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## CVRD's nickel reserves increase at Sudbury

Companhia Vale do Rio Doce (Vale) announces that exploration drilling at Creighton, a more than century-old nickel mine near Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, is confirming mineralization at depths that have the potential to extend mine's life well into the future and continue its longstanding economic contribution to its wholly-owned subsidiary, Vale Inco's Ontario operations.

The Creighton Deep Project, a deep mine exploration program, has the potential to almost double the proven and probable reserves at Creighton from 17 million metric tons grading 3.1% nickel and 2.5% copper to up to 32 million metric tons grading 1.9 to 2.2% nickel and 2 to 2.3% copper.

Vale has proven and probable reserves of 850 million metric tons grading 1.37% nickel and, the largest in the world, the Ontario deposits represent 17.8% of its total reserves, as reported on the Form 20F annual report for 2006 filed with the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

In operation since 1901, Creighton has delivered a total of 173 million metric tons over its life with an average grade of 1.52% nickel and 1.22% of copper.

Exploration and advanced diamond drilling have shown significant high-grade nickel, copper and platinum group elements (PGE) mineralization at the 2,150 and 3,200 meter levels in the mine.

The exploration program continues, and three exploration stations located 1.5 kilometers deep have been constructed to support further economic study of the findings to date. These latest stations are excavated further into the footwall beyond the current infrastructure, allowing exploration to the 3200-meter level across the entire strike length of all ore bodies.

Vale Inco's extensive experience in deep mine operations, coupled with an excellent health and safety record, will be instrumental to the development of the next deepening phase at Creighton. This will help contribute to extend the life of our Canadian operations and maximize value.

The results announced today are part of Vale's global mineral exploration program, which involves a budgeted investment of US\$ 120 million this year, is key to support our long-term value generation.

### More information



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