

DOMINION RESOURCES INC /VA/
 Form 424B5
 October 16, 2002
Table of Contents

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)
 Registration No. 333-97393

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT
 (To Prospectus Dated August 9, 2002)

26,500,000 Shares

Dominion Resources, Inc.

Common Stock

All of the shares of common stock being offered are being sold by Dominion. Our common stock is listed and traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol **D**. The shares of common stock offered by this prospectus supplement will also be listed on the New York Stock Exchange. The reported last sale price of our common stock on the New York Stock Exchange on October 15, 2002 was \$41.15 per share.

Investing in our common stock involves risks. For a description of these risks, see Risk Factors beginning on page S-8.

| | <u>Public Offering Price</u> | <u>Underwriting Discounts and Commissions</u> | <u>Proceeds to Dominion</u> |
|-----------|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Per Share | \$40.50 | \$1.0733 | \$39.4267 |
| Total | \$1,073,250,000 | \$28,442,450 | \$1,044,807,550 |

The underwriters may also purchase up to an additional 3,975,000 shares of common stock from us at the public offering price less underwriting discounts and commissions within 30 days of the date of this prospectus supplement to cover overallocments, if any.

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 prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The shares of common stock will be ready for delivery on or about October 21, 2002.

Joint Book-Running Managers

Merrill Lynch & Co.

Morgan Stanley

Banc of America Securities LLC
Goldman, Sachs & Co.
Salomon Smith Barney

Wachovia Securities

Credit Suisse First Boston

Gerard Klauer Mattison
Lehman Brothers
McDonald Investments Inc.
Scotia Capital

UBS Warburg

The date of this prospectus supplement is October 15, 2002.

Table of Contents**TABLE OF CONTENTS****Prospectus Supplement**

| | <u>Page</u> |
|--|-------------|
| <u>Where You Can Find More Information</u> | S-2 |
| <u>Forward Looking Information</u> | S-3 |
| <u>Prospectus Supplement Summary</u> | S-4 |
| <u>Risk Factors</u> | S-8 |
| <u>Use of Proceeds</u> | S-11 |
| <u>Selected Consolidated Financial Information</u> | S-12 |
| <u>Common Stock Price Range and Dividends</u> | S-13 |
| <u>Capitalization</u> | S-14 |
| <u>Underwriting</u> | S-15 |
| <u>Legal Matters</u> | S-17 |

Prospectus

| | <u>Page</u> |
|---|-------------|
| <u>About This Prospectus</u> | 2 |
| <u>Where You Can Find More Information</u> | 2 |
| <u>Dominion</u> | 3 |
| <u>Use of Proceeds</u> | 4 |
| <u>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u> | 5 |
| <u>Description of Debt Securities</u> | 6 |
| <u>Description of Capital Stock</u> | 32 |
| <u>Virginia Stock Corporation Act and the Articles and the Bylaws</u> | 33 |
| <u>Plan of Distribution</u> | 37 |
| <u>Legal Opinions</u> | 38 |
| <u>Experts</u> | 38 |

This document is in two parts. The first part is the prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of the shares of common stock we are offering and certain other matters relating to us and our financial condition. The second part, the prospectus, gives more general information about securities we may offer from time to time, some of which does not apply to the common stock we are offering. Generally, when we refer to the prospectus, we are referring to both parts of this document combined. To the extent the description of the common stock in the prospectus supplement differs from the description of common stock in the accompanying prospectus, you should 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. We and the underwriters have not authorized 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 document 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.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our SEC filings are available to the public over the Internet at the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>. You may also read and copy any document we file at the SEC's public reference room

Table of Contents

in Washington, D.C. 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 them, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus and later information that we file 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 we sell all of the securities:

- Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001;
- Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2002 and June 30, 2002; and
- Current Reports on Form 8-K/A and Form 8-K, filed January 11, 2002, January 29, 2002, March 15, 2002, March 18, 2002, June 25, 2002, August 7, 2002, September 11, 2002, September 17, 2002 and October 15, 2002.

You may request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at: Corporate Secretary, Dominion, 120 Tredegar Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, Telephone (804) 819-2000.

FORWARD LOOKING INFORMATION

We have included certain information in this document 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 document. This information, by its nature, involves estimates, projections, forecasts and uncertainties that could cause actual results or outcomes to differ substantially from those expressed.

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. We have identified a number of these factors in our most recent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, under the heading Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Risk Factors and Cautionary Statements That May Affect Future Results, which is incorporated by reference in this prospectus, and we refer you to that report for further information. The factors identified include weather conditions, fluctuations in energy-related commodities prices and the effect these could have on our earnings and the underlying value of our assets, trading counterparty credit risk, capital market conditions, changes in rating agency requirements, changes in accounting standards, the risks of operating businesses in regulated industries that are in the process of becoming deregulated and completing the divestiture of Dominion Capital, Inc. and CNG International. Although we strive to mitigate market risk through our risk management activities, changes in commodity prices can have an adverse impact on our earnings and asset values.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

In this prospectus supplement, the words Dominion, Company, we, our and us refer to Dominion Resources, Inc., a Virginia corporation, and its subsidiaries and predecessors.

The following summary contains basic information about this offering. It may not contain all the information that is important to you. The Description of Capital Stock and Virginia Stock Corporation Act and the Articles and the Bylaws sections of the accompanying prospectus contain more detailed information regarding the common stock. 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 prospectus.

THE OFFERING

| | |
|--|--|
| Common stock offered | 26,500,000 shares ¹ |
| Common stock to be outstanding after this offering | 305,528,936 shares ^{1,2} |
| Use of proceeds | General corporate purposes, including the repayment of debt and equity contributions to subsidiaries |
| New York Stock Exchange symbol | D |

¹ Does not include up to 3,975,000 shares that may be offered to the underwriters to cover overallotments

² Based on 279,028,936 shares outstanding as of September 30, 2002

DOMINION

Dominion is a fully integrated gas and electric energy holding company headquartered in Richmond, Virginia. As of September 30, 2002, we had approximately \$36.2 billion in assets.

Our primary operating segments are:

Dominion Energy Dominion Energy manages our 24,000 megawatt portfolio of electric power generation assets, our 7,700 miles of gas transmission pipeline and a 960 billion cubic foot natural gas storage network. It also guides our generation growth strategy and our commodity trading, marketing and risk management activities. We currently operate generation facilities in Connecticut, Indiana, Illinois, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. Dominion Energy will also manage our Cove Point, Maryland liquefied natural gas facility that we acquired from a subsidiary of The Williams Companies on September 5, 2002.

Dominion Delivery Dominion Delivery manages our local electric and gas distribution systems serving 3.8 million customers, our 6,000 miles of electric transmission lines and our customer service operations. We currently operate electric transmission as well as gas and electric distribution systems in Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Ohio. Dominion Delivery also includes our managing equity interest in Dominion Fiber Ventures, LLC, which owns Dominion Telecom with its 15,600 route-mile fiber optic network (including 5,600 route-miles of lit fiber) and related telecommunications and advanced data services located principally in the eastern half of the United States.

Table of Contents

Dominion Exploration & Production Dominion Exploration & Production manages our onshore and offshore oil and gas exploration and production activities. With approximately 5.7 trillion cubic feet of proved natural gas equivalent reserves and 450 billion cubic feet of annual production, Dominion Exploration & Production is one of the nation's largest independent oil and gas operators. We operate on the outer continental shelf and deep water areas of the Gulf of Mexico, western Canada, the Appalachian Basin, the Permian Basin, the Mid-Continent Region and other selected regions in the continental United States.

Competitive Strengths

We believe that we are well positioned in our industry based on our following competitive strengths:

Size and Scale Our size and scale give us the critical mass needed to provide the financial strength, flexibility and economies of scale necessary to compete in the evolving energy marketplace. In addition, we believe our size has provided us with better access to capital and improved opportunities for expansion.

MAIN to Maine Focus We are concentrating our efforts in the Midwest, Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions of the United States, which we call the MAIN to Maine region. In the power industry, MAIN means the Mid-America Interconnected Network, which comprises all of Illinois and portions of the states of Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan and Minnesota. The MAIN to Maine region is home to approximately 40% of the nation's demand for energy.

Integrated Asset Base We have the capability to discover and produce gas, store it, sell it or use it to generate power; we can generate electricity to sell to customers in our retail markets or in wholesale transactions. These capabilities give us the ability to produce and sell energy in whatever form we find most useful and economic. We also operate North America's largest natural gas storage system, which gives us the flexibility to provide supply when it is most economically advantageous to do so. As a fully integrated enterprise active in all aspects of the energy supply chain, we have the ability to maximize the value of our energy portfolio to enhance our return on invested capital.

Market Knowledge We capitalize on our in-depth knowledge of our trading and customer markets. Specifically, our knowledge of the energy trading market allows us to not only manage market risks but also to maximize the value of our energy portfolio. As our industry deregulates, we know that we must also remain focused on reliably and efficiently serving our customer base in order to retain existing customers and add new ones.

Investor Focus The financial interests of our employees and management are strongly aligned with the interests of our investor base. Our employees and management own more than 14.8 million shares and together would be one of Dominion's largest shareholders. Incentive programs in the form of stock options further align the interests of our employees with those of our investors.

Table of Contents

Principal Subsidiaries

Dominion's principal legal subsidiaries include Virginia Electric and Power Company (Dominion Virginia Power), a regulated public utility engaged in the generation, transmission, distribution and sale of electric energy in Virginia and northeastern North Carolina, Consolidated Natural Gas Company (CNG), a producer, transporter, distributor and retail marketer of natural gas serving customers in Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, New York and various cities in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic and Dominion Energy, Inc., an independent power and natural gas subsidiary.

Other

Because of the changes our industry is undergoing we continue to encounter opportunities for acquisitions of assets and business combinations that would be consistent with our strategic principles. We regularly investigate any opportunities we learn about that may increase shareholder value or build on our existing asset platform. We often participate in bidding and negotiating processes for those transactions. Any acquisitions or combinations of this type will likely require us to access external financing sources or issue additional equity. Additionally, recent capital conditions in our industry have weakened some of our competitors and may require some of our competitors to divest assets, which may increase acquisition opportunities for us.

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

For additional information about our company, see [Where You Can Find More Information](#) on page S-2.

Table of Contents**RECENT DEVELOPMENTS***Third Quarter Earnings*

On October 14, 2002, we announced third-quarter earnings of \$1.54 per diluted share, a 12% increase over the \$1.37 per diluted share for the same period a year ago. The major contributors to this increase were:

- comparatively higher temperatures and customer growth in our regulated electric service territory;
- an increase in gas and oil production principally as a result of the acquisition of Louis Dreyfus Natural Gas Corp. in the fourth quarter of 2001;
- discontinuance of goodwill amortization effective January 1, 2002; and
- the recognition of certain state income tax benefits.

These factors were partially offset by:

- comparatively lower electric prices and additional nuclear outage costs; and
- a lower contribution by our energy clearinghouse operations.

We have set forth below certain summary consolidated income statement information and other financial data for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2002, as compared with the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2001.

Summary of Operating Results (unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------|--|-------------|
| | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 |
| | (in millions, except per share amounts) | | | |
| Operating revenue | \$ 2,597 | \$ 2,544 | \$ 7,563 | \$ 8,051 |
| Operating expenses | 1,761 | 1,764 | 5,392 | 6,257 |
| Income from operations | 836 | 780 | 2,171 | 1,794 |
| Other income | 39 | 31 | 91 | 71 |
| Interest and related charges | 234 | 250 | 713 | 760 |
| Income before income taxes | 641 | 561 | 1,549 | 1,105 |
| Income taxes | 211 | 217 | 525 | 444 |
| Net income | 430 | 344 | 1,024 | 661 |
| Earnings per common share basic | 1.55 | 1.38 | 3.73 | 2.67 |
| Earnings per common share diluted | 1.54 | 1.37 | 3.71 | 2.65 |
| Dividends paid per common share | .645 | .645 | 1.935 | 1.935 |

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

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 in our periodic reports filed with the SEC including our most recent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2002, under the heading *Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Risk Factors and Cautionary Statements That May Affect Future Results*, which is specifically incorporated by reference into this prospectus. See *Where You Can Find More Information* on page S-2 in this prospectus supplement. Risk factors that may affect us and our common stock include:

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, winter storms and droughts, can be destructive, causing outages, property damage and requiring us to incur additional expenses.

We are Subject to Complex Government Regulation Which Could Adversely Affect Our Operations Our operations are subject to extensive regulation and require numerous permits, approvals and certificates from various federal, state and local governmental agencies. We must also comply with environmental legislation and other regulations. Our management believes the necessary approvals have been obtained for our existing operations and that our business is conducted in accordance with applicable laws. However, we remain subject to a varied and complex body of laws and regulations. New laws or regulations or the revision or reinterpretation of existing laws or regulations may require us to incur additional expenses.

Costs of Environmental Compliance, Liabilities and Litigation Could Exceed Our Estimates We are subject to rising costs that result from a steady increase in the number of federal, state and local laws and regulations designed to protect the environment. These laws and regulations can result in increased capital, operating and other costs as a result of compliance, remediation, containment and monitoring obligations, particularly with laws relating to power plant emissions. In addition, we may be a responsible party for environmental clean up at a site identified by a regulatory body. Our management cannot predict with certainty the amount and timing of all future expenditures related to environmental matters because of the difficulty of estimating clean up costs and compliance and the possibility that changes will be made to the current environmental laws and regulations. There is also uncertainty in quantifying liabilities under environmental laws that impose joint and several liability on all potentially responsible parties.

Capped Electric Rates in Virginia May Be Insufficient to Allow Full Recovery of Stranded Costs Under the Virginia Utility Restructuring Act, our electric base rates (excluding fuel costs and certain other allowable adjustments) remain unchanged until July 2007 unless modified consistent with that Act. The capped rates and wires charges that, where applicable, will be assessed to customers opting for alternative suppliers allow us to recover certain

Table of Contents

generation-related costs and fuel costs; however, we remain exposed to numerous risks of cost-recovery shortfalls. These include exposure to potentially stranded costs, future environmental compliance requirements, changes in tax laws, inflation and increased capital costs. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Future Issues and Outlook-Regulated Electric Operations and Note 27 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Dominion's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001.

The Electric Generation Business is Increasingly Subject to Competition Effective January 1, 2002, the generation portion of our electric utility operations in Virginia is open to competition and is no longer subject to cost-based rate regulation. As a result there will be increased pressure to lower costs, including the cost of purchased electricity. Because our electric utility generation business has not previously operated in a competitive environment, the extent and timing of entry by additional competitors into the electric market in Virginia is unknown. Therefore, it is difficult to predict the extent to which we will be able to operate profitably within this new environment. In addition, the success of our merchant power plants is dependent upon our ability to find buyers willing to enter into power purchase agreements at prices sufficient to cover our operating costs. Recent short term, depressed spot and forward wholesale power prices during the past summer months have resulted in lower than expected revenues in our merchant power business and, if this continues into the future, will negatively affect our earnings.

There Are Inherent Risks in the Operation of Nuclear Facilities We operate nuclear facilities that are subject to inherent risks. These include the ability to dispose of spent nuclear fuel, the disposal of which is subject to complex federal and state regulatory constraints, the cost of and our ability to maintain adequate reserves for decommissioning, 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 minimize the financial exposure to these risks. However, it is possible that costs arising from claims could exceed the amount of any insurance coverage. In addition, in today's environment there is a heightened risk of a terrorist attack on the nation's nuclear plants. We expect to incur increased security costs at our nuclear facilities.

The Use of Derivative Contracts Could Result in Financial Losses We use derivatives including futures, forwards, options and swaps, to manage our commodity and financial market risks. In addition, we purchase and sell commodity-based contracts in the natural gas, electricity and oil markets for trading purposes. In the future, we could recognize financial losses on these contracts as a result of volatility in the market values of the underlying commodities or if a 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 financial instruments 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 value of the reported fair value of these contracts. For additional information concerning our derivatives and commodity-based trading contracts, see Management's Discussion

Table of Contents

and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Market Rate Sensitive Instruments and Risk Management and Notes 2 and 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Dominion's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001.

We are Exposed to Market Risks Beyond Our Control in Our Energy Clearinghouse Operations Our energy clearinghouse and risk management operations are subject to multiple market risks including market liquidity, counterparty credit strength and price volatility. Many industry participants have experienced severe business downturns during the past year resulting in some being forced to exit or curtail their participation in the energy trading markets. This has led to a reduction in the number of trading partners, lower industry trading revenues and lower than expected revenues in our energy clearinghouse operations. Declining credit worthiness of some of our trading parties may limit the level of our trading activities with these parties and increase the risk that these counterparties may not perform under a contract.

The Success of Our Telecommunications Business Strategy is Dependent Upon Market Conditions The current strategy of our joint venture in the telecommunications business is based upon our ability to deliver lit capacity, dark fiber and colocation services to our customers. The market for these services, like the telecommunications industry in general, is rapidly changing. We cannot be certain that growth in demand for these services will occur as expected. If the market for these services fails to grow as quickly as anticipated or becomes saturated with competitors, including competitors using alternative technologies such as wireless, our investment in the telecommunications business may be adversely affected. Additionally, the current market values of assets in the telecommunications industry have been subject to depressed market conditions; if these conditions continue, it could adversely affect the underlying value of our telecommunications investment.

Our Exploration and Production Business is Dependent on Factors Including Commodity Prices Which Cannot Be Predicted or Controlled Our exploration and production business is subject to numerous risks beyond our control. These factors include fluctuations in natural gas and crude oil prices, results of future drilling and well completion activities and our ability to acquire additional land positions in competitive lease areas. Some of those factors could have compounding effects that could further affect our financial results. For example, because we follow the full cost method of accounting for gas and oil exploration and production activities, short-term market declines in the prices of natural gas and oil could adversely affect our financial results. Under the full cost method, all direct costs of property acquisition, exploration and development activities are capitalized. The principal limitation is that these capitalized amounts may not exceed the present value of estimated future net revenues from the production of proved gas and oil reserves (the ceiling test). If net capitalized costs exceed the ceiling test at the end of any quarterly period, then a permanent write-down of the assets must be recognized in that period.

An Inability to Access Financial Markets Could Affect the Execution of Our Business Plan We rely on access to both short-term money markets and longer-term capital markets as a significant source of liquidity for capital requirements not satisfied by the cash flow of our operations. Our

Table of Contents

management believes that Dominion and its subsidiaries 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.

Changing Rating Agency Requirements Could Negatively Affect Our Growth and Business Strategy Our senior unsecured debt is rated by Standard & Poor's Ratings Group, a division of the McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. and Moody's Investor Service, Inc. Both agencies have recently implemented new requirements for various ratings levels. In order to maintain our current credit ratings in light of these or future new 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.

Potential Changes in Accounting Practices May Adversely Affect Our Financial Results Recently discovered accounting irregularities in various industries have caused regulators and legislators to take a renewed look at accounting practices, financial disclosures and companies' relationships with their independent auditors. While it is still unclear what laws or regulations will develop, we cannot predict the ultimate impact of any future changes in accounting regulations or practices in general with respect to public companies, the energy industry or in our operations specifically.

In addition, new accounting standards could be enacted by the Financial Accounting Standards Board or the SEC which could impact the way we are required to record revenues, assets and liabilities. These changes in accounting standards could lead to negative impacts on reported earnings or increases in liabilities which in turn could affect our reported results of operations.

USE OF PROCEEDS

We intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the shares of common stock for general corporate purposes, including the repayment of debt and equity contributions to subsidiaries. The debt may include a portion of our short-term debt, including commercial paper of Dominion or CNG. At September 30, 2002, the weighted average maturity of Dominion's approximately \$574 million of outstanding commercial paper was approximately 23 days and the weighted average interest rate was 1.98%. At September 30, 2002, the weighted average maturity of CNG's approximately \$723 million of outstanding commercial paper was approximately 16 days and the weighted average interest rate was 2.03%.

Table of Contents**SELECTED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

The following summary of financial information for the years ended December 31, 1999 through 2001 and the six months ended June 30, 2002 and 2001 was derived from, and should be read in conjunction with, the audited consolidated financial statements contained in our Annual Reports on Form 10-K for the periods ended December 31, 2001 and 2000 as well as the unaudited information presented in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the periods ended June 30, 2002 and 2001. See *Where You Can Find More Information* on page S-2.

| | Six Months Ended June 30, | | Year Ended December 31, | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------|----------|----------|
| | 2002 | 2001 | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
| | (in millions, except per share data) | | | | |
| Income statement information, for period ended | | | | | |
| Total revenues | \$ 4,966 | \$ 5,507 | \$ 10,558 | \$ 9,246 | \$ 5,520 |
| Income before income taxes, minority interests, cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle and extraordinary item | 908 | 544 | 914 | 600 | 829 |
| Income before extraordinary items and cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle | 593 | 318 | 544 | 415 | 552 |
| Net income | 593 | 318 | 544 | 436 | 297 |
| Earnings per common share basic | 2.18 | 1.29 | 2.17 | 1.85 | 1.55 |
| Earnings per common share diluted | 2.16 | 1.27 | 2.15 | 1.85 | 1.48 |
| Dividends paid per common share | 1.29 | 1.29 | 2.58 | 2.58 | 2.58 |
| Balance sheet information, at period end | | | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 225 | 476 | 486 | 360 | 280 |
| Total assets | 35,407 | 32,253 | 34,369 | 29,297 | 17,782 |
| Short-term debt ¹ | 3,203 | 2,466 | 3,213 | 3,573 | 1,406 |
| Long-term debt | 12,374 | 12,130 | 12,119 | 10,101 | 6,936 |
| Obligated mandatorily redeemable preferred securities of subsidiary trusts | 1,132 | 935 | 1,132 | 385 | 385 |
| Subsidiary preferred stock not subject to mandatory redemption | 384 | 509 | 384 | 509 | 509 |
| Total common shareholders equity | 8,698 | 7,190 | 8,368 | 7,000 | 4,774 |

¹ Includes securities due within one year.

Table of Contents**COMMON STOCK PRICE RANGE AND DIVIDENDS**

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol D. The following table sets forth the range of intra-day high and low sale prices, as reported on the NYSE Composite Tape, and the cash dividends declared on the common stock for the periods indicated:

| Price Range | High | Low | Dividends |
|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1999 | | | |
| First Quarter | \$ 47 ¹ / ₁₆ | \$ 36 ⁷ / ₈ | \$ 0.645 |
| Second Quarter | 44 ¹³ / ₁₆ | 36 ⁹ / ₁₆ | 0.645 |
| Third Quarter | 47 ³ / ₁₆ | 43 | 0.645 |
| Fourth Quarter | 49 ³ / ₈ | 39 ¹ / ₄ | 0.645 |
| 2000 | | | |
| First Quarter | \$ 43 ¹ / ₈ | \$ 34 ¹³ / ₁₆ | \$ 0.645 |
| Second Quarter | 47 ¹ / ₂ | 38 ¹ / ₁₆ | 0.645 |
| Third Quarter | 59 ¹³ / ₁₆ | 42 ¹³ / ₁₆ | 0.645 |
| Fourth Quarter | 67 ¹⁵ / ₁₆ | 50 ³ / ₄ | 0.645 |
| 2001 | | | |
| First Quarter | \$ 68.00 | \$ 55.31 | \$ 0.645 |
| Second Quarter | 69.99 | 59.47 | 0.645 |
| Third Quarter | 64.15 | 55.13 | 0.645 |
| Fourth Quarter | 62.97 | 55.30 | 0.645 |
| 2002 | | | |
| First Quarter | \$ 65.97 | \$ 56.39 | \$ 0.645 |
| Second Quarter | 67.06 | 60.59 | 0.645 |
| Third Quarter | 66.15 | 47.97 | 0.645 |
| Fourth Quarter (through October 15, 2002) | 52.00 | 36.49 | 0.645 |

On October 15, 2002, the reported last sale price of the common stock on the NYSE was \$41.15 per share.

Dividends on our common stock are paid as declared by Dominion's board of directors. On October 11, 2002 our board of directors declared a dividend of \$0.645 per share payable on December 20, 2002 to shareholders of record on December 2, 2002. Dividends are typically paid on the 20th of March, June, September and December. Dividends can be paid by check or electronic deposit, or may be reinvested.

As of September 30, 2002, we had 279,028,936 shares of common stock outstanding.

Table of Contents**CAPITALIZATION**

The table below shows our capitalization on a consolidated basis as of June 30, 2002. The **As Adjusted for Completed Offerings** column reflects our capitalization after giving effect to our September 16, 2002 issuance of \$520 million 5.70% Senior Notes Due 2012 in exchange for \$250 million of our 7.40% Remarketable Notes Due 2012 and \$200 million of our Floating Rate Remarketable Notes Due 2012 and the subsequent retirement of these Remarketable Notes (the **Completed Offerings**), and the use of the net proceeds from the **Completed Offerings**.

The **As Fully Adjusted** column reflects our capitalization after giving effect to the **Completed Offerings**, this offering of common stock (not including any exercise of the underwriters' overallotment option), and the use of the net proceeds from these offerings before expenses.

You should read this table along with our audited consolidated financial statements contained in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K. See **Where You Can Find More Information** on page S-3.

| | As of June 30, 2002 | | |
|---|---------------------|---|----------------------|
| | Actual | As Adjusted for Completed Offerings | As Fully Adjusted |
| | (in millions) | | |
| Short-term debt ¹ | \$ 3,203 | \$ 3,200 | \$ 2,155 |
| Long-term debt: | | | |
| Equity-linked debt securities | 743 | 743 | 743 |
| Remarketable senior notes | 700 | 250 | 250 |
| Other long-term debt | 10,890 | 11,410 | 11,410 |
| Total long-term debt^{2, 3} | 12,333 | 12,403 | 12,403 |
| Obligated mandatorily redeemable preferred securities of subsidiary trusts ⁴ | 1,132 | 1,132 | 1,132 |
| Subsidiary preferred stock not subject to mandatory redemption ⁴ | 384 | 384 | 384 |
| Total common shareholders' equity | 8,698 | 8,698 | 9,743 |
| Total capitalization | \$ 25,750 | \$ 25,817 | \$ 25,817 |

¹ Includes securities due within one year.

² Actual June 30, 2002 amounts exclude the effect of unamortized discount (\$13 million) and deferred gains on fair value hedges (\$54 million). Amounts adjusted for Completed Offerings and fully adjusted amounts exclude the effect of unamortized discount (\$76 million) and deferred gains on fair value hedges (\$54 million).

³ Does not reflect approximately \$1.2 billion of project costs incurred to date by special purpose entities with which Dominion, through subsidiaries, has entered into agreements to finance and lease several new power generation projects, corporate headquarters and aircraft. Also excludes \$665 million of 7.05% Senior Secured Notes due March 2005 of Dominion Fiber Ventures, LLC, an entity that is not consolidated in Dominion's financial statements. See Notes 27 and 29 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Dominion's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001.

⁴ Does not reflect the issuance of \$400 million of obligated mandatorily redeemable preferred securities issued by an affiliated trust of Dominion Virginia Power on August 16, 2002 and the redemptions of \$135 million of other obligated mandatorily redeemable preferred securities and \$250 million of variable rate preferred stock.

Table of Contents**UNDERWRITING**

Under the terms and subject to the conditions contained in an underwriting agreement dated October 15, 2002, we have agreed to sell to the underwriters and the underwriters have severally agreed to purchase from us the number of shares of common stock listed opposite their names below.

| <u>Underwriter</u> | <u>Number of Shares</u> |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated | 9,251,149 |
| Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated | 9,251,149 |
| Banc of America Securities LLC | 1,293,200 |
| Goldman, Sachs & Co. | 1,293,200 |
| Salomon Smith Barney Inc. | 1,293,200 |
| Wachovia Securities, Inc. | 1,293,200 |
| Credit Suisse First Boston Corporation | 404,567 |
| Gerard Klauer Mattison & Co., Inc. | 404,567 |
| Lehman Brothers Inc. | 404,567 |
| McDonald Investments Inc. | 404,567 |
| Scotia Capital (USA) Inc. | 404,567 |
| UBS Warburg LLC | 404,567 |
| BB&T Capital Markets, a Division of Scott & Stringfellow, Inc. | 397,500 |
| Total | 26,500,000 |

Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated are acting as representatives of the underwriters in connection with the sale of the common stock.

The underwriters have agreed to purchase all of the shares of common stock sold under the underwriting agreement if any of the shares are purchased. If an underwriter defaults, the underwriting agreement provides that the purchase commitments of the nondefaulting underwriters may be increased or the underwriting agreement may be terminated.

The underwriters are offering the shares of common stock, subject to prior sale, when, as and if issued to and accepted by them, subject to conditions contained in the underwriting agreement. The underwriters reserve the right to withdraw, cancel or modify offers to the public and to reject orders in whole or in part.

The representatives have advised us that the underwriters initially propose to offer the common stock to the public at the public offering price on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and to certain dealers at that price less a concession of no more than \$0.6976 per share. The underwriters may allow, and the dealers may reallow, a discount not in excess of \$0.10 per share to other dealers. After the initial public offering, the public offering price and other selling terms may be changed.

We have granted the underwriters an option to purchase up to 3,975,000 additional shares of common stock at the public offering price on the cover page of this prospectus supplement, less underwriting discounts and commissions, for the purpose of covering any overallotments. The option will be exercisable in whole or in part for 30 days after the date of this prospectus supplement. If they exercise the option, each of the underwriters will be obligated to purchase its pro rata portion of the shares for which the option is exercised, based on the proportion of its initial commitment shown in the above table. If the underwriters' overallotment option is exercised in full, the total public offering price would be \$1,234,237,500, the total underwriting discounts and commissions would be \$32,708,818 and the total proceeds, before expenses, to us would be \$1,201,528,683.

We will indemnify the underwriters against certain liabilities, including

S-15

Table of Contents

liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or contribute to payments of this type that they may be required to make.

We estimate that our out-of-pocket expenses for this offering will be approximately \$350,000.

Dominion and our executive officers and directors have each agreed that, subject to limited exceptions, without the prior written consent of Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated on behalf of the underwriters, we will not during the period ending 60 days after the date of this prospectus supplement, directly or indirectly:

offer, pledge, sell, contract to sell, sell any option or contract to purchase, purchase any option or contract to sell, grant any option, right or warrant to purchase, lend or otherwise transfer or dispose of any shares of our common stock or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for shares of common stock, or file any registration statement under the Securities Act with respect to any of the above; or

enter into any swap or other arrangement that transfers to another, in whole or in part, any of the economic consequences of ownership of shares of our common stock, whether any such transaction described above is to be settled by delivery of shares of common stock or such other securities, in cash or otherwise.

These restrictions do not apply to:

the issuance by Dominion of any shares of common stock upon the exercise of an option or warrant, or the conversion of a security outstanding on the date of this prospectus supplement;

the creation or re-creation of Dominion's stock purchase units or the issuance of shares of common stock upon early settlement of Dominion's stock purchase units;

the issuance by Dominion of shares of common stock, or options to purchase any shares of common stock granted, or the sale by any of our executive officers or directors of common stock received as dividends, in connection with our employee benefit plans, employee share purchase plans, non-employee director stock plans, dividend reinvestment plans and the Dominion Direct Investment plan;

the sale or surrender to Dominion by any of our executive officers or directors of any options or shares of common stock underlying options in order to pay the exercise price or taxes associated with the exercise of options;

the issuance by us of shares of common stock in connection with acquisitions that close more than 60 days after this offering or any acquisition in which the party receiving the shares of common stock agrees to be bound by such restrictions;

transactions by any person other than Dominion relating to shares of common stock or other securities acquired in open market transactions after the completion of the offering of the shares of common stock; or

the filing by Dominion of a shelf registration statement from which Dominion will not offer any such securities during the 60-day period.

Table of Contents

In connection with the offering, the underwriters may make short sales of our shares of common stock. Short sales involve the sale by the underwriters, at the time of the offering, of a greater number of shares than they are required to purchase in the offering. Covered short sales are sales made in an amount not greater than the over-allotment option. The representatives may close out any covered short position by either exercising the overallotment option or purchasing shares in the open market. In determining the source of shares to close out the covered short position, the representatives will consider, among other things, the price of shares available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase the shares through the overallotment option. Naked short sales are sales in excess of the overallotment option. The representatives must close out any naked short position by purchasing shares in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the representatives are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the shares in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering. Similar to other purchase transactions, the purchases by the representatives to cover syndicate short positions may have the effect of raising or maintaining the market price of the common stock or preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the common stock. As a result, the price of the common stock may be higher than it would otherwise be in the absence of these transactions.

Neither we nor the underwriters make any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above may have on the price of the common stock. In addition, neither we nor the underwriters makes any representation that the underwriters will engage in such transactions or that such transactions, once commenced, will not be discontinued without notice.

Some of the underwriters have from time to time provided investment or commercial banking services to us and our affiliates in the past and are likely to do so in the future. They receive customary fees and commissions for these services.

Some of the underwriters or their affiliates may receive a portion of the net proceeds of this offering. See Use of Proceeds . If more than 10% of the net proceeds of this offering is to be paid to the underwriters or their affiliates, the NASD Conduct Rules require that the offering be conducted by the underwriters in compliance with NASD Rule 2710(c)(8).

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters in connection with the offering of the common shares will be passed upon for Dominion by McGuireWoods LLP, and for the underwriters by Troutman Sanders LLP, who also performs certain legal services for us and our affiliates on other matters.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS

DOMINION RESOURCES, INC.

120 Tredegar Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
(804) 819-2000

\$4,500,000,000

Senior Debt Securities

Junior Subordinated Debentures

Trust Preferred Securities, Related Guarantee and Agreement
as to Expenses and Liabilities

Common Stock

Preferred Stock

Stock Purchase Contracts

Stock Purchase Units

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this Prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

This prospectus is dated August 9, 2002.

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission utilizing a shelf registration process. Under this shelf process, we may, from time to time, sell any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings up to a total dollar amount of \$4,500,000,000. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we sell securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. Material United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the offered securities will also be discussed in the applicable prospectus supplement as necessary. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with additional information described under the heading WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION. When we use the terms we, our or the Company in this prospectus, we are referring to Dominion Resources, Inc. and not Dominion Resources Capital Trust IV.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our SEC filings are available to the public over the Internet at the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>. You may also read and copy any document we file at the SEC's public reference room in Washington, D.C. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference rooms. 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 them, 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, and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and 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 until we sell all of the securities.

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001;

Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2002;

Current Reports on Form 8-K/A and Form 8-K filed January 11, 2002, January 29, 2002, March 15, 2002, March 18, 2002 and June 25, 2002; and

The description of our common stock contained in Form 8-B (Item 4) dated April 29, 1983.

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, (804) 819-2000.

Table of Contents

You should rely only on the information contained in this document or to which this document refers you. We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized 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 in this document may only be accurate as of the date of this document. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date.

DOMINION

Dominion is a fully integrated gas and electric energy holding company headquartered in Richmond, Virginia. As of March 31, 2002, we had approximately \$35 billion in assets.

Our primary operating segments are:

Dominion Energy Dominion Energy manages our 24,000 megawatt portfolio of electric power generation, our 7,600 miles of gas transmission pipeline and a 959 billion cubic foot natural gas storage network. It also guides our generation growth strategy and our commodity trading, marketing and risk management activities. We currently operate generation facilities in Connecticut, Indiana, Illinois, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. Dominion's interstate pipeline and storage network is located in New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

Dominion Delivery Dominion Delivery manages our local electric and gas distribution systems serving 3.8 million customers, our 6,000 miles of electric transmission lines and our customer service operations. We currently operate electric transmission and gas and electric distribution systems in Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Ohio. Dominion Delivery also includes our managing equity interest in Dominion Fiber Ventures, LLC, which owns Dominion Telecom, Inc. with its 15,600 route-mile fiber optic network (including 5,600 route miles of lit fiber).

Dominion Exploration & Production Dominion Exploration & Production manages our onshore and offshore gas and oil exploration and production activities. With approximately 5.7 trillion cubic feet equivalent of proved natural gas reserves and 450 billion cubic feet of annual production, Dominion Exploration & Production is one of the nation's leading independent gas and oil operators. We operate on the outer continental shelf and deep water areas of the Gulf of Mexico, western Canada, the Appalachian Basin, the Permian Basin, the Mid-Continent Region and other selected regions in the continental United States.

Principal Legal Subsidiaries

Dominion's principal legal subsidiaries include Virginia Electric and Power Company (Dominion Virginia Power), a regulated public utility engaged in the generation, transmission, distribution and sale of electric energy in Virginia and northeastern North Carolina, and Consolidated Natural Gas Company, a producer, transporter, distributor and retail marketer of natural gas serving customers in Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia and various cities in the Northeast and

Table of Contents

Mid-Atlantic. Dominion's other major legal subsidiaries include Dominion Energy, Inc., an independent power and natural gas subsidiary.

Dominion's address and telephone number are 120 Tredegar Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, telephone (804) 819-2100.

For additional information about Dominion, see WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION on page 2.

THE TRUST

Dominion Resources Capital Trust IV is a statutory business trust formed under Delaware law by us, as sponsor for the Trust, and Chase Manhattan Bank USA, National Association, who will serve as trustee in the State of Delaware for the purpose of complying with the provisions of the Delaware Business Trust Act. The trust agreement for the Trust will be amended and restated substantially in the form filed as an exhibit to the registration statement, effective when securities of the Trust are initially issued. The amended trust agreement will be qualified as an indenture under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939.

The Trust exists for the exclusive purposes of

issuing two classes of trust securities, Trust Preferred Securities and trust common securities, which together represent undivided beneficial interests in the assets of the Trust;

investing the gross proceeds of the trust securities in a series of our Junior Subordinated Debentures;

making distributions; and

engaging in only those other activities necessary, advisable or incidental to the purposes listed above.

The Junior Subordinated Debentures will be the sole assets of the Trust, and our payments under the Junior Subordinated Debentures issued to the Trust and the Agreement as to Expenses and Liabilities will be the sole revenue of the Trust.

No separate financial statements of the Trust are included in this prospectus. We consider that these financial statements would not be material to holders of the Trust Preferred Securities because the Trust has no independent operations and the purpose of the Trust is as described above. The Trust is not required to file annual, quarterly or special reports with the SEC.

The principal place of business of the Trust will be c/o Dominion Resources, Inc., 120 Tredegar Street, Richmond, VA 23219.

USE OF PROCEEDS

The net proceeds from the sale of the securities offered by this prospectus will be to finance capital expenditures and future acquisitions, and to retire or redeem debt securities issued by us as authorized by the SEC under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 and for other general corporate purposes.

Table of Contents**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:

| Twelve Months Ended March 31, 2002 ¹ | Twelve Months Ended December 31, | | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------|------|------|-------------------|
| | 2001 ² | 2000 ³ | 1999 | 1998 | 1997 ⁴ |
| 2.05 | 1.82 | 1.56 | 2.35 | 2.28 | 1.91 |

¹ Earnings for the twelve months ended March 31, 2002 include a one-time \$40 million charge associated with the divestiture of Saxon Capital, Inc., a \$281 million charge from a write-down of Dominion Capital, Inc. assets, a \$151 million charge associated with Dominion's estimated Enron exposure, and \$105 million in restructuring charges associated with senior management restructuring initiative and other restructuring costs. Excluding these items from the calculation above results in a ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the twelve months ended March 31, 2002 of 2.58x.

² Earnings for the twelve months ended December 31, 2001 include a one-time \$220 million charge related to the buyout of power purchase contracts and non-utility generating plants previously serving the company under long-term contracts, a one-time \$40 million charge associated with the divestiture of Saxon Capital, Inc., a \$281 million charge from a write-down of Dominion Capital assets, a \$151 million charge associated with Dominion's estimated Enron exposure, and \$105 million in restructuring charges associated with a senior management restructuring initiative and other restructuring costs. Excluding these items from the calculation above results in a ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the twelve months ended December 31, 2001 of 2.56x.

³ Earnings for the twelve months ended December 31, 2000 include \$579 million in restructuring and other acquisition-related costs resulting from the CNG acquisition and a write-down at Dominion Capital, Inc. Excluding these items from the calculation above results in a ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the twelve months ended December 31, 2000 of 2.10x.

⁴ Earnings for the twelve months ended December 31, 1997 include the one-time charge of \$157 million for the windfall profits tax levied by the United Kingdom government. Excluding this charge from the calculation above results in a ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the twelve months ended December 31, 1997 of 2.12x.

TRANSITIONAL PRO FORMA INCOME

Dominion adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 142, *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets*, on January 1, 2002. SFAS No. 142 prohibits the amortization of goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite useful lives and requires that these assets be reviewed for impairment at least annually. Intangible assets with finite lives will continue to be amortized over their estimated useful lives. Dominion completed the transitional goodwill impairment test during the second quarter of 2002 and found no instances of impairment.

The discontinuance of goodwill amortization under SFAS No. 142 will result in an increase in net income of \$95 million

Table of Contents

in 2002. Had the provisions of SFAS No. 142 requiring the discontinuance of goodwill amortization been applied for the years ended December 31, 2001, 2000, and 1999, Dominion's income before extraordinary item and cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle, net income and earnings per share would have been as follows:

| | Amount | Basic Earnings Per Share | Diluted Earnings Per Share |
|---|------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| | (millions) | | |
| 2001 | | | |
| Reported net income | \$544 | \$2.17 | \$2.15 |
| Add: Goodwill amortization | 95 | 0.38 | 0.38 |
| Adjusted net income | \$639 | \$2.55 | \$2.53 |
| 2000 | | | |
| As reported: | | | |
| Income before cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle | \$415 | \$1.76 | \$1.76 |
| Net income | 436 | 1.85 | 1.85 |
| Add: Goodwill amortization | 83 | 0.35 | 0.35 |
| As adjusted: | | | |
| Income before cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle | 498 | 2.11 | 2.11 |
| Net income | \$519 | \$2.20 | \$2.20 |
| 1999 | | | |
| As reported: | | | |
| Income before extraordinary item | \$552 | \$2.88 | \$2.81 |
| Net income | 297 | 1.55 | 1.48 |
| Add: Goodwill amortization | 6 | 0.03 | 0.03 |
| As adjusted: | | | |
| Income before extraordinary item | 558 | 2.91 | 2.84 |
| Net income | \$303 | \$1.58 | \$1.51 |

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

The term Debt Securities includes the Senior Debt Securities and the Junior Subordinated Debentures. We will issue the Senior Debt Securities in one or more series under our Senior Indenture dated as of June 1, 2000 between us and JPMorgan Chase Bank (formerly known as The Chase Manhattan Bank) as Trustee, as supplemented from time to time. We will issue the Junior Subordinated Debentures in one or more series under our Junior Subordinated Indenture dated as of December 1, 1997 between us and JPMorgan Chase Bank as Trustee, as supplemented from time to time. The indenture related to the Junior Subordinated Debentures is called the Subordinated Indenture in this prospectus, and together, the Senior Indenture and the Subordinated Indenture are called Indentures. We have summarized selected provisions of the Indentures below. The Senior Indenture and the Subordinated Indenture have been filed as exhibits to the registration statement and you should read the Indentures for provisions that may be important to you. In the summary below, we have included references to section numbers of the Indentures so that you can easily locate these provisions. Capitalized terms used in the summary have the meanings specified in the Indentures.

General

The Senior Debt Securities will be our direct, unsecured obligations and will rank equally with all of our other senior and unsubordinated debt. The Junior Subordinated Debentures will be our unsecured obligations and are junior in right of payment to our Senior Indebtedness, as described under the caption ADDITIONAL TERMS OF THE JUNIOR SUBORDINATED DEBENTURES SUBORDINATION.

Because we are a holding company that conducts all of our operations through our

Table of Contents

subsidiaries, our ability to meet our obligations under the Debt Securities 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 Debt Securities 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 March 31, 2002, Dominion Virginia Power had approximately 3.84 million issued and outstanding shares of preferred stock. In addition to trade debt, all of our operating subsidiaries have ongoing corporate debt programs used to finance their business activities. As of March 31, 2002, our subsidiaries had approximately \$9.2 billion of outstanding long-term debt (including securities due within one year).

Neither of the Indentures limits the amount of Debt Securities that we may issue under it. We may issue Debt Securities from time to time under the Indentures in one or more series by entering into supplemental indentures or by our Board of Directors or duly authorized officers authorizing the issuance. A form of supplemental indenture to each of the Indentures is an exhibit to the registration statement.

The Indentures do not protect the holders of Debt Securities if we engage in a highly leveraged transaction.

Provisions of a Particular Series

The Debt Securities of a series need not be issued at the same time, bear interest at the same rate or mature on the same date. Unless otherwise provided in the terms of a series, a series may be reopened, without notice to or consent of any holder of outstanding Debt Securities, for issuances of additional Debt Securities of that series. The prospectus supplement for a particular series of Debt Securities will specify the terms of that series, including, if applicable, some or all of the following:

the title and type of the Debt Securities;

the total principal amount of the Debt Securities;

the portion of the principal payable upon acceleration of maturity, if other than the entire principal;

the date or dates on which principal is payable or the method for determining the date or dates, and any right that we have to change the date on which principal is payable;

the interest rate or rates, if any, or the method for determining the rate or rates, and the date or dates from which interest will accrue;

any interest payment dates and the regular record date for the interest payable on each interest payment date, if any;

any payments due if the maturity of the Debt Securities is accelerated;

any optional redemption terms, or, with respect to the Senior Debt Securities, any repayment terms;

any provisions that would obligate us to repurchase or otherwise redeem the Debt Securities, or, with respect to the Senior Debt Securities, any sinking fund provisions;

the currency in which payments will be made if other than U.S. dollars, and the manner of determining the equivalent of those amounts in U.S. dollars;

Table of Contents

if payments may be made, at our election or at the holder's election, in a currency other than that in which the Debt Securities are stated to be payable, then the currency in which those payments may be made, the terms and conditions of the election and the manner of determining those amounts;

any index or formula used for determining principal, interest, or premium, if any;

the percentage of the principal amount at which the Debt Securities will be issued, if other than 100% of the principal amount;

whether the Debt Securities will be issued in fully registered certificated form or book-entry form, represented by certificates deposited with, or on behalf of, a securities depository and registered in the name of the depository's nominee (Book-Entry Debt Securities);

denominations, if other than \$1,000 each or multiples of \$1,000;

any changes to events of defaults or covenants; and

any other terms of the Debt Securities. (*Sections 201 & 301 of the Senior Indenture & Sections 2.1 & 2.3 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

The prospectus supplement will also indicate any special tax implications of the Debt Securities and any provisions granting special rights to holders when a specified event occurs.

Conversion or Redemption

No Debt Security will be subject to conversion, amortization, or redemption, unless otherwise provided in the applicable prospectus supplement. Any provisions relating to the conversion or redemption of Debt Securities will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, including whether conversion is mandatory or at our option. If no redemption date or redemption price is indicated with respect to a Debt Security, we may not redeem the Debt Security prior to its stated maturity. Debt Securities subject to redemption by us will be subject to the following terms:

redeemable on and after the applicable redemption dates;

redemption dates and redemption prices fixed at the time of sale and set forth on the Debt Security; and

redeemable in whole or in part (provided that any remaining principal amount of the Debt Security will be equal to an authorized denomination) at our option at the applicable redemption price, together with interest, payable to the date of redemption, on notice given not more than 60 nor less than 20 days prior to the date of redemption. (*Section 1104 of the Senior Indenture & Section 3.2 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

We will not be required to:

issue, register the transfer of, or exchange any Debt Securities of a series during the period beginning 15 days before the date the notice is mailed identifying the Debt Securities of that series that have been selected for redemption; or

register the transfer of, or exchange any Debt Security of that series selected for redemption except the unredeemed portion of a Debt Security being partially redeemed. (*Section 305 of the Senior Indenture & Section 2.5 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

Table of Contents

Payment and Transfer; Paying Agent

The paying agent will pay the principal of any Debt Securities only if those Debt Securities are surrendered to it. Unless we state otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the paying agent will pay principal, interest and premium, if any, on Debt Securities, subject to such surrender, where applicable, at its office or, at our option:

by wire transfer to an account at a banking institution in the United States that is designated in writing to the Trustee prior to the deadline set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement by the person entitled to that payment (which in the case of Book-Entry Debt Securities is the securities depository or its nominee); or

by check mailed to the address of the person entitled to that interest as that address appears in the security register for those Debt Securities. (*Sections 307 & 1001 of the Senior Indenture & Section 4.1 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

Neither we nor the Trustee will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of beneficial ownership interests in a Book-Entry Debt Security, or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to the beneficial ownership interests. We expect that the securities depository, upon receipt of any payment of principal, interest or premium, if any, in a Book-Entry Debt Security, will credit immediately the accounts of the related participants with payment in amounts proportionate to their respective holdings in principal amount of beneficial interest in the Book-Entry Debt Security as shown on the records of the securities depository. We also expect that payments by participants to owners of beneficial interests in a Book-Entry Debt Security will be governed by standing customer instructions and customary practices, as is now the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in street name and will be the responsibility of the participants.

Unless we state otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the Trustee will act as paying agent for the Debt Securities, and the principal corporate trust office of the Trustee will be the office through which the paying agent acts. We may, however, change or add paying agents or approve a change in the office through which a paying agent acts. (*Section 1002 of the Senior Indenture & Section 4.4 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

Any money that we have paid to a paying agent for principal or interest on any Debt Securities which remains unclaimed at the end of two years after that principal or interest has become due will be repaid to us at our request. After any repayment, holders should look only to us for those payments. (*Section 1003 of the Senior Indenture & Section 12.4 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

Fully registered securities may be transferred or exchanged at the corporate trust office of the Trustee or at any other office or agency we maintain for those purposes, without the payment of any service charge except for any tax or governmental charge. (*Section 1002 of the Senior Indenture & Section 2.5 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

Table of Contents

Global Securities

We may issue some or all of the Debt Securities as Book-Entry Debt Securities. Book-Entry Debt Securities will be represented by one or more fully registered global certificates. Book-Entry Debt Securities of like tenor and terms up to \$500,000,000 aggregate principal amount may be represented by a single global certificate. Each global certificate will be deposited and registered with the securities depository or its nominee or a custodian for the securities depository. Unless it is exchanged in whole or in part for Debt Securities in definitive form, a global certificate may generally be transferred only as a whole unless it is being transferred to certain nominees of the depository. (*Section 305 of the Senior Indenture & Section 2.5 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

Unless otherwise stated in any prospectus supplement, The Depository Trust Company will act as the securities depository. Beneficial interests in global certificates will be shown on, and transfers of global certificates will be effected only through, records maintained by the securities depository and its participants. If there are any additional or differing terms of the depository arrangement with respect to the Book-Entry Debt Securities, we will describe them in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Holders of beneficial interests in Book-Entry Debt Securities represented by a global certificate are referred to as beneficial owners. Beneficial owners will be limited to institutions having accounts with the securities depository or its nominee, which are called participants in this discussion, and to persons that hold beneficial interests through participants. When a global certificate representing Book-Entry Debt Securities is issued, the securities depository will credit on its book-entry, registration and transfer system the principal amounts of Book-Entry Debt Securities the global certificate represents to the accounts of its participants. Ownership of beneficial interests in a global certificate will be shown only on, and the transfer of those ownership interests will be effected only through, records maintained by:

the securities depository, with respect to participants' interests; and

any participant, with respect to interests the participant holds on behalf of other persons.

As long as the securities depository or its nominee is the registered holder of a global certificate representing Book-Entry Debt Securities, that person will be considered the sole owner and holder of the global certificate and the Book-Entry Debt Securities it represents for all purposes. Except in limited circumstances, beneficial owners:

may not have the global certificate or any Book-Entry Debt Securities it represents registered in their names;

may not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of certificated Book-Entry Debt Securities in exchange for the global certificate; and

will not be considered the owners or holders of the global certificate or any Book-Entry Debt Securities it represents for any purposes under the Debt Securities or the Indentures. (*Section 2.2 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

We will make all payments of principal, interest and premium, if any, on a

Table of Contents

Book-Entry Debt Security to the securities depository or its nominee as the holder of the global certificate. The laws of some jurisdictions require that certain purchasers of securities take physical delivery of securities in definitive form. These laws may impair the ability to transfer beneficial interests in a global certificate.

Payments participants make to beneficial owners holding interests through those participants will be the responsibility of those participants. The securities depository may from time to time adopt various policies and procedures governing payments, transfers, exchanges and other matters relating to beneficial interests in a global certificate. None of the following will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the securities depository's or any participant's records relating to beneficial interests in a global certificate representing Book-Entry Debt Securities, for payments made on account of those beneficial interests or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to those beneficial interests:

Dominion;

the Trustee;

the Trust (only with respect to the Junior Subordinated Debentures if the Junior Subordinated Debentures are issued to a Trust); or

any agent of any of the above.

Covenants

Under the Indentures we will:

pay the principal, interest and premium, if any, on the Debt Securities when due;

maintain a place of payment;

deliver an officer's certificate to the Trustee at the end of each fiscal year confirming our compliance with our obligations under each of the Indentures; and

deposit sufficient funds with any paying agent on or before the due date for any principal, interest or premium, if any. (*Sections 1001, 1002, 1003 & 1006 of the Senior Indenture & Sections 4.1, 4.2, 4.4 & 4.6 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

Consolidation, Merger or Sale

The Indentures provide that we may consolidate or merge with or into, or sell all or substantially all of our properties and assets to, another corporation or other entity, provided that any successor assumes our obligations under the Indentures and the Debt Securities issued under the Indentures. We must also deliver an opinion of counsel to the Trustee affirming our compliance with all conditions in the applicable Indenture relating to the transaction. When the conditions are satisfied, the successor will succeed to and be substituted for us under the Senior Indenture, and we will be relieved of our obligations under the Senior Indenture and the Debt Securities issued under them. (*Sections 801 & 802 of the Senior Indenture & Sections 11.1, 11.2 & 11.3 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

Events of Default

Event of Default when used in each of the Indentures, will mean any of the following:

failure to pay the principal or any premium on any Debt Security when due;

with respect to the Senior Debt Securities, failure to deposit any sinking fund

Table of Contents

payment when due that continues for 60 days;

failure to pay any interest on any Debt Securities of that series, when due, that continues for 60 days (or for 30 days in the case of any Junior Subordinated Debentures); provided that, if applicable, for this purpose, the date on which interest is due is the date on which we are required to make payment following any deferral of interest payments by us under the terms of Junior Subordinated Debentures that permit such deferrals;

failure to perform any other covenant in the Indentures (other than a covenant expressly included solely for the benefit of other series) that continues for 90 days after the Trustee or the holders of at least 33% of the outstanding Debt Securities (25% in the case of the Junior Subordinated Debentures) of that series give us written notice of the default;

certain events in bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of Dominion; or

any other Event of Default included in the Indentures or any supplemental indenture. (*Section 501 of the Senior Indenture & Section 6.1 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

In the case of a general covenant default described above, the Trustee may extend the grace period. In addition, if holders of a particular series have given a notice of default, then holders of at least the same percentage of Debt Securities of that series, together with the Trustee, may also extend the grace period. The grace period will be automatically extended if we have initiated and are diligently pursuing corrective action.

An Event of Default for a particular series of Debt Securities does not necessarily constitute an Event of Default for any other series of Debt Securities issued under the Indentures. Additional events of default may be established for a particular series and, if established, will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

If an Event of Default for any series of Debt Securities occurs and continues, the Trustee or the holders of at least 33% (25%, in the case of the Junior Subordinated Debentures) in aggregate principal amount of the Debt Securities of the series may declare the entire principal of all the Debt Securities of that series to be due and payable immediately. If this happens, subject to certain conditions, the holders of a majority of the aggregate principal amount of the Debt Securities of that series can void the trust agreement. (*Section 502 of the Senior Indenture & Section 6.1 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

The Trustee may withhold notice to the holders of Debt Securities of any default (except in the payment of principal or interest) if it considers the withholding of notice to be in the best interests of the holders. Other than its duties in case of a default, a Trustee is not obligated to exercise any of its rights or powers under the Indentures at the request, order or direction of any holders, unless the holders offer the Trustee reasonable indemnity. If they provide this reasonable indemnification, the holders of a majority in principal amount of any series of Debt Securities may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding or any remedy available to the Trustee, or exercising any power conferred upon the Trustee, for any series of Debt Securities. (*Sections 512, 601 & 602 of the*

Table of Contents

Senior Indenture & Sections 6.6, 7.1 & 7.2 of the Subordinated Indenture.)

The holder of any Debt Security will have an absolute and unconditional right to receive payment of the principal, any premium and, within certain limitations, any interest on that Debt Security on its maturity date or redemption date and to enforce those payments. *(Section 508 of the Senior Indenture & Section 14.2 of the Subordinated Indenture.)*

Satisfaction; Discharge

We may discharge all our obligations (except those described below) to holders of the Debt Securities issued under the Indentures, which Debt Securities have not already been delivered to the Trustee for cancellation and which either have become due and payable or are by their terms due and payable within one year, or are to be called for redemption within one year, by depositing with the Trustee an amount certified to be sufficient to pay when due the principal, interest and premium, if any, on all outstanding Debt Securities. However, certain of our obligations under the Indentures will survive, including with respect to the following:

remaining rights to register the transfer, conversion, substitution or exchange of Debt Securities of the applicable series;

rights of holders to receive payments of principal of, and any interest on, the Debt Securities of the applicable series, and other rights, duties and obligations of the holders of Debt Securities with respect to any amounts deposited with the Trustee; and

the rights, obligations and immunities of the Trustee under the Indentures. *(Section 401 of Senior Indenture & Section 12.1 of Subordinated Indenture.)*

Under federal income tax law, a discharge may be treated as an exchange of the related Debt Securities. Each holder might be required to recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between the holder's cost or other tax basis for the Debt Securities and the value of the holder's interest in the defeasance trust. Holders might be required to include as income a different amount than would be includable without the discharge. We urge prospective investors to consult their own tax advisers as to the consequences of a discharge, including the applicability and effect of tax laws other than the federal income tax law.

Modification of Indentures; Waiver

Under the Indentures our rights and obligations and the rights of the holders may be modified with the consent of the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Debt Securities of each series affected by the modification. No modification of the principal or interest payment terms, and no modification reducing the percentage required for modifications, is effective against any holder without its consent. *(Section 902 of the Senior Indenture & Section 10.2 of the Subordinated Indenture.)* In addition, we may supplement the Indentures to create new series of Debt Securities and for certain other purposes, without the consent of any holders of Debt Securities. *(Section 901 of the Senior Indenture & Section 10.1 of the Subordinated Indenture.)*

The holders of a majority of the outstanding Debt Securities of all series

Table of Contents

under the applicable Indenture with respect to which a default has occurred and is continuing may waive a default for all those series, except a default in the payment of principal or interest, or any premium, on any Debt Securities or a default with respect to a covenant or provision which cannot be amended or modified without the consent of the holder of each outstanding Debt Security of the series affected. (*Section 513 of the Senior Indenture & Section 6.6 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

In addition, under certain circumstances, the holders of a majority of the outstanding Junior Subordinated Debentures of any series may waive in advance, for that series, our compliance with certain restrictive provisions of the Subordinated Indenture under which those Junior Subordinated Debentures were issued. (*Section 4.7 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

Concerning the Trustee

JPMorgan Chase Bank is the Subordinated Indenture Trustee and the Trustee under the Senior Indenture. We and certain of our affiliates maintain deposit accounts and banking relationships with JPMorgan Chase Bank. JPMorgan Chase Bank also serves as trustee under other indentures pursuant to which securities of ours and of certain of our affiliates are outstanding. Affiliates of JPMorgan Chase Bank have purchased, and are likely to purchase in the future, our securities and securities of our affiliates.

The Trustee will perform only those duties that are specifically described in the Indentures unless an event of default under an Indenture occurs and is continuing. The Trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of its powers under the Indentures at the request of any holder of Debt Securities unless that holder offers reasonable indemnity to the Trustee against the costs, expenses and liabilities which it might incur as a result. (*Section 601 of the Senior Indenture & Section 7.1 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

The Trustee administers its corporate trust business at 450 West 33rd Street, New York, New York 10001 (Attention: Institutional Trust Services).

ADDITIONAL TERMS OF THE SENIOR DEBT SECURITIES

Repayment at the Option of the Holder; Repurchases by Dominion

We must repay the Senior Debt Securities at the option of the holders prior to the Stated Maturity Date only if specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. Unless otherwise provided in the prospectus supplement, the Senior Debt Securities subject to repayment at the option of the holder will be subject to repayment:

on the specified Repayment Dates; and

at a repayment price equal to 100% of the unpaid principal amount to be repaid, together with unpaid interest accrued to the Repayment Date. (*Section 1302 of the Senior Indenture.*)

For any Senior Debt Security to be repaid, the Trustee must receive, at its office maintained for that purpose in the Borough of Manhattan, New York City not more than 60 nor less than 30 calendar days prior to the date of repayment:

in the case of a certificated Senior Debt Security, the certificated Senior Debt Security and the form in the Senior Debt Security entitled Option of Holder to Elect Purchase duly completed; or

Table of Contents

in the case of a book-entry Senior Debt Security, instructions to that effect from the beneficial owner to the securities depository and forwarded by the securities depository. Exercise of the repayment option by the holder will be irrevocable. (*Section 1303 of the Senior Indenture.*)

Only the securities depository may exercise the repayment option in respect of beneficial interests in the book-entry Senior Debt Securities. Accordingly, beneficial owners that desire repayment in respect of all or any portion of their beneficial interests must instruct the participants through which they own their interests to direct the securities depository to exercise the repayment option on their behalf. All instructions given to participants from beneficial owners relating to the option to elect repayment will be irrevocable. In addition, at the time the instructions are given, each beneficial owner will cause the participant through which it owns its interest to transfer its interest in the book-entry Senior Debt Securities or the global certificate representing the related book-entry Senior Debt Securities, on the securities depository's records, to the Trustee. See DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES GLOBAL SECURITIES.

Defeasance

We will be discharged from our obligations on the Senior Debt Securities of any series at any time if we deposit with the Trustee sufficient cash or government securities to pay the principal, interest, any premium and any other sums due to the stated maturity date or a redemption date of the Senior Debt Securities of the series. If this happens, the holders of the Senior Debt Securities of the series will not be entitled to the benefits of the Senior Indenture except for registration of transfer and exchange of Senior Debt Securities and replacement of lost, stolen or mutilated Senior Debt Securities. (*Section 402 of the Senior Indenture.*)

Under federal income tax law as of the date of this prospectus, a discharge may be treated as an exchange of the related Senior Debt Securities. Each holder might be required to recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between the holder's cost or other tax basis for the Senior Debt Securities and the value of the holder's interest in the trust. Holders might be required to include as income a different amount than would be includable without the discharge. We urge prospective investors to consult their own tax advisers as to the consequences of a discharge, including the applicability and effect of tax laws other than the federal income tax law.

ADDITIONAL TERMS OF THE JUNIOR SUBORDINATED DEBENTURES

Additional Covenants Applicable to Junior Subordinated Debentures

Under the Subordinated Indenture, we will:

maintain 100% ownership of the Trust to which the Junior Subordinated Debentures have been issued while that series of the Junior Subordinated Debentures remains outstanding; and

pay to the Trust to which the Junior Subordinated Debentures have been issued any taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges of whatever nature (other than withholding taxes) imposed by the United States or any other taxing

Table of Contents

authority on the Trust, so that the net amounts received and retained by the Trust (after paying any taxes, duties, assessments or other governmental charges) will be not less than the Trust would have received had no such taxes, duties, assessments or other governmental charges been imposed. (*Sections 4.8 & 4.9 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

Option to Extend Interest Payment Period

We can defer interest payments by extending the interest payment period for the number of consecutive extension periods specified in the applicable prospectus supplement (each, an Extension Period). Other details regarding the Extension Period will also be specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. No Extension Period may extend beyond the maturity of the Junior Subordinated Debentures. At the end of the Extension Period(s), we will pay all interest then accrued and unpaid, together with interest compounded quarterly at the interest rate for the Junior Subordinated Debentures, to the extent permitted by applicable law. (*Section 2.10 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

During any Extension Period, we will not make distributions related to our capital stock, including dividends, redemptions, repurchases, liquidation payments, or guarantee payments. Also we will not make any payments, redeem or repurchase any debt securities of equal or junior rank to the Junior Subordinated Debentures or make any guarantee payments on any such debt securities. We may, however, make the following types of distributions:

dividends paid in common stock;

dividends in connection with the implementation of a shareholder rights plan;

payments to a trust holding securities of the same series under a guarantee; or

repurchases, redemptions or other acquisitions of shares of our capital stock in connection with any employment contract, benefit plan or other similar arrangement with or for the benefit of employees, officers, directors or consultants.

Subordination

Each series of Junior Subordinated Debentures will be subordinate and junior in right of payment, to the extent set forth in the Subordinated Indenture, to all Senior Indebtedness as defined below. If:

we make a payment or distribution of any of our assets to creditors upon our dissolution, winding-up, liquidation or reorganization, whether in bankruptcy, insolvency or otherwise;

a default beyond any grace period has occurred and is continuing with respect to the payment of principal, interest or any other monetary amounts due and payable on any Senior Indebtedness; or

the maturity of any Senior Indebtedness has been accelerated because of a default on that Senior Indebtedness,

then the holders of Senior Indebtedness generally will have the right to receive payment, in the case of the first instance, of all amounts due or to become due upon that Senior Indebtedness, and, in the case of the second and third instances, of all amounts due on that Senior Indebtedness, or we will make provision for those payments, before

Table of Contents

the holders of any Junior Subordinated Debentures have the right to receive any payments of principal or interest on their Junior Subordinated Debentures. (*Sections 14.1 and 14.9 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

Senior Indebtedness means, with respect to any series of Junior Subordinated Debentures, the principal, premium, interest and any other payment in respect of any of the following:

all of our indebtedness for borrowed or purchased money that is evidenced by notes, debentures, bonds or other written instruments;

our obligations for reimbursement under letters of credit, banker's acceptances, security purchase facilities or similar facilities issued for our account;

any of our other indebtedness or obligations with respect to commodity contracts, interest rate commodity and currency swap agreements and other similar agreements or arrangements; and

all indebtedness of others of the kinds described in the preceding categories which we have assumed or guaranteed.

Senior Indebtedness will not include our obligations to trade creditors or indebtedness to our subsidiaries. (*Section 1.1 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

Senior Indebtedness will be entitled to the benefits of the subordination provisions in the Subordinated Indenture irrespective of the amendment, modification or waiver of any term of the Senior Indebtedness. We may not amend the Subordinated Indenture to change the subordination of any outstanding Junior Subordinated Debentures without the consent of each holder of Senior Indebtedness that the amendment would adversely affect. (*Sections 10.2 & 14.7 of the Subordinated Indenture.*)

The Subordinated Indenture does not limit the amount of Senior Indebtedness that we may issue.

DESCRIPTION OF THE TRUST PREFERRED SECURITIES

The following is a summary of the principal terms of the Trust Preferred Securities. The form of amended trust agreement is filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, or is incorporated by reference. The terms of the Trust Preferred Securities will include those stated in the amended trust agreement and those made part of the amended trust agreement by the Trust Indenture Act.

General

The Trust will exist until terminated as provided in its amended trust agreement. Except under certain circumstances, we will be entitled to appoint, remove, or replace trustees, who will conduct the business and affairs of the Trust. The trustees of the Trust will consist of:

two employees, officers or affiliates of the Company as Administrative Trustees;

a financial institution unaffiliated with us that will act as property trustee and as indenture trustee for purposes of the Trust Indenture Act, under the terms set forth in a prospectus supplement (the Property Trustee); and

one trustee with its principal place of business or who resides in the State of

Table of Contents

Delaware and who will act under the terms set forth in a prospectus supplement. *(Sections 6.1 through 6.5 of the Amended Trust Agreement.)*

The amended trust agreement will authorize the Administrative Trustees to issue, on behalf of the Trust, two classes of trust securities, Trust Preferred Securities and trust common securities, each of which will have the terms described in this prospectus and in the prospectus supplement. We will own all of the trust common securities. The trust common securities will rank equally in right of payment, and payments will be made on the trust common securities, proportionately with the Trust Preferred Securities. However, if an event of default occurs and is continuing under the amended trust agreement, the rights of the holders of the trust common securities to payment for distributions and payments upon liquidation, redemption and otherwise, will be subordinated to the rights of the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities. We will acquire, directly or indirectly, trust common securities in a total liquidation amount of approximately 3% of the total capital of the Trust. *(Sections 3.6, 5.1, 5.2 and 7.1 of the Amended Trust Agreement.)*

The proceeds from the sale of the Trust Preferred Securities will be used by the Trust to purchase a series of our Junior Subordinated Debentures. These Junior Subordinated Debentures will be held in trust by the Property Trustee for the benefit of the holders of the trust securities. We will guarantee the payments of distributions and payments on redemption or liquidation with respect to the Trust Preferred Securities, but only to the extent the Trust has funds available to make those payments and has not made the payments. See DESCRIPTION OF THE GUARANTEE.

The assets of the Trust available for distribution to the holders of Trust Preferred Securities will be limited to payments from us under the Junior Subordinated Debentures held by the Trust. If we fail to make a payment on the Junior Subordinated Debentures, the Trust will not have sufficient funds to make related payments, including distributions, on its Trust Preferred Securities.

The Guarantee, when taken together with our obligations under the Junior Subordinated Debentures, the Subordinated Indenture and the amended trust agreement, will provide a full and unconditional guarantee of amounts due on the Trust Preferred Securities issued by the Trust.

The Trust Preferred Securities will have the terms, including distributions, redemption, voting, liquidation rights and other preferred, deferred or other special rights or restrictions that will be described in the amended trust agreement or made part of the amended trust agreement by the Trust Indenture Act or the Delaware Business Trust Act. The terms of the Trust Preferred Securities will mirror the terms of the Junior Subordinated Debentures held by the Trust. In other words, the distribution rate and the distribution payment dates and other payment dates for the Trust Preferred Securities will correspond to the interest rate and interest payment dates and other payment dates on the Junior Subordinated Debentures held by the Trust. Holders of Trust Preferred Securities have no preemptive or similar rights. *(Section 7.1 of the Amended Trust Agreement.)*

Table of Contents

Provisions of a Particular Series

The Trust may issue only one series of Trust Preferred Securities. The applicable prospectus supplement will set forth the principal terms of the Trust Preferred Securities that will be offered, including:

- the name of the Trust Preferred Securities;
- the liquidation amount and number of Trust Preferred Securities issued;
- the annual distribution rate(s) or method of determining such rate(s), the payment date(s) and the record dates used to determine the holders who are to receive distributions;
- the date from which distributions will be cumulative;
- the optional redemption provisions, if any, including the prices, time periods and other terms and conditions on which the Trust Preferred Securities will be purchased or redeemed, in whole or in part;
- the terms and conditions, if any, upon which the Junior Subordinated Debentures and the related Guarantee may be distributed to holders of those Trust Preferred Securities;
- any securities exchange on which the Trust Preferred Securities will be listed;
- whether the Trust Preferred Securities are to be issued in book-entry form and represented by one or more global certificates, and if so, the depository for those global certificates and the specific terms of the depository arrangements; and
- any other relevant rights, preferences, privileges, limitations or restrictions of the Trust Preferred Securities. (*Article 7 of the Amended Trust Agreement.*)

The interest rate and interest and other payment dates of each series of Junior Subordinated Debentures issued to a Trust will correspond to the rate at which distributions will be paid and the distribution and other payment dates of the Trust Preferred Securities of the Trust.

Extensions

We have the right under the Subordinated Indenture to defer payments of interest on the Junior Subordinated Debentures by extending the interest payment period from time to time on the Junior Subordinated Debentures. The Administrative Trustees will give the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities notice of any Extension Period upon their receipt of notice from us. If distributions are deferred, the deferred distributions and accrued interest will be paid to holders of record of the Trust Preferred Securities as they appear on the books and records of the Trust on the record date next following the termination of such deferral period. See ADDITIONAL TERMS OF THE JUNIOR SUBORDINATED DEBENTURES OPTION TO EXTEND INTEREST PAYMENT PERIOD.

Distributions

Distributions on the Trust Preferred Securities will be made on the dates payable to the extent that the Trust has funds available for the payment of distributions in the Property Account held by the Property Trustee. The Trust's funds available for distribution to the holders of the trust securities will be limited to payments received from us on the Junior Subordinated

Table of Contents

Debentures. We have guaranteed the payment of distributions out of monies held by the Trust to the extent set forth under DESCRIPTION OF THE GUARANTEE.

Distributions on the Trust Preferred Securities will be payable to the holders named on the securities register of the Trust at the close of business on the record dates, which, as long as the Trust Preferred Securities remain in book-entry only form, will be one business day prior to the relevant payment dates. Distributions will be paid through the Property Trustee who will hold amounts received in respect of the Junior Subordinated Debentures in the Property Account for the benefit of the holders of the trust securities. In the event that the Trust Preferred Securities do not continue to remain in book-entry only form, the relevant record dates will conform to the rules of any securities exchange on which the Trust Preferred Securities are listed and, if none, the Administrative Trustees will have the right to select relevant record dates, which will be more than 14 days but less than 60 days prior to the relevant payment dates. In the event that any date on which distributions are to be made on the Trust Preferred Securities is not a business day, then payment of the distributions payable on that date will be made on the next succeeding day which is a business day and without any interest or other payment in respect of that delay, except that, if that business day is in the next succeeding calendar year, the payment will be made on the immediately preceding business day, in each case with the same force and effect as if made on the record date. *(Section 7.2 of the Amended Trust Agreement.)*

Mandatory Redemption of Trust Preferred Securities

The Trust Preferred Securities have no stated maturity date, but will be redeemed upon the maturity of the Junior Subordinated Debentures or to the extent the Junior Subordinated Debentures are redeemed prior to maturity. The Junior Subordinated Debentures will mature on the date specified in the applicable prospectus supplement and may be redeemed at any time, in whole but not in part, in certain circumstances upon the occurrence of a Tax Event or an Investment Company Event as described under Special Event Redemption.

Upon the maturity of the Junior Subordinated Debentures, the proceeds of their repayment will simultaneously be applied to redeem all the outstanding trust securities at the Redemption Price. Upon the redemption of the Junior Subordinated Debentures, either at our option or as a result of a Tax Event or an Investment Company Event, the proceeds from the redemption will simultaneously be applied to redeem trust securities having a total liquidation amount equal to the total principal amount of the Junior Subordinated Debentures so redeemed at the redemption price; provided, that holders of trust securities will be given not less than 20 nor more than 60 days notice of the redemption. In the event that fewer than all of the outstanding trust securities are to be redeemed, the trust securities will be redeemed proportionately. *(Section 7.3 of the Amended Trust Agreement.)*

Table of Contents

Special Event Redemption

Both a Tax Event and an Investment Company Act Event constitute Special Events for purposes of the redemption provisions described in the preceding paragraph.

A Tax Event means that the Administrative Trustees have received an opinion of independent tax counsel experienced in those matters to the effect that, as a result of any amendment to, change or announced proposed change in:

the laws or regulations of the United States or any of its political subdivisions or taxing authorities, or

any official administrative pronouncement, action or judicial decision interpreting or applying those laws or regulations,

which amendment or change becomes effective or proposed change, pronouncement, action or decision is announced on or after the date the Trust Preferred Securities are issued and sold, there is more than an insubstantial risk that:

the Trust is or within 90 days would be subject to U.S. federal income tax with respect to income accrued or received on the Junior Subordinated Debentures,

interest payable to the Trust on the Junior Subordinated Debentures is not or within 90 days would not be deductible, in whole or in part, by us for U.S. federal income tax purposes, or

the Trust is or within 90 days would be subject to a material amount of other taxes, duties or other governmental charges.

An Investment Company Event means that the Administrative Trustees have received an opinion of a nationally recognized independent counsel to the effect that, as a result of an amendment to or change in the Investment Company Act or regulations thereunder on or after the date the Trust Preferred Securities are issued and sold, there is more than an insubstantial risk that the Trust is or will be considered an investment company and be required to be registered under the Investment Company Act. (*Section 1.1 of the Amended Trust Agreement.*)

Redemption Procedures

The Trust may not redeem fewer than all the outstanding trust securities unless all accrued and unpaid distributions have been paid on all trust securities for all distribution periods terminating on or before the date of redemption. In the event that fewer than all of the outstanding trust securities are to be redeemed, the trust securities will be redeemed proportionately.

If the Trust gives a notice of redemption in respect of the trust securities (which notice will be irrevocable), and if we have paid to the Property Trustee a sufficient amount of cash in connection with the related redemption or maturity of the Junior Subordinated Debentures, then, by 12:00 noon, New York City time, on the redemption date, the Property Trustee will irrevocably deposit with the depositary funds sufficient to pay the applicable redemption price and will give the depositary irrevocable instructions and authority to pay the redemption price to the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities, and the paying agent will pay the applicable redemption price to the holders of the trust common securities by check. If notice of

Table of Contents

redemption has been given and funds deposited as required, then, immediately prior to the close of business on the date of the deposit, distributions will cease to accrue and all rights of holders of Trust Preferred Securities called for redemption will cease, except the right of the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities to receive the redemption price but without interest on the redemption price. In the event that any date fixed for redemption of Trust Preferred Securities is not a business day, then payment of the redemption price payable on that date will be made on the next succeeding day that is a business day, without any interest or other payment in respect of any such delay, except that, if that business day falls in the next calendar year, payment will be made on the immediately preceding business day. In the event that payment of the redemption price in respect of Trust Preferred Securities is improperly withheld or refused and not paid either by the Trust or by us under the Guarantee, distributions on the Trust Preferred Securities will continue to accrue at the then applicable rate from the original redemption date to the date of payment, in which case the actual payment date will be considered the date fixed for redemption for purposes of calculating the redemption price.

Subject to the foregoing and applicable law, including, without limitation, U.S. federal securities laws, we or our subsidiaries may at any time, and from time to time, purchase outstanding Trust Preferred Securities by tender, in the open market or by private agreement. (*Section 7.4 of the Amended Trust Agreement.*)

Conversion or Exchange Rights

The terms on which the Trust Preferred Securities are convertible into or exchangeable for common stock or our other securities will be contained in the applicable prospectus supplement. Those terms will include provisions as to whether conversion or exchange is mandatory, at the option of the holder or at our option, and may include provisions under which the number of shares of common stock or our other securities to be received by the holders of Trust Preferred Securities would be subject to adjustment.

Distribution of the Junior Subordinated Debentures

We will have the right at any time to dissolve the Trust and, after satisfaction of the liabilities of creditors of the Trust as provided by applicable law, to cause Junior Subordinated Debentures to be distributed to the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities in a total stated principal amount equal to the total stated liquidation amount of the Trust Preferred Securities then outstanding. Prior to any such dissolution, we will obtain any required regulatory approvals. The right to dissolve the trust and distribute the Junior Subordinated Debentures will be conditioned on our receipt of an opinion rendered by an independent tax counsel that the distribution would not result in the recognition of gain or loss for federal income tax purposes by the holders. (*Section 8.1 of the Amended Trust Agreement.*)

Liquidation Distribution Upon Dissolution

The amended trust agreement will state that the Trust will be dissolved:

upon our bankruptcy;

upon the filing of a certificate of dissolution or its equivalent with respect to us;

Table of Contents

upon the filing of a certificate of cancellation with respect to the Trust after obtaining the consent of at least a majority in liquidation amount of the Trust Preferred Securities, voting together as a single class;

90 days after the revocation of our charter, but only if the charter is not reinstated during that 90-day period;

upon the distribution of the related Junior Subordinated Debentures directly to the holders of the trust securities;

upon the redemption of all of the trust securities; or

upon entry of a court order for the dissolution of us or the Trust. (*Section 8.1 of the Amended Trust Agreement.*)

In the event of a dissolution, after the Trust pays all amounts owed to creditors, the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities will be entitled to receive:

cash equal to the total liquidation amount of the Trust Preferred Securities specified in an accompanying prospectus supplement, plus accumulated and unpaid distributions to the date of payment, or

Junior Subordinated Debentures in a total principal amount equal to the total liquidation amount of the Trust Preferred Securities.

If the Trust cannot pay the full amount due on its trust securities because insufficient assets are available for payment, then the amounts payable by the Trust on its trust securities will be paid proportionately. However, if an event of default under the related amended trust agreement occurs, the total amounts due on the Trust Preferred Securities will be paid before any distribution on the trust common securities. Under certain circumstances involving the dissolution of the Trust, subject to obtaining any required regulatory approval, Junior Subordinated Debentures will be distributed to the holders of the trust securities in liquidation of the Trust. (*Section 8.2 of the Amended Trust Agreement.*)

Trust Enforcement Events

An event of default under the Subordinated Indenture relating to the Junior Subordinated Debentures held by the Trust will be an event of default under the amended trust agreement (a Trust Enforcement Event). See DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES EVENTS OF DEFAULT.

In addition, the voluntary or involuntary dissolution, winding up or termination of the Trust is also a Trust Enforcement Event, except in connection with:

the distribution of the Junior Subordinated Debentures to holders of the trust securities of the Trust,

the redemption of all of the trust securities of the Trust, and

mergers, consolidations or amalgamations permitted by the amended trust agreement of the Trust.

Under the amended trust agreement, the holder of the trust common securities will be deemed to have waived any Trust Enforcement Event with respect to the trust common securities until all Trust Enforcement Events with respect to the Trust Preferred Securities have been cured, waived or otherwise eliminated. Until all Trust Enforcement Events with respect to the Trust Preferred Securities have been so cured, waived, or otherwise eliminated, the

Table of Contents

Property Trustee will be deemed to be acting solely on behalf of the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities and only the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities will have the right to direct the Property Trustee with respect to certain matters under the amended trust agreement and the Subordinated Indenture. In the event that any Trust Enforcement Event with respect to the Trust Preferred Securities is waived by the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities as provided in the amended trust agreement, under the amended trust agreement the holders of trust common securities have agreed that the waiver also constitutes a waiver of the Trust Enforcement Event with respect to the trust common securities for all purposes under the amended trust agreement without any further act, vote or consent of the holders of trust common securities. (*Section 2.6 of the Amended Trust Agreement.*)

We and the Administrative Trustees must file annually with the Property Trustee a certificate evidencing compliance with all the applicable conditions and covenants under the amended trust agreement. (*Section 2.4 of the Amended Trust Agreement.*)

Upon the occurrence of a Trust Enforcement Event, the Property Trustee, as the sole holder of the Junior Subordinated Debentures, will have the right under the Subordinated Indenture to declare the principal of, interest and premium, if any, on the Junior Subordinated Debentures to be immediately due and payable.

If a Property Trustee fails to enforce its rights under the amended trust agreement or the Subordinated Indenture to the fullest extent permitted by law and subject to the terms of the amended trust agreement and the Subordinated Indenture, any holder of Trust Preferred Securities may sue us, or seek other remedies, to enforce the Property Trustee's rights under the amended trust agreement or the Subordinated Indenture without first instituting a legal proceeding against the Property Trustee or any other person. If a Trust Enforcement Event occurs and is continuing as a result of our failure to pay principal of or interest or premium, if any, on the Junior Subordinated Debentures when payable, then a holder of the Trust Preferred Securities may directly sue us or seek other remedies, to collect its proportionate share of payments owed. See RELATIONSHIP AMONG THE TRUST PREFERRED SECURITIES, THE GUARANTEE AND THE JUNIOR SUBORDINATED DEBENTURES HELD BY THE TRUST.

Removal and Replacement of Trustees

Only the holders of trust common securities have the right to remove or replace the trustees of the Trust, except that while an event of default in respect of the Junior Subordinated Debentures has occurred or is continuing, the holders of a majority of the Trust Preferred Securities will have this right. The resignation or removal of any trustee and the appointment of a successor trustee will be effective only on the acceptance of appointment by the successor trustee in accordance with the provisions of the amended trust agreement. (*Section 6.6 of the Amended Trust Agreement.*)

Mergers, Consolidations or Amalgamations of the Trust

The Trust may not consolidate, amalgamate, merge with or into, or be replaced by or convey, transfer or lease its properties and assets substantially as an entirety to any other corporation or other

Table of Contents

body (each, a Merger Event), except as described below. The Trust may, with the consent of a majority of its Administrative Trustees and without the consent of the holders of its trust securities, consolidate, amalgamate, merge with or into, or be replaced by another trust, provided that:

the successor entity either

assumes all of the obligations of the Trust relating to its trust securities, or

substitutes other securities for the trust securities that are substantially similar to the trust securities, so long as the successor securities rank the same as the trust securities for distributions and payments upon liquidation, redemption and otherwise;

we acknowledge a trustee of the successor entity who has the same powers and duties as the Property Trustee of the Trust, as the holder of the Junior Subordinated Debentures;

the Trust Preferred Securities are listed, or any successor securities will be listed, upon notice of issuance, on the same securities exchange or other organization that the Trust Preferred Securities are then listed;

the Merger Event does not cause the Trust Preferred Securities or successor securities to be downgraded by any nationally recognized rating agency;

the Merger Event does not adversely affect the rights, preferences and privileges of the holders of the trust securities or successor securities in any material way, other than with respect to any dilution of the holders' interest in the new entity;

the successor entity has a purpose identical to that of the Trust;

prior to the Merger Event, we have received an opinion of counsel from a nationally recognized law firm stating that

the Merger Event does not adversely affect the rights of the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities or any successor securities in any material way, other than with respect to any dilution of the holders' interest in the new entity, and

following the Merger Event, neither the Trust nor the successor entity will be required to register as an investment company under the Investment Company Act; and

we guarantee the obligations of the successor entity under the successor securities in the same manner as in the Guarantee.

In addition, unless all of the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities and trust common securities approve otherwise, the Trust will not consolidate, amalgamate, merge with or into, or be replaced by any other entity or permit any other entity to consolidate, amalgamate, merge with or into, or replace it, if, in the opinion of a nationally recognized tax counsel experienced in such matters, the transaction would cause the Trust or the successor entity to be classified other than as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes. (*Section 3.15 of the Amended Trust Agreement.*)

Voting Rights; Amendment of Trust Agreement

The holders of Trust Preferred Securities have no voting rights except as discussed under MERGERS, CONSOLIDATIONS OR

Table of Contents

AMALGAMATIONS OF THE TRUST and DESCRIPTION OF THE GUARANTEE AMENDMENTS, and as otherwise required by law and the amended trust agreement.

The amended trust agreement may be amended if approved by a majority of the Administrative Trustees of the Trust. However, if any proposed amendment provides for, or the Administrative Trustees otherwise propose to effect,

any action that would adversely affect the powers, preferences or special rights of the trust securities, whether by way of amendment to the amended trust agreement or otherwise, or

the dissolution, winding-up or termination of the Trust other than under the terms of its amended trust agreement,

then the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities as a single class will be entitled to vote on the amendment or proposal. In that case, the amendment or proposal will only be effective if approved by at least a majority in liquidation amount of the Trust Preferred Securities affected by the amendment or proposal.

No amendment may be made to an amended trust agreement if that amendment would:

cause the Trust to be characterized as other than a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes;

reduce or otherwise adversely affect the powers of the Property Trustee; or

cause the Trust to be deemed to be an investment company which is required to be registered under the Investment Company Act. (*Section 11.1 of the Amended Trust Agreement.*)

The holders of a majority of the total liquidation amount of the Trust Preferred Securities have the right to:

direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the Property Trustee; or

direct the exercise of any power conferred upon the Property Trustee under the amended trust agreement, including the right to direct the Property Trustee, as the holder of the Junior Subordinated Debentures, to:

exercise the remedies available under the Subordinated Indenture with respect to the Junior Subordinated Debentures,

waive any event of default under the Subordinated Indenture that is waivable, or

cancel an acceleration of the principal of the Junior Subordinated Debentures.

In addition, before taking any of the foregoing actions, the Property Trustee must obtain an opinion of counsel stating that, as a result of that action, the Trust will continue to be classified as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes. (*Section 7.5 of the Amended Trust Agreement.*)

As described in the form of amended trust agreement, the Property Trustee may hold a meeting to have holders of Trust Preferred Securities vote on a change or have them approve a change by written consent.

If a vote by the holders of Trust Preferred Securities is taken or a consent is obtained, any Trust Preferred Securities owned by us or any of our affiliates will, for

Table of Contents

purposes of the vote or consent, be treated as if they were not outstanding, which will have the following consequences:

we and any of our affiliates will not be able to vote on or consent to matters requiring the vote or consent of holders of Trust Preferred Securities; and

any Trust Preferred Securities owned by us or any of our affiliates will not be counted in determining whether the required percentage of votes or consents has been obtained. *Section 7.5 of the Amended Trust Agreement.*)

Information Concerning the Property Trustee

JPMorgan Chase Bank is the Property Trustee. It is also the Guarantee Trustee, the Subordinated Indenture Trustee and the Senior Indenture Trustee. The Company and certain of its affiliates maintain deposit accounts and banking relationships with JPMorgan Chase Bank. JPMorgan Chase Bank also serves as trustee under other indentures pursuant to which our securities and securities of certain of our affiliates are outstanding.

For matters relating to compliance with the Trust Indenture Act, the Property Trustee will have all of the duties and responsibilities of an indenture trustee under the Trust Indenture Act. The Property Trustee, other than during the occurrence and continuance of a Trust Enforcement Event, undertakes to perform only the duties that are specifically described in the amended trust agreement and, upon a Trust Enforcement Event, must use the same degree of care and skill as a prudent person would exercise or use in the conduct of his or her own affairs. Subject to this provision, the Property Trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of the powers given it by the applicable amended trust agreement at the request of any holder of Trust Preferred Securities unless it is offered reasonable security or indemnity against the costs, expenses and liabilities that it might incur. However, the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities will not be required to offer such an indemnity where the holders, by exercising their voting rights, direct the Property Trustee to take any action following a Trust Enforcement Event. *(Section 3.9 of the Amended Trust Agreement.)*

Information Concerning the Delaware Trustee

Chase Manhattan Bank USA, National Association, will serve as trustee of the Trust in the State of Delaware for the purpose of complying with the provisions of the Delaware Business Trust Act. It is an affiliate of JPMorgan Chase Bank which serves as Property Trustee and in the other capacities described above under Information Concerning the Property Trustee.

Information Concerning the Administrative Trustees

The Administrative Trustees are authorized and directed to conduct the affairs of and to operate the Trust in a way that:

will not cause it to be deemed to be an investment company required to be registered under the Investment Company Act;

will cause it to be classified as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes; and

Table of Contents

will cause the Junior Subordinated Debentures it holds to be treated as our indebtedness for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

We and the Administrative Trustees are authorized to take any action, so long as it is consistent with applicable law or the certificate of trust or amended trust agreement, that we and the Administrative Trustees determine to be necessary or desirable for those purposes. *(Section 3.6 of the Amended Trust Agreement.)*

DESCRIPTION OF THE GUARANTEE

We will execute the Guarantee from time to time for the benefit of the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities.

JPMorgan Chase Bank will act as Guarantee Trustee under the Guarantee. The Guarantee Trustee will hold the Guarantee for the benefit of the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities.

The following description of the Guarantee is only a summary. The form of Guarantee is an exhibit to the registration statement.

General

We will irrevocably and unconditionally agree under the Guarantee to pay the Guarantee Payments that are defined below, to the extent specified in the Guarantee, to the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities, to the extent that the Guarantee Payments are not paid by or on behalf of the Trust. We are required to pay the Guarantee Payments to the extent specified in the Guarantee regardless of any defense, right of set-off or counterclaim that we may have or may assert against any person. *(Section 5.1 of the Guarantee.)*

The following payments and distributions on the Trust Preferred Securities of the Trust are Guarantee Payments:

any accrued and unpaid distributions required to be paid on the Trust Preferred Securities of the Trust, but only to the extent that the Trust has funds legally and immediately available for those distributions;

the redemption price for any Trust Preferred Securities that the Trust calls for redemption, including all accrued and unpaid distributions to the redemption date, but only to the extent that the Trust has funds legally and immediately available for the payment; and

upon a dissolution, winding-up or termination of the Trust, other than in connection with the distribution of Junior Subordinated Debentures to the holders of Trust Securities of the Trust or the redemption of all the Trust Preferred Securities of the Trust, the lesser of:

the sum of the liquidation amount and all accrued and unpaid distributions on the Trust Preferred Securities of the Trust to the payment date, to the extent that the Trust has funds legally and immediately available for the payment; and

the amount of assets of the Trust remaining available for distribution to holders of the Trust Preferred Securities of the Trust in liquidation of the Trust. *(Section 1.1 of the Guarantee.)*

We may satisfy our obligation to make a Guarantee Payment by making that payment directly to the holders of the related Trust Preferred Securities or by causing the Trust to make the payment to those holders. *(Section 5.1 of the Guarantee.)*

Table of Contents

The Guarantee will be a full and unconditional guarantee, subject to certain subordination provisions, of the Guarantee Payments with respect to the Trust Preferred Securities from the time of issuance of the Trust Preferred Securities, except that the Guarantee will only apply to the payment of distributions and other payments on the Trust Preferred Securities when the Trust has sufficient funds legally and immediately available to make those distributions or other payments.

If we do not make the required payments on the Junior Subordinated Debentures that the Property Trustee holds under the Trust, the Trust will not make the related payments on the Trust Preferred Securities.

Subordination

Our obligations under the Guarantee will be unsecured obligations. Those obligations will rank:

subordinate and junior in right of payment to all of our other liabilities, other than obligations or liabilities that rank equal in priority or subordinate by their terms;

equal in priority with the Junior Subordinated Debentures that we may issue and similar guarantees; and

senior to our preferred and common stock. (*Section 6.2 of the Guarantee.*)

As of March 31, 2002 we had approximately \$825 million in Junior Subordinated Debentures outstanding that rank equal in priority with the Guarantee. We have common stock outstanding that ranks junior to the Guarantee.

The Guarantee will be a guarantee of payment and not of collection. This means that the guaranteed party may institute a legal proceeding directly against us, as guarantor, to enforce its rights under the Guarantee without first instituting a legal proceeding against any other person or entity. (*Section 5.4 of the Guarantee.*)

The terms of the Trust Preferred Securities will provide that each holder of the Trust Preferred Securities, by accepting those Trust Preferred Securities, agrees to the subordination provisions and other terms of the Guarantee.

Amendments

We may amend the Guarantee without the consent of any holder of the Trust Preferred Securities to which the Guarantee relates if the amendment does not materially and adversely affect the rights of those holders. We may otherwise amend the Guarantee with the approval of the holders of at least 50% of the outstanding Trust Preferred Securities to which the Guarantee relates. (*Section 9.2 of the Guarantee.*)

Termination

The Guarantee will terminate and be of no further effect when:

the redemption price of the Trust Preferred Securities to which the Guarantee relates is fully paid;

we distribute the related Junior Subordinated Debentures to the holders of those Trust Preferred Securities; or

the amounts payable upon liquidation of the related Trust are fully paid. (*Section 7.1 of the Guarantee.*)

Table of Contents

The Guarantee will remain in effect or will be reinstated if at any time any holder of the related Trust Preferred Securities must restore payment of any sums paid to that holder with respect to those Trust Preferred Securities or under the Guarantee.

Material Covenants

We will covenant that, so long as any Trust Preferred Securities remain outstanding, if there is an event of default under the Guarantee or the amended trust agreement:

we will not make distributions related to our debt securities that rank equally with or junior to the Junior Subordinated Debentures, including any payment of interest, principal or premium, or repayments, repurchases or redemptions; and

we will not make distributions related to our capital stock, including dividends, redemptions, repurchases, liquidation payments, or guarantee payments. We may, however, make the following types of distributions:

dividends paid in common stock;

dividends in connection with the implementation of a shareholder rights plan;

payments to a trust holding securities of the same series under a guarantee; and

repurchases, redemptions or other acquisitions of shares of our capital stock in connection with any benefit plan or other similar arrangement with or for the benefit of employees, officers, directors or consultants. (*Section 6.1 of the Guarantee.*)

Because we are a holding company that conducts all of our operations through our subsidiaries, our ability to meet our obligations under the Guarantee 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. The Trust, as holder of the Guarantee and the Junior Subordinated Debentures 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.

Events of Default

An event of default will occur under the Guarantee if we fail to perform any of our payment obligations under the Guarantee. The holders of a majority of the Trust Preferred Securities of any series may waive any such event of default and its consequences on behalf of all of the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities of that series. (*Section 2.6 of the Guarantee.*) The Guarantee Trustee is entitled to enforce the Guarantee for the benefit of the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities of a series if an event of default occurs under the related Guarantee. (*Section 3.1 of the Guarantee.*)

The holders of a majority of the Trust Preferred Securities to which the Guarantee relates have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the Guarantee Trustee with respect to the Guarantee or to direct the exercise of any trust or power that the Guarantee Trustee holds under the Guarantee. Any holder of the related Trust Preferred Securities may institute a legal proceeding directly against us to enforce that holder's rights under the

Table of Contents

Guarantee without first instituting a legal proceeding against the Guarantee Trustee or any other person or entity. (*Section 5.4 of the Guarantee.*)

Concerning the Guarantee Trustee

JPMorgan Chase Bank is the Guarantee Trustee. It is also the Property Trustee, the Subordinated Indenture Trustee and the Senior Indenture Trustee. We and certain of our affiliates maintain deposit accounts and banking relationships with JPMorgan Chase Bank. JPMorgan Chase Bank also serves as trustee for other indentures under which securities of ours and certain of our affiliates are outstanding.

The Guarantee Trustee will perform only those duties that are specifically set forth in each Guarantee unless an event of default under the Guarantee occurs and is continuing. In case an event of default occurs and is continuing, the Guarantee Trustee will exercise the same degree of care as a prudent individual would exercise in the conduct of his or her own affairs. (*Section 3.1 of the Guarantee.*) Subject to those provisions, the Guarantee Trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of its powers under any Guarantee at the request of any holder of the related Trust Preferred Securities unless that holder offers reasonable indemnity to the Guarantee Trustee against the costs, expenses and liabilities which it might incur as a result. (*Section 3.2 of the Guarantee.*)

AGREEMENT AS TO EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES

We will enter into an Agreement as to Expenses and Liabilities as required under the Trust Agreement. The Agreement as to Expenses and Liabilities will provide that we will, with certain exceptions, irrevocably and unconditionally guarantee the full payment of any indebtedness, expenses or liabilities of the Trust to each person or entity to whom the Trust becomes indebted or liable. The exceptions are the obligations of the Trust to pay amounts due to the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities.

RELATIONSHIP AMONG THE TRUST PREFERRED SECURITIES, THE GUARANTEE AND THE JUNIOR SUBORDINATED DEBENTURES HELD BY THE TRUST

We will guarantee payments of distributions and redemption and liquidation payments due on the Trust Preferred Securities, to the extent the Trust has funds available for the payments, to the extent described under DESCRIPTION OF THE GUARANTEE. No single document executed by us in connection with the issuance of the Trust Preferred Securities will provide for our full, irrevocable and unconditional guarantee of the Trust Preferred Securities. It is only the combined operation of our obligations under the Guarantee, the amended trust agreement and the Subordinated Indenture that has the effect of providing a full, irrevocable and unconditional guarantee of the Trust's obligations under the Trust Preferred Securities.

As long as we make payments of interest and other payments when due on the Junior Subordinated Debentures held by the Trust, those payments will be sufficient to cover the payment of distributions and redemption and liquidation payments due on the Trust Preferred Securities issued by the Trust, primarily because:

the total principal amount of the Junior Subordinated Debentures will be equal to

Table of Contents

the sum of the total liquidation amount of the trust securities;

the interest rate and interest and other payment dates on the Junior Subordinated Debentures will match the distribution rate and distribution and other payment dates for the Trust Preferred Securities;

we will pay for any and all costs, expenses and liabilities of the Trust except its obligations under its Trust Preferred Securities; and

the amended trust agreement will provide that the Trust will not engage in any activity that is not consistent with the limited purposes of the Trust.

If and to the extent that we do not make payments on the Junior Subordinated Debentures, the Trust will not have funds available to make payments of distributions or other amounts due on its Trust Preferred Securities. In those circumstances, you will not be able to rely upon the Guarantee for payment of these amounts. Instead, you may directly sue us or seek other remedies to collect your proportionate share of payments owed. If you sue us to collect payment, then we will assume your rights as a holder of Trust Preferred Securities under the amended trust agreement to the extent we make a payment to you in any such legal action.

ACCOUNTING TREATMENT

The Trust will be treated as a subsidiary of ours for financial reporting purposes. Accordingly, our consolidated financial statements will include the accounts of the Trust. The Trust Preferred Securities, along with other trust preferred securities that we guarantee on an equivalent basis, will be presented as a separate line item in our consolidated balance sheets, and appropriate disclosures about the Trust Preferred Securities, the Guarantee and the Junior Subordinated Debentures will be included in the notes to the consolidated financial statements. We will record distributions that the Trust pays on the Trust Preferred Securities as an expense in our consolidated statement of income.

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

As of March 31, 2002, our authorized capital stock was 520,000,000 shares. Those shares consisted of 20,000,000 shares of preferred stock and 500,000,000 shares of common stock. As of March 31, 2002, 665,000 shares of Preferred Stock were issued to and held by a wholly-owned subsidiary trust and 276,600,000 shares of common stock were issued and outstanding. No holder of shares of common stock or preferred stock has any preemptive rights.

Common Stock

Listing

Our outstanding shares of common stock are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol **D**. Any additional common stock we issue will also be listed on the NYSE.

Dividends

Common shareholders may receive dividends when declared by the Board of Directors. Dividends may be paid in cash, stock or other form. In certain cases, common shareholders may not receive dividends until we have satisfied our obligations to any preferred shareholders. Under certain circumstances, the Subordinated Indenture also restricts our ability to pay cash dividends.

Table of Contents

Fully Paid

All outstanding shares of common stock are fully paid and non-assessable. Any additional common stock we issue will also be fully paid and non-assessable.

Voting Rights

Each share of common stock is entitled to one vote in the election of directors and other matters. Common shareholders are not entitled to cumulative voting rights.

Other Rights

We will notify common shareholders of any shareholders' meetings according to applicable law. If we liquidate, dissolve or wind up our business, either voluntarily or not, common shareholders will share equally in the assets remaining after we pay our creditors and preferred shareholders.

Transfer Agents and Registrars

We, along with Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company, are transfer agent and registrar. You may contact us at the address listed on page 2 or Continental located at 17 Battery Place, New York, New York 10004.

Preferred Stock

The following description of the terms of the preferred stock sets forth certain general terms and provisions of our authorized preferred stock. If we issue preferred stock, the specific designations and rights will be described in the prospectus supplement and a description will be filed with the SEC.

Our Board of Directors can, without approval of shareholders, issue one or more series of preferred stock. The Board can also determine the number of shares of each series and the rights, preferences and limitations of each series including the dividend rights, voting rights, conversion rights, redemption rights and any liquidation preferences, the number of shares constituting each series and the terms and conditions of issue. In some cases, the issuance of preferred stock could delay a change in control of the Company and make it harder to remove present management. Under certain circumstances, preferred stock could also restrict dividend payments to holders of our common stock.

The preferred stock will, when issued, be fully paid and non-assessable. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the preferred stock will rank on a parity in all respects with any outstanding preferred stock we may have and will have priority over our common stock as to dividends and distributions of assets. Therefore, the rights of any preferred stock that may subsequently be issued may limit the rights of the holders of our common stock and preferred stock.

The transfer agent, registrar, and dividend disbursement agent for a series of preferred stock will be named in a prospectus supplement. The registrar for shares of preferred stock will send notices to shareholders of any meetings at which holders of the preferred stock have the right to elect directors or to vote on any other matter.

VIRGINIA STOCK CORPORATION ACT AND THE ARTICLES AND THE BYLAWS

General

We are a Virginia corporation subject to the Virginia Stock Corporation Act (the

Table of Contents

Virginia Act). Provisions of the Virginia Act, in addition to provisions of our Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, address corporate governance issues, including the rights of shareholders. Some of these provisions could hinder management changes while others could have an anti-takeover effect. This anti-takeover effect may, in some circumstances, reduce the control premium that might otherwise be reflected in the value of our common stock. If you are buying this stock as part of a short-term investment strategy, this might be especially important to you.

We have summarized the key provisions below. You should read the actual provisions of our Articles and Bylaws and the Virginia Act that relate to your individual investment strategy.

Business Combinations

Our Articles require that any merger, share exchange or sale of substantially all of the assets of the Company be approved by a plurality of the shares represented at a meeting where a quorum is present. Abstentions and broker non-votes have the same effect as a vote against the matter.

Article 14 of the Virginia Act contains several provisions relating to transactions with interested shareholders. Interested shareholders are holders of more than 10% of any class of a corporation's outstanding voting shares. Transactions between a corporation and an interested shareholder are referred to as affiliated transactions. The Virginia Act requires that material affiliated transactions must be approved by at least two-thirds of the shareholders not including the interested shareholder. Affiliated transactions requiring this two-thirds approval include mergers, share exchanges, material dispositions of corporate assets, dissolution or any reclassification of securities or merger of the corporation with any of its subsidiaries which increases the percentage of voting shares owned by an interested shareholder by more than five percent.

For three years following the time that a shareholder becomes an interested shareholder, a Virginia corporation cannot engage in an affiliated transaction with the interested shareholder without approval of two-thirds of the disinterested voting shares, and majority approval of disinterested directors. A disinterested director is a director who was a director on the date on which an interested shareholder became an interested shareholder or was recommended for election or elected by a majority of the disinterested directors then on the board. After three years, the approval of the disinterested directors is no longer required.

The provisions of the Virginia Act relating to affiliated transactions do not apply if a majority of disinterested directors approve the acquisition of shares making a person an interested shareholder.

The Virginia Act permits corporations to opt out of the affiliated transactions provisions. We have not opted out.

The Virginia Act also contains provisions regulating certain control share acquisitions, which are transactions causing the voting strength of any person acquiring beneficial ownership of shares of a public corporation in Virginia to meet or exceed certain threshold voting percentages (20%, 33 1/3%, or 50%). Shares acquired in a control share acquisition have no voting rights unless the voting rights are granted by a majority vote of all outstanding shares

Table of Contents

other than those held by the acquiring person or any officer or employee-director of the corporation. The acquiring person may require that a special meeting of the shareholders be held to consider the grant of voting rights to the shares acquired in the control share acquisition.

Our Bylaws give us the right to redeem the shares purchased by an acquiring person in a control share acquisition. We can do this if the acquiring person fails to deliver a statement to us listing information required by the Virginia Act or if our shareholders vote not to grant voting rights to the acquiring person.

The Virginia Act permits corporations to opt out of the control share acquisition provisions. We have not opted out.

Directors Duties

The standards of conduct for directors of Virginia corporations are listed in Section 13.1-690 of the Virginia Act. Directors must discharge their duties in accordance with their good faith business judgement of the best interests of the corporation. Directors may rely on the advice or acts of others, including officers, employees, attorneys, accountants and board committees if they have a good faith belief in their competence. Directors' actions are not subject to a reasonableness or prudent person standard. Virginia's federal and state courts have focused on the process involved with directors' decision-making and are generally supportive of directors if they have based their decision on an informed process. These elements of Virginia law could make it more difficult to take over a Virginia corporation than corporations in other states.

Board of Directors

Members of our Board of Directors serve one-year terms and are elected annually. Directors may be removed from office for cause by the vote of two-thirds of the outstanding shares entitled to vote.

Shareholder Proposals and Director Nominations

Our shareholders can submit shareholder proposals and nominate candidates for the Board of Directors if the shareholders follow advance notice procedures described in our Bylaws.

To nominate directors, shareholders must submit a written notice to our corporate secretary at least 60 days before a scheduled meeting. The notice must include the name and address of the shareholder and of the nominee, a description of any arrangements between the shareholder and the nominee, information about the nominee required by the SEC, the written consent of the nominee to serve as a director and other information.

Shareholder proposals must be submitted to our corporate secretary at least 90 days before the first anniversary of the date of our last annual meeting. The notice must include a description of the proposal, the reasons for presenting the proposal at the annual meeting, the text of any resolutions to be presented, the shareholder's name and address and number of shares held and any material interest of the shareholder in the proposal.

Director nominations and shareholder proposals that are late or that do not include all required information may be rejected. This could prevent shareholders from

Table of Contents

bringing certain matters before an annual or special meeting, including making nominations for directors.

Meetings of Shareholders

Under our Bylaws, meetings of the shareholders may be called only by the chairman of the board, the president or a majority of the Board of Directors. This provision could have the effect of delaying until the next annual shareholders meeting shareholder actions which are favored by the holders of a majority of our outstanding voting securities, because such holders would be able to take action as shareholders, such as electing new directors or approving a merger, only at a duly called shareholders meeting.

Amendment of Articles

Generally, our Articles may be amended by a plurality of the shares represented at a meeting where a quorum is present. Some provisions of the Articles, however, may only be amended or repealed by a vote of at least two-thirds of the outstanding shares entitled to vote.

Indemnification

We indemnify our officers and directors to the fullest extent permitted under Virginia law against all liabilities incurred in connection with their service to us.

Limitation of Liability

Our Articles provide that our directors and officers will not be personally liable for monetary damages to us for breaches of their fiduciary duty as directors or officers, unless they violated their duty of loyalty to us or our shareholders, acted in bad faith, knowingly or intentionally violated the law, authorized illegal dividends or redemptions or derived an improper personal benefit from their action as directors or officers. This provision applies only to claims against directors or officers arising out of their role as directors or officers and not in any other capacity. Directors and officers remain liable for violations of the federal securities laws and we retain the right to pursue legal remedies other than monetary damages, such as an injunction or rescission for breach of the officer's or director's duty of care.

DESCRIPTION OF STOCK PURCHASE CONTRACTS AND STOCK PURCHASE UNITS

We may issue stock purchase contracts, including contracts obligating holders to purchase from us, and us to sell to the holders, a specified number of shares of common stock at a future date or dates, which we refer to in this prospectus as stock purchase contracts. The price per share of common stock and the number of shares of common stock may be fixed at the time the stock purchase contracts are issued or may be determined by reference to a specific formula set forth in the stock purchase contracts. The stock purchase contracts may be issued separately or as part of units consisting of a stock purchase contract and beneficial interests in debt securities, trust preferred securities, preferred stock or debt obligations of third parties, including U.S. treasury securities, securing the holders' obligations to purchase the common stock under the stock purchase contracts, which we refer to in this prospectus as stock purchase units. The stock purchase contracts may require us to make periodic payments

Table of Contents

to the holders of the stock purchase units or vice versa, and these payments may be unsecured or refunded on some basis. The stock purchase contracts may require holders to secure their obligations under those contracts in a specified manner.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of the stock purchase contracts or stock purchase units, including, if applicable, collateral or depositary arrangements, relating to the stock purchase contracts or stock purchase units.

As of March 31, 2002 we had 14,850,000 stock purchase units outstanding. Of that total, 8,250,000 stock purchase units trade on the NYSE under the symbol DCP, and 6,600,000 stock purchase units trade on the NYSE under the symbol D PrU. The units trading under the symbol DCP obligate holders to purchase up to 8,088,300 shares of our common stock from us by November 16, 2004. The units trading under the symbol D PrU obligate holders to purchase up to 5,518,260 shares of our common stock from us by May 15, 2006.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the offered securities (a) through agents; (b) through underwriters or dealers; or (c) directly to one or more purchasers.

By Agents

Offered securities may be sold through agents that we designate. The agents agree to use their reasonable best efforts to solicit purchases for the period of their appointment.

By Underwriters

If underwriters are used in the sale, the offered securities will be acquired by the underwriters for their own account. The underwriters may resell the securities in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. The obligations of the underwriters to purchase the securities will be subject to certain conditions. The underwriters will be obligated to purchase all the securities of the series offered if any of the securities are purchased. Any initial public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or re-allowed or paid to dealers may be changed from time to time.

Direct Sales

We may also sell offered securities directly. This may include sales of our common stock to holders of our stock purchase units. In this case, no underwriters or agents would be involved.

General Information

Underwriters, dealers and agents that participate in the distribution of the offered securities may be underwriters as defined in the Securities Act of 1933 (the Act), and any discounts or commissions received by them from us and any profit on the resale of the offered securities by them may be treated as underwriting discounts and commissions under the Act. Any underwriters or agents will be identified and their compensation described in a prospectus supplement.

We may have agreements with the underwriters, dealers and agents to indemnify them against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Act,

Table of Contents

or to contribute with respect to payments which the underwriters, dealers or agents may be required to make.

Underwriters, dealers and agents may engage in transactions with, or perform services for, us or our subsidiaries in the ordinary course of their businesses.

LEGAL OPINIONS

McGuireWoods LLP, counsel to the Company, will issue an opinion about the legality of the offered securities for us. As of June 30, 2002, partners of McGuireWoods LLP own less than one percent of our common stock. Certain matters relating to the formation of the Trust and the issuance of the Trust Preferred Securities under Delaware law and the Trust Agreements will be passed upon by Richards, Layton & Finger P.A., special Delaware counsel to the Trust and the Company. Any underwriters will be advised about other issues relating to any offering by their own legal counsel.

EXPERTS

The financial statements and the related financial statement schedule incorporated in this prospectus by reference from the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001, have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, independent auditors, as stated in their reports, which are incorporated herein by reference, (which reports express an unqualified opinion and include an explanatory paragraph that describes a change in the method of accounting used to develop the market-related value of pension plan assets, discussed in Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements, and the adoption of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, as amended, discussed in Note 15 to the consolidated financial statements), and have been so incorporated in reliance upon the reports of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

Table of Contents