the heading RISK FACTORS, and we refer you to that discussion for further information.

S-4

# PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

In this prospectus supplement, unless otherwise indicated or the context otherwise requires, the words Dominion, Company, we, our and us refer to Dominion Resources, Inc., a Virginia corporation, and its subsidiaries.

The following summary contains basic information about this offering. It may not contain all the information that is important to you. The DESCRIPTION OF THE SENIOR NOTES section of this prospectus supplement and the DESCRIPTION OF SENIOR DEBT SECURITIES section of the accompanying base prospectus contain more detailed information regarding the terms and conditions of the Senior Notes. The following summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the more detailed information appearing elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and in the accompanying base prospectus.

#### **DOMINION**

Dominion, headquartered in Richmond, Virginia, is one of the nation s largest producers and transporters of energy. Dominion also operates the nation s largest natural gas storage network and serves retail energy customers in 12 states. As of September 30, 2008, we had approximately \$41.4 billion in assets.

We currently manage our operations through three primary business segments that are designed to streamline operations, and position us for long-term growth in the competitive energy marketplace by focusing on our electric and gas products and services. They are:

Dominion Energy Dominion Energy manages our 14,000 miles of natural gas transmission, gathering and storage pipeline, and a 975 billion cubic foot natural gas storage network. This business segment includes our Ohio regulated natural gas distribution operations that serve approximately 1.2 million residential, commercial and industrial gas sales and transportation customers. Dominion Energy also operates our Cove Point, Maryland liquefied natural gas import and storage facility. In addition, it oversees our natural gas production located in the Appalachian Basin and producer services, which aggregates gas supply, engages in trading and marketing activities, provides market-based services related to fuel and gas supply management, and supplies price risk management services to Dominion affiliates.

Dominion Generation Dominion Generation manages our approximately 27,000 megawatt portfolio of merchant and regulated utility electric power generation and guides our generation growth strategy and energy trading and marketing activities associated with our generation assets. The generation mix is diversified and includes coal, nuclear, gas, oil, renewables and purchased power. Our electric generation operations currently focus on serving customers in the energy intensive Northeast, Mid-Atlantic and Midwest regions of the United States. Our generation

facilities are located in Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

S-5

Dominion Virginia Power Dominion Virginia Power manages our regulated electric distribution and electric transmission operations in Virginia and northeastern North Carolina as well as our nonregulated retail energy marketing and regulated and nonregulated customer service operations. Our regulated electric distribution operations serve approximately 2.4 million residential, commercial, industrial and governmental customer accounts in Virginia and northeastern North Carolina, and our nonregulated retail energy marketing operations serve approximately 1.7 million customer accounts in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, South and Midwest.

Dominion s address and telephone number are: 120 Tredegar Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, Telephone (804) 819-2000.

# **Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges**

Nine	Twelve		Years Ended December 31,				
Months Ended September 30, 2008	Months Ended September 30, 2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	
3.81	3.65	4.28	2.90	2.34	2.83	2.27	

S-6

# THE OFFERING

#### The Senior Notes

We are offering \$ November 30, 2018.

aggregate principal amount of the Senior Notes. The Senior Notes will mature on

The Senior Notes will be represented by one or more global certificates that will be deposited with or held on behalf of and registered in the name of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York (DTC) or its nominee. This means that you will not receive a certificate for your Senior Notes but, instead, will hold your interest through DTC s system.

# **Interest Payment Dates**

Interest on the Senior Notes will be payable semi-annually in arrears on May 30 and November 30, commencing on May 30, 2009.

#### **Record Dates**

So long as the Senior Notes remain in book-entry only form, the record date for each Interest Payment Date will be the close of business on the business day before the applicable Interest Payment Date.

If the Senior Notes are not in book-entry only form, the record date for each Interest Payment Date will be the close of business on the fifteenth calendar day prior to the applicable Interest Payment Date (whether or not a business day).

# Ranking

The Senior Notes rank equally with all of our other senior unsecured indebtedness, and are senior in right of payment to all our subordinated indebtedness. The Senior Indenture contains no restrictions on the amount of additional indebtedness that we may incur. Additionally, because we are a holding company that conducts all of our operations

through our subsidiaries, holders of Senior Notes will generally have a junior position to claims of creditors of our subsidiaries. See DESCRIPTION OF THE SENIOR NOTES Ranking on page S-20.

# **Optional Redemption**

We may redeem some or all of the Senior Notes at any time at the redemption prices described in DESCRIPTION OF THE SENIOR NOTES Optional Redemption on page S-20 plus accrued interest to the date of redemption. The Senior Notes may not be redeemed at any time at the option of the holder.

# Repurchase at the Option of Holder

Each holder of Senior Notes will have the right to require us to repurchase all or a portion of the Senior Notes held by such holder on November 30, 2013 at a purchase price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Senior Notes tendered by the holder, plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the repurchase date, as described in DESCRIPTION OF THE SENIOR NOTES Repurchase at the Option of Holder on page S-22

# No Listing of the Senior Notes

The Senior Notes are not listed and we do not plan to apply to list the Senior Notes on any securities exchange or to include them in any automated quotation system.

#### **Use of Proceeds**

We intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the Senior Notes for general corporate purposes including the repayment of short-term debt, including commercial

S-7

paper, or to repay all or part of an outstanding series of convertible debt that holders have the right to put back to us in December 2008. See USE OF PROCEEDS on page S-16.

#### RISK FACTORS

Your investment in the Senior Notes involves certain risks. Our business is influenced by many factors that are difficult to predict, involve uncertainties that may materially affect actual results and are often beyond our control. We have identified a number of these factors below. In consultation with your own financial and legal advisers, you should carefully consider, among other matters, the following discussion of risks before deciding whether an investment in the Senior Notes is suitable for you.

Our operations are weather sensitive. Our results of operations can be affected by changes in the weather. Weather conditions directly influence the demand for electricity and natural gas, and affect the price of energy commodities. In addition, severe weather, including hurricanes and winter storms, can be destructive, causing outages and property damage that require us to incur additional expenses. In addition, droughts can result in reduced water levels that could adversely affect operations at some of our power stations.

We are subject to complex governmental regulation that could adversely affect our operations. Our operations are subject to extensive federal, state and local regulation and require numerous permits, approvals and certificates from various governmental agencies. We must also comply with environmental legislation and associated regulations. Management believes that the necessary approvals have been obtained for our existing operations and that our business is conducted in accordance with applicable laws. However, new laws or regulations, the revision or reinterpretation of existing laws or regulations, or penalties imposed for non- compliance with existing laws or regulations may require us to incur additional expenses.

We could be subject to penalties as a result of mandatory reliability standards. As a result of Energy Policy Act of 2005, owners and operators of bulk power transmission systems, including Dominion, are subject to mandatory reliability standards enacted by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation and enforced by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. If we are found not to be in compliance with the mandatory reliability standards we could be subject to sanctions, including substantial monetary penalties.

Our costs of compliance with environmental laws are significant, and the cost of compliance with future environmental laws could adversely affect our cash flow and profitability. Our operations are subject to extensive federal, state and local environmental statutes, rules and regulations relating to air quality, water quality, waste management, natural resources, and health and safety. Compliance with these legal requirements requires us to commit significant capital toward permitting, emission fees, environmental monitoring, installation and operation of pollution control equipment and purchase of allowances and/or offsets. Additionally, we could be responsible for

expenses relating to remediation and containment obligations, including at sites where we have been identified by a regulatory agency as a potentially responsible party. Under United States environmental laws, an entity designated as a potentially

S-8

responsible party may be held jointly, severally and strictly liable for all such cost. Our expenditures relating to environmental compliance have been significant in the past, and we expect that they will remain significant in the future. Costs of compliance with environmental regulations could adversely affect our results of operations and financial position, especially if emission and/or discharge limits are tightened, more extensive permitting requirements are imposed, additional substances become regulated and the number and types of assets we operate increases. We cannot estimate our compliance costs with certainty due to our inability to predict the requirements and timing of implementation of any new environmental rules or regulations related to emissions. Other factors which affect our ability to predict our future environmental expenditures with certainty include the difficulty in estimating clean-up costs and quantifying liabilities under environmental laws that impose joint and several liability on all responsible parties.

If federal and/or state requirements are imposed on energy companies mandating further emission reductions, including limitations on carbon dioxide emissions, such requirements could make some of our electric generating units uneconomical to maintain or operate. Environmental advocacy groups, other organizations and some agencies are focusing considerable attention on carbon dioxide emissions from power generation facilities and their potential role in climate change. We expect that federal legislation, and possibly additional state legislation, may pass resulting in the imposition of limitations on greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel-fired electric generating units. Such limits could make certain of our electric generating units uneconomical to operate in the long term, unless there are significant improvements in the commercial availability and cost of carbon capture and sequestration technology. There are also potential impacts on our natural gas businesses as federal greenhouse gas legislation may require greenhouse gas emission reduction requirements from the natural gas sector. Several regions of the U.S. have moved forward with greenhouse gas regulations including regions where we have operations. For example, Massachusetts has implemented regulations requiring reductions in carbon dioxide emissions and the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, a cap and trade program covering carbon dioxide emissions from power plants in the Northeast, will affect several of our facilities. In addition, a number of bills have been introduced in Congress that would require greenhouse gas emissions reductions from fossil fuel-fired electric generation facilities, natural gas facilities and other sectors of the economy, although none have yet been enacted. Compliance with these greenhouse gas emission reduction requirements may require us to commit significant capital toward carbon capture and sequestration technology, purchase of allowances and/or offsets, fuel switching, and/or retirement of high-emitting generation facilities and replacement with lower emitting generation facilities. The costs of compliance with expected greenhouse gas legislation are subject to significant uncertainties due to the outcome of several interrelated assumptions and variables, including timing of the implementation of rules, required levels of reductions, allocation requirements of the new rules, the maturation and commercialization of carbon capture and sequestration technology and associated regulations, and our selected compliance

S-9

alternatives. As a result, we cannot estimate the effect of any such legislation on our results of operations, financial condition or our customers.

We are exposed to cost-recovery shortfalls because of capped base rates for our regulated electric utility. Under the Virginia Electric Utility Restructuring Act, as amended in 2004 and 2007 (Restructuring Act), our Virginia base rates remain capped through December 31, 2008. Although the Restructuring Act allows for the recovery of certain generation-related costs during the capped rates period, we remain exposed to numerous risks of cost-recovery shortfalls, such as costs related to hurricanes or other unanticipated events.

The rates charged to our Virginia jurisdictional customers by Virginia Electric and Power Company (Virginia Power) are subject to regulatory review. As a result of the Restructuring Act, commencing in 2009 the base rates of our electric utility company will be reviewed by the Virginia State Corporation Commission (Virginia Commission) under a modified cost-of-service model. Such rates will be set based on analyses of our electric utility s costs and capital structures, as reviewed and approved in regulatory proceedings. Under the Restructuring Act, the Virginia Commission may, in a proceeding conducted in 2009, reduce rates or order a credit to customers if Virginia Power is deemed to have earnings during a 2008 test period which are more than 50 basis points above a return on equity level to be established by the Virginia Commission in that proceeding. After the initial rate case, the Virginia Commission will review Virginia Power s rates biennially and may order a credit to its customers if Virginia Power is deemed to have earned more than 50 basis points above a return on equity level established by the Virginia Commission and may reduce rates if Virginia Power is found to have had earnings in excess of the established return on equity level during two consecutive biennial review periods.

Energy conservation could negatively impact our financial results. A number of regulatory and legislative bodies have introduced requirements and/or incentives to reduce energy consumption by certain dates. Conservation programs could impact our financial results in different ways. To the extent conservation resulted in reduced energy demand or significantly slowed the growth in demand, the value of our merchant generation, oil and gas exploration and production (E&P) assets and other unregulated business activities could be adversely impacted. In our regulated operations, conservation could negatively impact Dominion depending on the regulatory treatment of the associated impacts. Should we be required to invest in conservation measures that resulted in reduced sales from effective conservation, regulatory lag in adjusting rates for the impact of these measures could have a negative financial impact. We are unable to determine what impact, if any, conservation will have on our financial condition or results of operations.

Our merchant power business is operating in a challenging market, which could adversely affect our results of operations and future growth. The success of our merchant power business depends upon favorable market conditions as well as our ability to find buyers willing to enter into power purchase agreements at prices sufficient to cover operating costs. We attempt to manage these risks by entering

Table of Contents

16

into both short-term and long-term fixed price sales and purchase contracts and locating our assets in active wholesale energy markets. However, high fuel and commodity costs and excess capacity in the industry could adversely impact our results of operations.

There are risks associated with the operation of nuclear facilities. We operate nuclear facilities that are subject to risks, including the threat of terrorist attack and our ability to dispose of spent nuclear fuel, the disposal of which is subject to complex federal and state regulatory constraints. These risks also include the cost of and our ability to maintain adequate reserves for decommissioning, costs of replacement power, costs of plant maintenance and exposure to potential liabilities arising out of the operation of these facilities. We maintain decommissioning trusts and external insurance coverage to mitigate the financial exposure to these risks. However, it is possible that decommissioning costs could exceed the amount in our trusts or that costs arising from claims could exceed the amount of any insurance coverage.

The use of derivative instruments could result in financial losses and liquidity constraints. We use derivative instruments, including futures, swaps, forwards, options and financial transmission rights to manage our commodity and financial market risks. In addition, we purchase and sell commodity-based contracts primarily in the natural gas market for trading purposes. We could recognize financial losses on these contracts as a result of volatility in the market values of the underlying commodities or if the counterparty fails to perform under a contract. In the absence of actively-quoted market prices and pricing information from external sources, the valuation of these contracts involves management s judgment or use of estimates. As a result, changes in the underlying assumptions or use of alternative valuation methods could affect the reported fair value of these contracts.

In addition, we use derivatives to hedge future sales of our merchant generation and gas production, which may limit the benefit we would otherwise receive from increases in commodity prices. These hedge arrangements generally include collateral requirements that require us to deposit funds or post letters of credit with counterparties to cover the fair value of covered contracts in excess of agreed upon credit limits. When commodity prices rise to levels substantially higher than the levels where we have hedged future sales, we may be required to use a material portion of our available liquidity and obtain additional liquidity to cover these collateral requirements. In some circumstances, this could have a compounding effect on our financial liquidity and results of operations.

Derivatives designated under hedge accounting to the extent not fully offset by the hedged transaction can result in ineffectiveness losses. These losses primarily result from differences in the location and specifications of the derivative hedging instrument and the hedged item and could adversely affect our results of operations.

Our operations in regards to these transactions are subject to multiple market risks including market liquidity, counterparty credit strength and price volatility. These market risks are beyond our control and could adversely affect our results of operations and future growth.

S-11

Our Exploration & Production business is affected by factors that cannot be predicted or controlled and that could damage facilities, disrupt production or reduce the book value of our assets. Factors that may affect our financial results include, but are not limited to: damage to or suspension of operations caused by weather, fire, explosion or other events at our or third-party gas and oil facilities, fluctuations in natural gas and crude oil prices, results of future drilling and well completion activities, our ability to acquire additional land positions in competitive lease areas, drilling cost pressures, operational risks that could disrupt production, drilling rig availability and geological and other uncertainties inherent in the estimate of gas and oil reserves.

Short-term market declines in the prices of natural gas and oil could adversely affect our financial results by causing a permanent write-down of our natural gas and oil properties as required by the full cost method of accounting. Under the full cost method, all direct costs of property acquisition, exploration and development activities are capitalized. If net capitalized costs exceed the present value of estimated future net revenues based on hedge-adjusted period-end prices from the production of proved gas and oil reserves (the ceiling test) at the end of any quarterly period, then a permanent write-down of the assets must be recognized in that period.

We may not complete plant construction or expansion projects that we commence, or we may complete projects on materially different terms or timing than initially anticipated and we may not be able to achieve the intended benefits of any such project, if completed. We have announced several plant construction and expansion projects and may consider additional plant construction and expansion projects in the future. We anticipate that we will be required to seek additional financing in the future to fund our current and future plant construction and expansion projects and we may not be able to secure such financing on favorable terms. In addition, we may not be able to complete the plant construction or expansion projects on time as a result of weather conditions, delays in obtaining or failure to obtain regulatory approvals, delays in obtaining key materials, labor difficulties, difficulties with partners or other factors beyond our control. With respect to our liquified natural gas and gas transmission pipeline operations, if we do not meet designated schedules for approval and construction of our plant and expansion projects, certain of our customers may have the right to terminate their precedent agreements relating to the expansion projects. Certain of our customers may also have the right to receive liquidated damages. Even if plant construction and expansion projects are completed, the total costs of the plant construction and expansion projects may be higher than anticipated and the performance of our business following the plant construction and expansion projects may not meet expectations. Additionally, regulators may disallow recovery of some of the costs of a plant or expansion project if they are deemed not to be prudently incurred. Any of these or other factors could adversely affect our ability to realize the anticipated benefits from the plant construction and expansion projects.

An inability to access financial markets could affect the execution of our business plan. Dominion and our subsidiary, Virginia Power, rely on access to short-term money

S-12

markets, longer-term capital markets and banks as significant sources of liquidity for capital requirements and collateral requirements related to hedges of future sales of merchant generation and gas and oil production, not satisfied by the cash flows from our operations. Management believes that Dominion and Virginia Power will maintain sufficient access to these financial markets based upon current credit ratings. However, certain disruptions outside of our control may increase our cost of borrowing or restrict our ability to access one or more financial markets. Such disruptions could include an economic downturn, the bankruptcy of an unrelated energy company or changes to our credit ratings. Restrictions on our ability to access financial markets may affect our ability to execute our business plan as scheduled.

Market performance and other changes may decrease the value of decommissioning trust funds and benefit plan assets or increase our liabilities, which then could require significant additional funding. The performance of the capital markets affects the value of the assets that are held in trust to satisfy future obligations to decommission our nuclear plants and under our pension and postretirement benefit plans. We have significant obligations in these areas and hold significant assets in these trusts. These assets are subject to market fluctuation and will yield uncertain returns, which may fall below our projected return rates. A decline in the market value of the assets may increase the funding requirements of the obligations to decommission our nuclear plants and under our pension and postretirement benefit plans. Additionally, changes in interest rates affect the liabilities under our pension and postretirement benefit plans; as interest rates decrease, the liabilities increase, potentially requiring additional funding. Further, changes in demographics, including increased numbers of retirements or changes in life expectancy assumptions, may also increase the funding requirements of the obligations related to the pension benefit plans. If we are unable to successfully manage the decommissioning trust funds and benefit plan assets, our results of operation and financial position could be negatively affected.

Changing rating agency requirements could negatively affect our growth and business strategy. As of October 31, 2008, Dominion s senior unsecured debt was rated A-, stable outlook, by Standard & Poor s Ratings Services, a division of the McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. (Standard & Poor s); Baa2, stable outlook, by Moody s Investors Service (Moody s); and BBB+, stable outlook, by Fitch Ratings Ltd. (Fitch). In order to maintain our current credit ratings in light of existing or future requirements, we may find it necessary to take steps or change our business plans in ways that may adversely affect our growth and earnings per share. A reduction in Dominion s credit ratings or the credit ratings of our Virginia Power subsidiary by Standard & Poor s, Moody s or Fitch could increase our borrowing costs and adversely affect operating results and could require us to post additional collateral in connection with some of our price risk management activities.

Potential changes in accounting practices may adversely affect our financial results. We cannot predict the impact that future changes in accounting standards or practices may have on public companies in general, the energy industry or our operations specifically. New accounting

S-13

standards could be issued that could change the way we record revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities. These changes in accounting standards could adversely affect our reported earnings or could increase reported liabilities.

Failure to retain and attract key executive officers and other skilled professional and technical employees could have an adverse effect on our operations. Our business is dependent on our ability to recruit, retain and motivate employees. Competition for skilled employees in some areas is high and the inability to retain and attract these employees could adversely affect our business and future operating results.

Continued delays in the recovery of fuel costs at Virginia Power could negatively affect its cash flow, which could adversely affect our results of operations. Virginia Power has a statutory right to recover from customers all prudently incurred fuel costs through fuel factors which have been implemented in our Virginia and North Carolina jurisdictions. However, as a result of increasing fuel costs and a statutory limitation on the amount of fuel recovery that can be collected from Virginia jurisdictional customers in the July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 fuel factor period, Virginia Power has deferred a significant amount of fuel costs. Deferred recovery of fuel costs could have a negative impact on Virginia Power s cash flow. The recent fluctuations in fuel prices may make it difficult to accurately predict fuel costs. In the future, if actual fuel costs incurred during the fuel factor period exceed the estimate of costs which the Virginia Commission has approved for recovery in that period, we will not have authority to recover the excess costs through fuel rates until the following year when a new factor is determined. To the extent that such deferrals occur, the resulting delays in the current recovery of fuel costs could negatively impact Virginia Power s cash flow, which could adversely affect our results of operations.

# **DOMINION**

Dominion, headquartered in Richmond, Virginia, is one of the nation s largest producers and transporters of energy. Dominion also operates the nation s largest natural gas storage network and serves retail energy customers in 12 states. As of September 30, 2008, we had approximately \$41.4 billion in assets.

We currently manage our operations through three primary business segments that are designed to streamline operations and position us for long-term growth in the competitive energy marketplace by focusing on our electric and gas products and services. They are:

Dominion Energy Dominion Energy manages our 14,000 miles of natural gas transmission, gathering and storage pipeline, and a 975 billion cubic foot natural gas storage network. This business segment includes our Ohio regulated natural gas distribution operations that serve approximately 1.2 million residential, commercial and industrial gas sales and transportation customers. Dominion Energy also operates our Cove Point, Maryland liquefied natural gas import and storage facility. In addition, it oversees our natural gas production located in the Appalachian Basin and producer services, which aggregates gas supply, engages in trading and marketing activities, provides market-based

services related to fuel and gas supply management, and supplies price risk management services to Dominion affiliates.

S-14

Dominion Generation Dominion Generation manages our approximately 27,000 megawatt portfolio of merchant and regulated utility electric power generation and guides our generation growth strategy and energy trading and marketing activities associated with our generation assets. The generation mix is diversified and includes coal, nuclear, gas, oil, renewables and purchased power.

Our electric generation operations currently focus on serving customers in the energy intensive Northeast, Mid-Atlantic and Midwest regions of the United States. Our generation facilities are located in Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Dominion Virginia Power Dominion Virginia Power manages our regulated electric distribution and electric transmission operations in Virginia and northeastern North Carolina, as well as our nonregulated retail energy marketing and regulated and nonregulated customer service operations. Our regulated electric distribution operations serve approximately 2.4 million residential, commercial, industrial and governmental customer accounts in Virginia and northeastern North Carolina and our nonregulated retail energy marketing operations serve approximately 1.7 million customer accounts in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, South and Midwest.

# **Principal Subsidiaries**

Our principal direct, legal subsidiaries include Virginia Electric and Power Company, a regulated public utility that generates, transmits and distributes electricity for sale in Virginia and northeastern North Carolina, Dominion Energy, Inc., which is involved in merchant generation, energy marketing and risk management activities and natural gas exploration and production in the Appalachian basin of the U.S., Dominion Transmission, Inc., which operates a regulated interstate natural gas transmission pipeline and underground storage system in the Northeast, mid-Atlantic and Midwest states and is engaged in the production, gathering and extraction of natural gas in the Appalachian basin, Virginia Power Energy Marketing, Inc., which provides fuel, gas supply management and risk management services to other Dominion affiliates and engages in energy trading activities, Dominion Retail, Inc. which provides energy and energy related services to 1.7 million customers in 12 states, including electricity customers in Texas, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Ohio, Maine, New York and Maryland, Dominion Exploration & Production, Inc., which explores for, develops and produces natural gas and oil in the Appalachian basin of the U.S., and The East Ohio Gas Company, our Ohio regulated natural gas distribution subsidiary.

#### Other

We expect that changes occurring in our industry and in the marketplace generally may create opportunities for acquisitions of assets or business combinations consistent with our strategic principles. We regularly evaluate opportunities that we identify or learn about that may either increase shareholder value or build on our existing asset platform. We sometimes participate in discussions, bidding or negotiation processes related to these potential transactions. Material strategic acquisitions or business combinations may require us to

S-15

access external financing sources, including debt and equity capital markets.

For more information about us, see WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION on page S-3.

# **USE OF PROCEEDS**

We intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the Senior Notes for general corporate purposes including the repayment of short-term debt, including commercial paper. As of November 21, 2008, we had an aggregate of approximately \$678 million in outstanding commercial paper with a weighted average yield of 5.5% per year and a weighted average maturity of approximately 10 days.

A portion of the proceeds may also be used to repay some or all of our 2004 Series C 2.125% Convertible Senior Notes due 2023, of which \$202 million aggregate principal amount is outstanding and which holders have the right to put back to us in December 2008.

S-16

#### **CAPITALIZATION**

The table below shows our unaudited capitalization on a consolidated basis as of September 30, 2008.

The As Adjusted for Other Offering column reflects our capitalization after giving effect to a November offering by our Virginia Electric and Power Company subsidiary of \$700,000,000 2008 Series B 8.875% Senior Notes Due 2038 (the Other Offering ). The As Fully Adjusted column reflects our capitalization after giving effect to the Other Offering and this offering of Senior Notes and the intended use of the net proceeds from all of these offerings. You should read this table along with our audited financial statements contained in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007, as well as the unaudited information presented in our most recent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed for the quarter ended September 30, 2008. See WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION on page S-3 and USE OF PROCEEDS on page S-16.

		(unaudited) September 30, 2008			
	Actual	(in millions) As Adjusted for Other Offering	As Fully Adjusted		
Short-term debt <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 3,205	\$ 2,511	\$		
Long-term debt:					
Senior Notes and other long-term debt	13,051	13,751			
Junior Subordinated Debentures payable to affiliated trusts	268	268	268		
Junior Subordinated Notes	798	798	798		
Total long-term debt <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	14,117	14,817			
Subsidiary preferred stock not subject to mandatory redemption <sup>(4)</sup>	257	257	257		
Total common shareholders equity	10,465	10,465	10,465		
Total capitalization	\$ 28,044	\$ 28,050	\$		

- (1) Includes securities due within one year, which includes a \$0.6 million deferred loss on fair value hedges.
- (2) Includes a \$10.0 million deferred gain on fair value hedges.
- (3) Includes the effect of unamortized discount (\$57.0 million) net of unamortized premium (\$23.5 million).
- (4) Includes the effect of preferred stock issuance expenses (\$1.9 million).

S-17

#### RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

For purposes of this ratio, earnings are determined by adding distributed income of equity investees and fixed charges (excluding interest capitalized) to income before income taxes and minority interest after eliminating the equity in earnings or losses of equity investees. These earnings are then divided by total fixed charges. Fixed charges consist of interest charges (without reduction for Allowance for Funds Used During Construction) on long-term and short-term debt, interest capitalized, the portion of rental expense that is representative of the interest factor and preferred stock dividends of consolidated subsidiaries (grossed-up by a factor of pre-tax net income divided by net income).

The ratio of earnings to fixed charges for each of the periods indicated is as follows:

Nine	Twelve		Yea	rs Ended December	31,	
Months Ended September 30, 2008 <sup>(a)</sup>	Months Ended September 30, 2008 (b)	2007 <sup>(c)</sup>	2006 <sup>(d)</sup>	2005 <sup>(e)</sup>	2004 <sup>(f)</sup>	2003 <sup>(g)</sup>
3.81	3.65	4.28	2.90	2.34	2.83	2.27

- (a) Earnings for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 include \$83 million of impairment charges reflecting other-than-temporary declines in the fair value of securities held in merchant nuclear decommissioning trust funds, \$59 million of impairment charges related to Dominion Capital, Inc. (DCI) assets, and a \$42 million reduction in the gain recognized in 2007 from the sale of the majority of our U.S. exploration and production (E&P) businesses as a result of post-closing adjustments. Earnings for the period also include a \$46 million benefit related to the planned sale of two natural gas distribution utilities, The Peoples Natural Gas Company (Peoples) and Hope Gas, Inc. (Hope), and a \$7 million benefit related to other items. Excluding these items from the calculation would result in a higher ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the nine months ended September 30, 2008.
- (b) Earnings for the twelve months ended September 30, 2008 include \$99 million of impairment charges reflecting other-than-temporary declines in the fair value of securities held in nuclear decommissioning trust funds, \$61 million of impairment charges related to DCI assets, a \$46 million benefit related to the planned sale of Peoples and Hope, and \$2 million of charges related to other items. Excluding these items from the calculation would result in a higher ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the twelve months ended September 30, 2008.
- (c) Earnings for the twelve months ended December 31, 2007 include a \$3.6 billion gain from the disposition of the majority of our U.S. E&P operations, partially offset by \$1 billion of charges related to the disposition which are comprised of \$541 million related to the discontinuance of hedge accounting for certain gas and oil derivatives and subsequent changes in the fair value of these derivatives, \$171 million primarily related to the settlement of volumetric production payment agreements, \$242 million of charges related to the early retirement of debt, and \$91 million of employee-related expenses. Earnings for the period also include a \$387 million charge related to the impairment of the partially-completed Dresden generation facility; a \$231 million charge due to the termination of a power sales agreement at our State Line generating facility; \$88 million of impairment charges related to DCI assets; \$48 million of charges related to litigation reserves, and \$70 million of charges related to other items. Fixed charges for the twelve months ended December 31, 2007 include \$234 million of costs related to the early retirement of debt associated with our debt tender offer completed in July 2007. Excluding these items from the calculation would result in a lower ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the twelve months ended December 31, 2007.
- (d) Earnings for the twelve months ended December 31, 2006 include \$189 million of charges related to the planned sale of two natural gas distribution utilities, Peoples and Hope, including \$166 million resulting from the write-off of certain regulatory assets, \$90 million of impairment charges related to DCI assets, a \$60 million charge due to an adjustment eliminating the application of hedge accounting related to certain interest rate swaps associated with our junior subordinated notes payable to affiliated trusts, a \$27 million charge resulting from the termination of a pipeline project in West Virginia, a \$26 million impairment charge resulting from a change in method of assessing other-than-temporary decline in the fair value of certain securities, \$17 million of incremental charges related to hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and \$9 million of net charges related to other items. Excluding these items from the calculation would result in a higher ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the twelve months ended December 31, 2006.
- (e) Earnings for the twelve months ended December 31, 2005 include a \$423 million charge reflecting the de-designation of hedge contracts resulting from the delay of natural gas and oil production following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, \$73 million in charges resulting from the termination of certain long-term power purchase contracts, \$21 million in net charges related to trading activities discontinued in 2004, including the Batesville long-term power-tolling contract divested in the second quarter of 2005 and other activities, \$35 million of impairment charges related to DCI assets, a \$76 million charge related to miscellaneous asset impairments, a \$28 million charge related to expenses following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and \$5 million of charges related to other items. Excluding these items from the calculation would result in a higher ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the twelve months ended December 31, 2005.

(-)

Earnings for the twelve months ended December 31, 2004 include \$76 million of impairment charges related to Dominion s investment in and planned divestiture of DCI, a \$23 million benefit associated with the disposition of certain assets held for sale, an \$18 million benefit from the reduction of accrued expenses associated with Hurricane Isabel restoration activities, \$96 million of losses related to the discontinuance of hedge accounting for certain oil

S-18

- hedges and subsequent changes in the fair value of those hedges during the third quarter following Hurricane Ivan, \$71 million in charges resulting from the termination of certain long-term power purchase contracts, a \$184 million charge related to the Batesville long-term power-tolling contract divested in the second quarter of 2005, and \$22 million of charges related to net legal settlements and other items. Excluding these items from the calculation would result in a higher ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the twelve months ended December 31, 2004.
- (g) Earnings for the twelve months ended December 31, 2003 include a \$134 million impairment of DCI assets, \$28 million for severance costs related to workforce reductions, an \$84 million impairment of certain assets held for sale, \$197 million for restoration expenses related to Hurricane Isabel, a \$105 million charge related to the termination of a power purchase contract, \$64 million in charges for the restructuring and termination of certain electric sales contracts and a \$144 million charge related to our investment in Dominion Telecom including impairments, the cost of refinancing, and reallocation of equity losses. Excluding these items from the calculation would result in a higher ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the twelve months ended December 31, 2003.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF THE SENIOR NOTES**

Set forth below is a description of the specific terms of the Senior Notes. This description supplements, and should be read together with, the description of the general terms and provisions of the Senior Debt Securities set forth in the accompanying base prospectus under the caption DESCRIPTION OF SENIOR DEBT SECURITIES and, to the extent it is inconsistent with the accompanying base prospectus, replaces the description in the accompanying base prospectus. The Senior Notes will be issued under an indenture dated as of June 1, 2000, as supplemented and amended from time to time by supplemental indentures, including by the Thirty Eighth Supplemental and Amending Indenture, dated as of November 1, 2008. The following description is not complete in every detail and is subject to, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to, the description of the Senior Debt Securities in the accompanying base prospectus, the Senior Indenture and the Thirty-Eighth Supplemental and Amending Indenture. Capitalized terms used in this DESCRIPTION OF THE SENIOR NOTES that are not defined in this prospectus supplement have the meanings given to them in the accompanying base prospectus, the Senior Indenture or the Thirty-Eighth Supplemental and Amending Indenture, as applicable. In this DESCRIPTION OF THE SENIOR NOTES section, references to Dominion, we, us and our mean Dominion Resources, Inc., excluding any of its subsidiaries unless otherwise expressly stated or the context otherwise requires.

# expressly stated of the context otherwise require.

#### General

The Senior Notes will be an unsecured senior obligation of Dominion. The Senior Notes will be initially limited in aggregate principal amount to \$ . We may, without the consent of the existing holders of the Senior Notes, issue additional notes having the same ranking and the same interest rate, maturity and other terms as the Senior Notes. Any additional notes having such similar terms, together with the Senior Notes, will constitute a single series of notes under the Senior Indenture.

The entire principal amount of the Senior Notes will mature and become due and payable, together with any accrued and unpaid interest, on November 30, 2018. The Senior Notes are not subject to any sinking fund provision. The Senior Notes are available for purchase in denominations of \$1,000 and any greater integral multiple of \$1,000.

# **Ranking**

The Senior Notes are our direct, unsecured and unsubordinated obligations, will rank equally with all of our other senior unsecured debt, will be senior in right of payment to all of our subordinated indebtedness, and will be effectively subordinated to our secured debt, if any.

Because we are a holding company and conduct all of our operations through our subsidiaries, our ability to meet our obligations under the Senior Notes is dependent on the earnings and cash flows of those subsidiaries and the ability of those subsidiaries to pay dividends or to advance or repay funds to us. Holders of Senior Notes will generally have a junior position to claims of creditors of our subsidiaries, including trade creditors, debtholders, secured creditors, taxing authorities, guarantee holders and any preferred stockholders. As of September 30, 2008, Virginia Power had approximately 2.59 million issued and outstanding shares of preferred stock with an aggregate liquidation preference of \$259 million. Additionally, as of September 30, 2008, ou