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

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

Subject to completion, dated November 25, 2008

Preliminary Prospectus Supplement

(To Prospectus Dated February 13, 2006)

\$

Dominion Resources, Inc.

\$ 2008 Series D % Senior Notes due 2018

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Joint Book-Running Managers

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

The date of this prospectus supplement is November , 2008.

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

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

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prospectus Supplement

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

Base Prospectus

	Page
About This Prospectus Where You Can Find More Information	
where You Can Find More Information	4

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

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

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

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

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

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

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

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

S-4

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

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

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

DOMINION

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

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

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

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

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

S-5

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

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

Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges

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

S-6

THE OFFERING

The Senior Notes

We are offering \$ November 30, 2018.

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

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

Interest Payment Dates

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

Record Dates

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

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

Ranking

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

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

Optional Redemption

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

Repurchase at the Option of Holder

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

No Listing of the Senior Notes

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

Use of Proceeds

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

S-7

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

RISK FACTORS

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

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

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

We could be subject to penalties as a result of mandatory reliability