

Vale S.A.  
Form 6-K  
June 01, 2012  
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**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**

**May 2012**

**Vale S.A.**

**Avenida Graça Aranha, No. 26  
20030-900 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.)

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

(Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1))

(Check One) Yes  No

(Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7))

(Check One) Yes  No

(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- .)

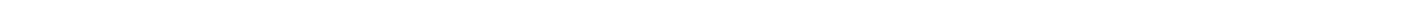


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*Press Release*

**Vale declares force majeure at Carborough Downs**

Rio de Janeiro, May 31, 2012 Vale S.A. (Vale) informs that Carborough Downs, one of its metallurgical coal operations in the Central Bowen Basin, Queensland, Australia, has declared force majeure (FM), effective today. We have communicated with the customers and related suppliers as required under our agreements with them.

FM was declared following the detection of abnormal levels of carbon monoxide in the mine and a subsequent directive from the Queensland State Inspectorate for Mines on May 29 to conduct an orderly withdrawal of personnel from the mine. No employees have been affected and no environmental damage has occurred during this process.

It is estimated that roughly 7,700 metric tons of run-of-mine coal output has been impacted since withdrawal of personnel took place on May 29. In the first quarter of 2012, Carborough Downs produced 325,000 metric tons of metallurgical coal.

Vale is working closely with the Queensland State Inspectorate for Mines to safely re-commence mining operations as quickly as possible.

**For further information, please contact:**

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This press release may include statements that present Vale's expectations about future events or results. All statements, when based upon expectations about the future and not on historical facts, involve various risks and uncertainties. Vale cannot guarantee that such statements will prove correct. These risks and uncertainties include factors related to the following: (a) the countries where we operate, especially Brazil and Canada; (b) the global economy; (c) the capital markets; (d) the mining and metals prices and their dependence on global industrial production, which is cyclical by nature; and (e) global competition in the markets in which Vale operates. To obtain further information on factors that may lead to results different from those forecast by Vale, please consult the reports Vale files with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the Brazilian Comissão de Valores Mobiliários (CVM), the French Autorité des Marchés Financiers (AMF), and The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited, and in particular the factors discussed under "Forward-Looking Statements" and "Risk Factors" in Vale's annual report on Form 20-F.

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**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.

Vale S.A.  
(Registrant)

Date: May 31, 2012

By:

/s/ Roberto Castello Branco  
Roberto Castello Branco  
Director of Investor Relations