

VALLEY OF THE RIO DOCE CO

Form 6-K

September 02, 2003

**United States
Securities and Exchange Commission
Washington, D.C. 20549**

FORM 6-K

**Report of Foreign Private Issuer
Pursuant To Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16
of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

For the month of

September 2003

Valley of the Rio Doce Company

(Translation of Registrant's name into English)

Avenida Graça Aranha, No. 26
20005-900 Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
(Address of principal executive office)

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.)

(Check One) Form 20-F Form 40-F

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.)

(Check One) Yes No

(If Yes is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b). 82-____.)

Merger of Celmar into CVRD

Rio de Janeiro, August 29, 2003 □ Companhia Vale do Rio Doce (CVRD) informs that the Extraordinary Shareholders Meeting held today, approved the merger of its wholly owned subsidiary Celmar S.A. □ Indústria de Celulose e Papel (Celmar) into CVRD.

Celmar holds 30,000 hectares of renewable eucalyptus forest, assets which will be used by Ferro Gusa Carajás S.A (Ferro Gusa), joint venture formed between CVRD and Nucor Corporation, a North American steel producer. This joint venture will invest in the construction of a pig iron plant in the north of Brazil.

The eucalyptus will be utilized by Ferro Gusa for the production of charcoal, only iron ore reductant that allows the production of pig iron in an environmentally friendly way. As announced on April 24, 2003, the plant to be built will have an annual production capacity of 380,000 metric tons of pig iron, utilizing iron ore produced in the Carajás mines.

For further information, please contact:

Roberto Castello Branco: roberto.castello.branco@cvrd.com.br +55-21-3814-4540

Barbara Geluda: barbara.geluda@cvrd.com.br +55-21-3814-4557

Daniela Tinoco: daniela.tinoco@cvrd.com.br +55-21-3814-4946

Eduardo Mello Franco: eduardo.mello.franco@cvrd.com.br +55-21-3814-9849

Rafael Azevedo: rafael.azevedo@cvrd.com.br +55-21-3814-4700

Rafael Campos: rafael.campos@cvrd.com.br +55-21-3814-4353

This press release may contain statements that express management's expectations about future events or results rather than historical facts. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected in forward-looking statements, and CVRD cannot give assurance that such statements will prove correct. These risks and uncertainties include factors: relating to the Brazilian economy and securities markets, which exhibit volatility and can be adversely affected by developments in other countries; relating to the iron ore business and its dependence on the global steel industry, which is cyclical in nature; and relating to the highly competitive industries in which CVRD operates. For additional information on factors that could cause CVRD's actual results to differ from expectations reflected in forward-looking statements, please see CVRD's reports filed with the Brazilian Comissão de Valores Mobiliários and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

COMPANHIA VALE DO RIO DOCE
(Registrant)

By: /s/ Fabio de Oliveira Barbosa
Fabio de Oliveira Barbosa
Chief Financial Officer

Date: September 2, 2003
