# BAYTEX

#### ENERGY TRUST

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - CALGARY, ALBERTA - MAY 9, 2006

### **BAYTEX ENERGY TRUST ANNOUNCES FIRST QUARTER 2006 RESULTS**

Baytex Energy Trust (TSX: BTE.UN; NYSE: BTE) is pleased to announce its operating and financial results for the three months ended March 31, 2006.

#### Highlights of Q1/06

- Achieved record cash flow of \$69.7 million, 57% higher than Q1/05 and 7% higher than Q4/05;
- Increased monthly distributions by 20% to \$0.18 per unit from \$0.15 per unit;
- Maintained a conservative payout ratio of 53%;
- Commenced the listing of Baytex trust units on the New York Stock Exchange; and
- Generated a total return of 17% to unitholders in the quarter.

	Three Months Ended			
		December 31,		
FINANCIAL	March 31, 2006	2005	March 31, 2005	
(\$ thousands, except per unit amounts)			(restated - note 3)	
Petroleum and natural gas sales	136,231	162,356	111,275	
Cash flow from operations <sup>(1)</sup>	69,748	65,487	44,540	
Per unit - basic	0.99	0.95	0.67	
- diluted	0.90	0.86	0.64	
Cash distributions	36,768	28,582	29,321	
Per unit	0.54	0.45	0.45	
Net income (loss)	28,879	35,184	(11,611)	
Per unit - basic	0.41	0.51	(0.17)	
- diluted	0.39	0.47	(0.17)	
Exploration and development	44,886	31,046	28,465	
Net acquisitions (dispositions)	(570)	(47,477)	(91)	
Total capital expenditures	44,316	(16,431)	28,374	
Long-term notes	210,015	209,799	217,663	
Convertible debentures	42,989	73,766	-	
Bank loan	124,107	123,588	190,270	
Other working capital deficiency	25,139	16,506	20,013	
Notional marked-to-market liabilities (assets)	1,435	(5,183)	41,826	
Total net debt	403,685	418,476	469,772	
OPERATING				
Daily production				
Light oil & NGL (bbl/d)	4,089	4,022	3,876	
Heavy oil (bbl/d)	21,134	24,051	21,279	
Total oil (bbl/d)	25,223	28,073	25,155	
Natural gas (MMcf/d)	60.6	58.9	59.5	
Oil equivalent (boe/d @ 6:1)	35,319	37,895	35,068	

	Three Months Ended			
		December 31,		
	March 31, 2006	2005	March 31, 2005	
Average prices (before hedging)				
WTI oil (US\$/bbl)	63.48	60.02	49.84	
Edmonton par oil (\$/bbl)	68.99	71.18	61.44	
BTE light oil & NGL (\$/bbl)	51.33	55.78	46.69	
BTE heavy oil (\$/bbl)	37.87	37.75	30.83	
BTE total oil (\$/bbl)	40.05	40.33	33.27	
BTE natural gas (\$/Mcf)	8.36	10.69	6.69	
BTE oil equivalent (\$/boe)	42.94	46.48	35.21	
TRUST UNIT INFORMATION				
TSX (C\$)				
Unit Price				
High	\$ 20.90	\$18.78	\$15.70	
Low	\$ 16.81	\$14.13	\$12.42	
Close	\$ 20.21	\$17.70	\$14.91	
Volume traded (thousands)	24,430	21,534	26,410	
NYSE (US\$) <sup>(2)</sup>				
Unit Price				
High	\$ 17.90	N/A	N/A	
Low	\$ 16.99	N/A	N/A	
Close	\$ 17.37	N/A	N/A	
Volume traded (thousands)	736	N/A	N/A	
Units outstanding (thousands) <sup>(3)</sup>	74,217	71,475	69,075	
Foreign ownership	34%	33%	32%	

(1) Cash flow from operations is a non-GAAP term that represents cash generated from operating activities before changes in non-cash working capital and other operating items. The Trust's cash flow from operations may not be comparable to other companies. The Trust considers cash flow a key measure of performance as it demonstrates the Trust's ability to generate the cash flow necessary to fund future distributions and capital investments.

(2) Baytex Energy Trust commenced trading on the NYSE on March 27, 2006; data reflects the period March 27, 2006 to March 31, 2006.

(3) Number of trust units outstanding includes the conversion of exchangeable shares at the respective exchange ratios in effect at the end of the reporting periods.

#### **Operations Review**

Production for the first quarter in 2006 averaged 35,319 boe/d, in line with the 35,000 boe/d of average production targeted by Baytex for calendar 2006. Production in the quarter was less than the 37,895 boe/d reported for the fourth quarter of 2005 mainly due to the disposition of approximately 2,000 bbl/d of SAGD (steam-assisted gravity drainage) production at the end of last year.

Capital expenditures for the quarter totaled \$44.3 million. During this period, Baytex participated in the drilling of 46 (41.2 net) wells, resulting in 27 (25.1 net) oil wells, 12 (9.1 net) gas wells, three (3.0 net) stratigraphic test wells and four (4.0 net) dry holes. Overall drilling success rate was 91.3% (90.3% net).

At Celtic, Baytex began to realize on the exploitation upside of these assets acquired last year. Average production in the first quarter nearly doubled the 1,750 boe/d purchased in September 2005. Five oil wells were drilled in this area during the first quarter, with another 20 to 25 wells planned for the remainder of the year. At Seal, two horizontal production wells and three stratigraphic test wells were drilled this winter to further delineate the western land block. Baytex is currently focusing on improving marketing arrangements for production from this area and plans to conduct an active development program in Seal once these marketing issues have been resolved.

At Stoddart, three wells were drilled in the first quarter resulting in two gas wells and one dry hole. Production in the first quarter averaged 4,400 boe/d compared to 3,200 boe/d in the same period last year. Four new drills are planned for later this year, together with a number of recompletion projects. Baytex continues to grow its operations in this area with additional land and seismic activities. Natural gas drilling was also conducted in Baytex's winter-access areas of Goodfish, Nina, Foxglove and Hamburg. Overall, Baytex was able to essentially complete its planned capital programs despite a short winter season and a tight oilfield service environment.

#### Financial Review

Unusually warm winter weather throughout North America has driven natural gas prices sharply lower thus far in 2006. The average wellhead gas price of \$8.36 per Mcf in the first quarter was 22% lower than that of the previous quarter. Nevertheless, continued strength in oil prices and the expiry of lower price WTI derivative contracts combined to generate record cash flow of \$69.7 million for Baytex in the first quarter of 2006.

Cash flow in the first quarter was also affected by wide heavy oil differentials with Lloyd Blend differentials averaging 46% of WTI price. However, higher seasonal demand and new pipeline capacity transporting Canadian heavy crude to the U.S. lower midwest region have combined to significantly reduce differentials. Baytex is currently projecting an average differential of 30% of WTI in the second quarter of 2006, thereby improving cash flow from production not dedicated to the Frontier supply agreement.

After maintaining a \$0.15 per unit distribution for 28 consecutive months since its inception, Baytex announced a 20% increase in its monthly distribution to \$0.18 per unit in January 2006. Backed by strong financial performance, the higher distributions still only resulted in a 53% payout ratio (net of DRIP participation of 4.5%) in the first quarter of 2006, ranking Baytex in the top quartile amongst all oil and gas income trusts.

On March 27, 2006, Baytex commenced the listing of its trust units on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE). Baytex believes that the NYSE listing will improve the trading liquidity of its units and further enhance future access to the U.S. capital markets.

Subsequent to the end of the first quarter, Baytex's bank facilities have been increased to \$300 million from \$250 million, reflecting the increase in the underlying value of its reserves base. The Bank of Nova Scotia and Societe Generale have agreed to join the banking syndicate providing the facilities. As at March 31, 2006, Baytex had \$124.1 million of outstanding borrowings from these facilities.

The outlook for the remainder of the year is very positive for Baytex. Current benchmark oil prices are substantially higher than the first quarter average. Heavy oil differentials are improving due to fundamental changes. Natural gas prices will likely stay volatile through the summer season but should trend higher towards the winter. With a stable production profile underpinned by abundant internal development opportunities, Baytex should continue to generate excellent financial results in 2006.

#### Management's Discussion and Analysis

Management's discussion and analysis ("MD&A"), dated May 9, 2006, should be read in conjunction with the unaudited interim consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and the audited consolidated financial statements and MD&A for the year ended December 31, 2005. Barrel of oil equivalent ("boe") amounts have been calculated using a conversion rate of six thousand cubic feet of natural gas to one barrel of oil.

Cash flow from operations is not a measure based on generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"), but is a financial term commonly used in the oil and gas industry. It represents cash generated from operating activities before changes in non-cash working capital, site restoration and reclamation expenditures, other assets and deferred credits. The Trust's cash flow from operations may not be comparable to other companies. The Trust considers it a key measure as it demonstrates the ability of the Trust to generate the cash flow necessary to fund future distributions and capital investments.

**Production.** Light oil and NGL production for the first quarter of 2006 increased by 6% to 4,089 bbl/d from 3,876 bbl/d a year earlier. Heavy oil production was relatively unchanged at 21,134 bbl/d for the first quarter of 2006 compared to 21,279 bbl/d a year ago. Natural gas production increased by 2% to 60.6 MMcf/d for the first quarter of 2006 compared to 59.5 MMcf/d for the same period last year.

**Revenue.** Petroleum and natural gas sales increased 22% to \$136.2 million for the first quarter of 2006 from \$111.3 million for the same period in 2005. For the per sales unit calculations, heavy oil sales for the three months ended March 31, 2006 were 68 bbl/d lower (three months ended March 31, 2005 - 51 bbl/d higher) than the production for the period due to inventory in transit under the Frontier supply agreement.

	Three Months ended March 31			
	2006		20	05
	\$000s	<b>\$/Unit</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	\$000s	\$/Unit <sup>(1)</sup>
Oil revenue (barrels)				
Light oil & NGL	18,890	51.33	16,285	46.69
Heavy oil	71,792	37.87	59,194	30.83
Derivative contracts gain (loss)	143	0.08	(6,642)	(3.46)
Total oil revenue	90,825	40.12	68,837	30.34
Natural gas revenue (Mcf)	45,549	8.36	35,797	6.69
Total revenue (boe @ 6:1)	136,374	42.99	104,634	33.10

(1) Per-unit oil revenue is in \$/bbl; per-unit natural gas revenue is in \$/Mcf.

Revenue from light oil and NGL for the first quarter of 2006 increased 16% from the same period a year ago due to a 6% increase in production and a 10% increase in wellhead prices. Revenue from heavy oil increased 21% mainly due to a 23% increase in wellhead prices. Revenue from natural gas increased 27% as a result of a 25% increase in wellhead prices and a 2% increase in production.

**Royalties.** Total royalties increased to \$18.1 million for the first quarter of 2006 from \$16.6 million in 2005. This increase is reflective of the increase in total revenue. Total royalties for the first quarter of 2006 were 13.3% of sales compared to 14.9% of sales for the same period in 2005. For the first quarter of 2006, royalties were 14.4% of sales for light oil and NGL, 9.4% for heavy oil and 18.9% for natural gas. These rates compared to 13.7%, 11.3% and 21.4%, respectively, for the same period last year.

**Gain (Loss) on Financial Derivatives.** Under the CICA guideline for hedge accounting, the Trust's financial derivative contracts for oil and foreign currency do not qualify as effective accounting hedges. Accordingly, these contracts have been accounted for based on the fair value method where outstanding contracts are marked to market at each month end, and the change in value recorded as unrealized gain or loss. As the contracts come to the end of their terms, the gain or loss is realized.

Derivative contracts yielded a gain of \$0.1 million in the first quarter of 2006 compared to a loss of \$6.6 million for the same period in the prior year. Derivative contracts outstanding at March 31 2006 were marked to market with an unrealized loss of \$6.6 million.

**Operating Expenses.** Operating expenses for the first quarter of 2006 increased to \$27.7 million from \$25.6 million in the corresponding quarter last year. Operating expenses were \$8.74 per boe for the first quarter of 2006 compared to \$8.11 per boe for the first quarter of 2005. The increase in operating expenses per boe was primarily due to an inflationary cost environment for fuel and oilfield services. For the first quarter of 2006, operating expenses were \$8.50 per barrel of light oil and NGL, \$9.52 per barrel of heavy oil and \$1.20 per Mcf of natural gas. The operating expenses for the same period a year ago were \$10.53, \$8.59 and \$1.02, respectively.

**Transportation Expenses.** Transportation expenses for the first quarter of 2006 were \$5.7 million compared to \$5.5 million for the first quarter of 2005. These expenses were \$1.79 per boe for the first quarter of 2006 compared to \$1.73 for the same period in 2005. Transportation expenses were \$2.21 per barrel of oil and \$0.13 per Mcf of natural gas. The corresponding amounts for 2005 were \$2.07 and \$0.14, respectively.

**General and Administrative Expenses.** General and administrative expenses for the first quarter of 2006 increased to \$4.7 million from \$3.7 million in 2005. On a per sales unit basis, these expenses were \$1.49 per boe for the first quarter of 2006 compared to \$1.16 per boe for the same period in 2005. In accordance with our full cost accounting policy, no expenses were capitalized in either the first quarter of 2006 or 2005.

**Unit-based Compensation Expense.** Compensation expense related to the Trust's unit rights incentive plan was \$1.7 million for the first quarter of 2006 compared to \$1.3 million for the first quarter of 2005. Compensation expense associated with rights granted under the plan is recognized in income over the vesting period of the plan with a corresponding increase in contributed surplus. The exercise of trust unit rights are recorded as an increase in trust units with a corresponding reduction in contributed surplus.

**Interest Expenses.** Interest expense increased to \$8.8 million for the first quarter of 2006 from \$7.0 million for the same quarter last year, primarily due to the general increase in interest rates and the issuance of the 6.5% convertible debentures in June 2005.

**Foreign Exchange.** Foreign exchange in the first quarter of 2006 was a loss of \$0.2 million compared to a loss of \$1.1 million in the prior year. The loss is based on the translation of the U.S. dollar denominated long-term debt at 0.8568 at March 31, 2006 compared to 0.8577 at December 31, 2005. The 2005 loss is based on translation at 0.8267 at March 31, 2005 compared to 0.8308 at December 31, 2004.

**Depletion, Depreciation and Accretion.** The provision for depletion, depreciation and accretion for the first quarter of 2006 has decreased to \$38.2 million from \$43.3 million for the same quarter a year ago despite higher production. This decrease is due to a lower depletion rate resulting from low-cost proved reserves added from the Celtic acquisition and development activities during 2005. On a sales-unit basis, the provision for the current quarter was \$12.03 per boe compared to \$13.69 per boe for the same quarter in 2005.

**Income Taxes.** Current tax expenses increased to \$2.2 million for the first quarter of 2006 from \$2.0 million for the same quarter a year ago. The current tax expense is comprised of \$1.8 million of Saskatchewan Capital Tax and \$0.4 million of Large Corporation Tax compared to \$1.5 million and \$0.5 million, respectively, in the corresponding period in 2005.

**Net Income.** Net income for the first quarter of 2006 was \$28.9 million compared to a loss of \$11.6 million for the first quarter in 2005. The variance was the result of higher production and higher sales prices, combined with lower unrealized loss on financial derivatives and lower depletion expense. This was partially offset by higher operating costs and a decrease in future tax recovery.

**Liquidity and Capital Resources.** At March 31, 2006, total net debt excluding notional marked-tomarket assets or liabilities was \$402.3 million compared to \$423.7 million at the end of 2005. Borrowings under Baytex's bank facilities were \$124.1 million, with the capacity of the facilities set at \$250 million. The bank facilities have been increased to \$300 million subsequent to the end of the first quarter. As at March 31, 2006, \$55.1 million principal amount of the 6.5% convertible debentures (original issue at \$100 million) had been tendered for conversion into trust units.

#### Capital Expenditures.

The Trust's total capital expenditures are summarized as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31		
(\$ thousands)	2006	2005	
Land	3,310	1,205	
Seismic	199	520	
Drilling and completion	32,440	21,473	
Equipment	8,770	4,286	
Other	167	981	
Total exploration and development	44,886	28,465	
Property dispositions	(570)	(91)	
Net capital expenditures	44,316	28,374	

### Conference Call

Baytex will host a conference call and question and answer session at 2:00 p.m. MT (4:00 p.m. ET) on Tuesday, May 9, 2006 to discuss our first quarter results. The conference call will be hosted by Raymond Chan, President and Chief Executive Officer, Derek Aylesworth, Chief Financial Officer and Anthony Marino, Chief Operating Officer. Interested parties are invited to participate by calling toll-free across North America at 1-800-289-6406. An archived recording of the call will be available from May 9, 2006 until May 23, 2006 by dialing 1-800-558-5253 or 416-626-4100 within the Toronto area, entering access code 21290910. The conference call will also be archived on Baytex's website at www.baytex.ab.ca.

#### Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements in this press release are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Specifically, this press release contains forward-looking statements relating to Management's approach to operations and Baytex's production, cash flow, debt levels and cash distribution practices. The reader is cautioned that assumptions used in the preparation of such information, although considered reasonable by Baytex at the time of preparation, may prove to be incorrect. Actual results achieved during the forecast period will vary from the information provided herein as a result of numerous known and unknown risks and uncertainties and other factors. Such factors include, but are not limited to: general economic, market and business

conditions; industry capacity; competitive action by other companies; fluctuations in oil and gas prices; the ability to produce and transport crude oil and natural gas to markets; the result of exploration and development drilling and related activities; fluctuation in foreign currency exchange rates; the imprecision of reserve estimates; the ability of suppliers to meet commitments; actions by governmental authorities including increases in taxes; decisions or approvals of administrative tribunals; change in environmental and other regulations; risks associated with oil and gas operations; the weather in Baytex's areas of operations; and other factors, many of which are beyond the control of Baytex. There is no representation by Baytex that actual results achieved during the forecast period will be the same in whole or in part as those forecast.

Baytex Energy Trust is a conventional oil and gas income trust focused on maintaining its production and asset base through internal property development and delivering consistent returns to its unitholders. Trust units of Baytex are traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol BTE.UN and on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol BTE.

Financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005 are attached.

#### For further information, please contact:

Baytex Energy Trust Ray Chan, President & Chief Executive Officer Telephone: (403) 267-0715 or Derek Aylesworth, Chief Financial Officer Telephone: (403) 538-3639 or Kathy Robertson, Investor Relations Representative Telephone: (403) 538-3645 Toll Free Number: 1-800-524-5521 Website: www.baytex.ab.ca

# Baytex Energy Trust Consolidated Balance Sheets

(thousands) (I Inaudited)

(thousands) (Unaudited)	March 31, 2006		Decen	nber 31, 2005
Assets				
Current assets	<u>^</u>	CO 005	¢	70.000
Accounts receivable	\$	68,905	\$	73,869
Crude oil inventory Financial derivative contracts (note 12)		9,843		9,984 5,183
		78,748		89,036
Deferred charges and other assets		6,532		9,038
Petroleum and natural gas properties		976,456		969,738
Goodwill		37,755		37,755
	\$	1,099,491	\$	1,105,567
Liabilities Current liabilities Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Distributions payable to unitholders Bank Ioan Financial derivative contracts (note 12)	\$	90,932 12,955 124,107 1,435	\$	89,966 10,393 123,588
		229,429		223,947
Long-term debt (note 4)		210,015		209,799
Convertible debentures (note 5)		42,989		73,766
Asset retirement obligations (note 6)		33,083		33,010
Deferred obligations (note 13)		4,016		4,558
Future income taxes		153,186		159,745
		672,718		704,825
Non-controlling interest (note 8)		12,987		12,810
Unitholders' Equity				
Unitholders' capital (note 7)		591,634		555,020
Conversion feature of debentures (note 5)		2,150		3,698
Contributed surplus		10,747		10,332
Accumulated distributions		(306,492)		(267,986)
Accumulated income		115,747		86,868
		413,786		387,932
	\$	1,099,491	\$	1,105,567

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

# **Baytex Energy Trust**

# Consolidated Statements of Operations and Accumulated Income (Deficit)

(thousands, except per unit data) (Unaudited)

	Tł	ree Months Er	ided Ma	rch 31
		2006		2005
Revenue			(resta	ted - note 3)
Petroleum and natural gas sales	\$	136,231	\$	111,275
Royalties		(18,065)		(16,578)
Realized gain (loss) on financial derivatives		143		(6,642)
Unrealized gain (loss) on financial derivatives		(6,617)		(32,313)
		111,692		55,742
Expenses				
Operating		27,720		25,638
Transportation		5,694		5,470
General and administrative		4,734		3,655
Unit-based compensation (note 9)		1,731		1,292
Interest (note 10)		8,786		7,046
Foreign exchange loss		216		1,080
Depletion, depreciation and accretion		38,167		43,279
		87,048		87,460
Income (loss) before income taxes and non-controlling interest		24,644		(31,718)
Income taxes (recovery)				
Current		2,159		1,967
Future		(6,592)		(21,757)
		(4,433)		(19,790)
Income (loss) before non-controlling interest		29,077		(11,928)
Non-controlling interest (note 8)		(198)		317
Net income (loss)		28,879		(11,611)
Accumulated income, beginning of period, as previously reported		86,868		5,694
Accounting policy change for unit based compensation (note 3)		-		1,298
Accumulated income, beginning of period, as restated		86,868		6,992
Accumulated income (deficit), end of period	\$	115,747	\$	(4,619)
Net income (loss) per trust unit				
Basic	\$	0.41	\$	(0.17)
Diluted	\$	0.39	\$	(0.17)
Weighted average trust units				
Basic		70,664		66,614
Diluted		77,853		69,736

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

# Baytex Energy Trust Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

(thousands) (Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31				
	2006		2005		
			(resta	ted - note 3)	
Cash provided by (used in):					
OPERATING ACTIVITIES					
Net income (loss)	\$	28,879	\$	(11,611)	
Items not affecting cash:					
Unit-based compensation (note 9)		1,731		1,292	
Amortization of deferred charges		449		261	
Foreign exchange loss		216		1,080	
Depletion, depreciation and accretion		38,167		43,279	
Accretion on debentures		83		-	
Unrealized loss on financial derivatives (note 12)		6,617		32,313	
Future income tax recovery		(6,592)		(21,757)	
Non-controlling interest (note 8)		198		(317)	
		69,748		44,540	
Change in non-cash working capital		914		(17,005)	
Asset retirement expenditures		(407)		(972)	
Decrease in deferred charges and other assets		(489)		(472)	
		69,766		26,091	
FINANCING ACTIVITIES					
Increase in bank loan		519		28,826	
Payments of distributions		(33,715)		(29,398)	
Issue of trust units		2,590		1,103	
		(30,606)		531	
INVESTING ACTIVITIES					
Petroleum and natural gas property expenditures		(44,886)		(28,465)	
Proceeds on disposal of petroleum and natural gas properties		570		91	
Change in non-cash working capital		5,156		1,752	
		(39,160)		(26,622)	
Change in cash and short-term investments		-		-	
Cash and short-term investments, beginning of period		<u> </u>			
Cash and short-term investments, end of period	\$	-	\$	_	

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

### Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

Three Months Ended March 31, 2006 and 2005 (all tabular amounts in thousands, except per unit amounts) (unaudited)

#### 1. Basis of Presentation

Baytex Energy Trust (the "Trust") was established on September 2, 2003 under a Plan of Arrangement involving the Trust and Baytex Energy Ltd. (the "Company"). The Trust is an open-ended investment trust created pursuant to a trust indenture. Subsequent to the Plan of Arrangement, the Company is a subsidiary of the Trust.

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Trust and its subsidiaries and have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles as described in note 2.

#### 2. Accounting Policies

The interim consolidated financial statements have been prepared following the same accounting policies and methods of computation as the consolidated financial statements of the Trust as at December 31, 2005. The interim consolidated financial statements contain disclosures, which are supplemental to the Trust's annual consolidated financial statements. Certain disclosures, which are normally required to be included in the notes to the annual consolidated financial statements, have been condensed or omitted. The interim consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Trust's consolidated financial statements and notes thereto for the year ended December 31, 2005.

#### 3. Change in Accounting Policy

#### Unit-based Compensation

Prior to July 1, 2005, the Trust accounted for stock based compensation based on the intrinsic value of the grants at each reporting date. Effective July 1, 2005, on a prospective basis, the Trust began valuing unit rights using the fair value based method. In the fourth quarter of 2005, the Trust determined that the fair value methodology should have been applied to all grants since CICA 3870 was adopted, and the financial statements of prior periods have been restated accordingly.

As a result of retroactively adopting the fair value method of estimating compensation expense, net loss in the first three months of 2005 was reduced by \$5.2 million, net of non-controlling interest of \$0.1 million. Net loss per unit changed from \$0.25 to \$0.17. The opening 2005 accumulated income was increased by \$1.3 million, net of non-controlling interest of \$0.1 million. Accordingly, the opening 2005 contributed surplus was also decreased by \$1.2 million. There was a \$0.07 million decrease in the 2005 opening balance of unitholders' capital relating to the transfer of value from contributed surplus on exercise of unit rights in 2004. There was no impact on cash flow as a result of adopting this policy.

#### 4. Long-term Debt

	March 31, 2006	December 31, 2005
10.5% senior subordinated notes (US\$247) 9.625% senior subordinated notes (US\$179,699)	\$288 209,727	\$288 209,511
	\$ 210,015	\$ 209,799

#### 5. Convertible Unsecured Subordinated Debentures

On June 6, 2005 the Trust issued \$100 million principal amount of 6.5% convertible unsecured subordinated debentures for net proceeds of \$95.8 million. The debentures pay interest semi-annually and are convertible at the option of the holder at any time into fully paid trust units at a conversion price of \$14.75 per trust unit. The debentures mature on December 31, 2010 at which time they are due and payable.

The debentures have been classified as debt net of the fair value of the conversion feature which has been classified as unitholders' equity. This resulted in \$95.2 million being classified as debt and \$4.8 million being classified as equity. Issue costs are being amortized over the term of the debentures, and the debt portion will accrete up to the principal balance at maturity. The accretion, amortization of issue costs and the interest paid are expensed as interest expense in the consolidated statements of operations. If the debentures are converted to trust units, a portion of the value of the conversion feature under unitholders' equity will be reclassified to unitholders' capital along with the principal amounts converted.

Issued, June 6, 2005	\$ 100,000
Fair value of conversion feature	(4,800)
Conversion of debentures and amortization of discount	 (21,434)
Balance, December 31, 2005	 73,766
Conversion of debentures and amortization of discount	 (30,777)
Balance, March 31, 2006	\$ 42,989

#### 6. Asset Retirement Obligations

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2006		Year Ended December 31, 2005		
Balance, beginning of period	\$	33,010	\$	73,297	
Liabilities incurred		496		406	
Liabilities settled		(407)		(1,637)	
Acquisition of liabilities		-		3,410	
Disposition of liabilities		(481)		(2,117)	
Accretion		649		5,762	
Change in estimate		(184)		(46,111)	
Balance, end of period	\$	33,083	\$	33,010	

The Trust's asset retirement obligations are based on the Trust's net ownership in wells and facilities. Management estimates the costs to abandon and reclaim the wells and the facilities and the estimated time period during which these costs will be incurred in the future. These costs are expected to be incurred over the next 52 years with the majority of costs incurred between 2044 and 2057. The undiscounted amount of estimated cash flow required to settle the retirement obligations at March 31, 2006 is \$220 million. Estimated cash flow has been discounted at a credit-adjusted risk free rate of 8.0 percent and an inflation rate of 2.5 percent for the years 2006 to 2008, and 1.5 percent thereafter.

## 7. Unitholders' Capital

The Trust is authorized to issue an unlimited number of trust units.

	Number of units	Amount
Balance, December 31, 2004	66,538	\$ 515,663
Issued on conversion of debentures	1,549	22,859
Issued on conversion of exchangeable shares	363	5,373
Issued on exercise of trust unit rights <sup>(1)</sup>	369	4,217
Issued pursuant to distribution reinvestment program	464	6,908
Balance, December 31, 2005	69,283	555,020
Issued on conversion of debentures	2,188	30,402
Issued on conversion of exchangeable shares	4	76
Issued on exercise of trust unit rights <sup>(1)</sup>	372	3,907
Issued pursuant to distribution reinvestment program	124	2,229
Balance, March 31, 2006	71,971	\$ 591,634

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes compensation expense transferred from contributed surplus.

#### 8. Non-Controlling Interest

The Company is authorized to issue an unlimited number of exchangeable shares. The exchangeable shares can be converted (at the option of the holder) into trust units at any time up to September 2, 2013. Up to 1.9 million exchangeable shares may be redeemed annually by the Company for either a cash payment or the issue of trust units. The number of trust units issued upon conversion is based upon the exchange ratio in effect at the conversion date. The exchange ratio is calculated monthly based on the cash distribution paid divided by the weighted average trust unit price for the five day trading period ending on the record date. The exchange ratio at March 31, 2006 was 1.40894 trust units per exchangeable share. Cash distributions are not paid on the exchangeable shares. The exchangeable shares are not publicly traded, although they may be transferred by the holder without first being converted to trust units.

The exchangeable shares of the Company are presented as a non-controlling interest on the consolidated balance sheet because they fail to meet the non-transferability criteria necessary in order for them to be classified as equity. Net income has been reduced by an amount equivalent to the non-controlling interest proportionate share of the Trust's consolidated net income with a corresponding increase to the non-controlling interest on the balance sheet.

	Number of	
Non-controlling Interest	Exchangeable Shares	Amount
Balance, December 31, 2004 (restated – note 3)	1,876	\$ 12,936
Exchanged for trust units	(279)	(1,975)
Non-controlling interest in net income	<u> </u>	 1,849
Balance, December 31, 2005	1,597	12,810
Exchanged for trust units	(3)	(21)
Non-controlling interest in net income	<u> </u>	 198
Balance, March 31, 2006	1,594	\$ 12,987

#### 9. Trust Unit Rights Incentive Plan

The Trust has a Trust Unit Rights Incentive Plan (the "Plan") whereby the maximum number of trust units issuable pursuant to the plan is a "rolling" maximum equal to 10% of the outstanding trust units plus the number of trust units which may be issued on the exchange of outstanding exchangeable shares. Any increase in the issued and outstanding units will result in an increase in the available number of trust units issuable under the plan, and any exercises of incentive rights will make new grants available under the plan. Trust unit rights are granted at the volume weighted average trading price of the trust units for the five trading days prior to the date of grant, vest over three years and have a term of five years. The Plan provides for the exercise price of the rights to be reduced in future periods by a portion of the future distributions.

The Trust recorded compensation expense of \$1.7 million for the first three months in 2006 (\$1.3 million in 2005) pursuant to rights granted under the Plan (note 3).

Effective January 1, 2006, the Trust has commenced using the binomial-lattice model to calculate the estimated fair value of the unit rights issued.

The following assumptions were used to arrive at the estimate of fair values:

	2006	2005
Expected annual reduction to exercise price	\$2.16	\$1.80
Expected volatility	23%	23%
Risk-free interest rate	3.5%	3.7%
Expected life of right (years)	Various	5
	(up to 5 years)	

The number of unit rights issued and exercise prices are detailed below:

	Number of rights	Weighted average exercise price <sup>(1)</sup>	
Balance, December 31, 2004	3,537	\$ 9.60	
Granted	2,451	\$ 15.01	
Exercised	(369)	\$ 7.90	
Cancelled	(253)	\$ 9.83	
Balance, December 31, 2005	5,366	\$ 10.88	
Granted	363	\$ 17.67	
Exercised	(372)	\$ 6.97	
Cancelled	(117)	\$ 10.51	
Balance, March 31, 2006	5,240	\$ 11.09	
(1) Everying price reflects great prices less reduction in eve	raina prina na dinaugand about		

(1) Exercise price reflects grant prices less reduction in exercise price as discussed above.

Range of Exercise Prices	Number Outstanding at March 31, 2006	Weighted Average Remaining Term	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Number Exercisable at March 31, 2006	Weighted Average Exercise Price
		(years)			
\$ 4.87 to \$ 8.50	1,591	2.5	\$ 6.07	887	\$ 6.06
\$ 8.51 to \$12.50	1,364	3.8	\$ 10.53	317	\$ 9.97
\$12.51 to \$16.50	1,920	4.6	\$ 12.49	12	\$ 12.64
\$16.51 to \$19.72	365	4.8	\$ 17.16	-	-
\$ 4.87 to \$19.72	5,240	3.8	\$ 11.09	1,216	\$ 7.15

The following table summarizes information about the unit rights outstanding at March 31, 2006:

## 10. Interest Expense

The Trust incurred interest expense on its outstanding debt as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31			
	2006	2005		
Bank loan	\$ 1,942	\$ 2,244		
Amortization of deferred charge	449	261		
Long-term debt	6,395	4,541		
Total interest	\$ 8,786	\$ 7,046		

#### 11. Supplemental Cash Flow Information

	Three Months Ended March 31			
	2006	2005		
Interest paid	\$ 12,814	\$ 11,434		
Income taxes paid	\$ 1,621	\$ 1,847		

#### 12. Financial Derivative Contracts

At March 31, 2006, the Trust had derivative contracts for the following:

OIL

• • •				
	Period	Volume	Price	Index
Price collar	Calendar 2006	2,000 bbl/d	US\$55.00 - \$80.85	WTI
Price collar	Calendar 2006	2,000 bbl/d	US\$55.00 – \$84.18	WTI
Price collar	Calendar 2006	2,000 bbl/d	US\$55.00 – \$85.30	WTI
Price collar	Calendar 2006	1,000 bbl/d	US\$55.00 – \$87.10	WTI
Price collar	Calendar 2006	1,000 bbl/d	US\$55.00 – \$87.35	WTI
Price collar	Calendar 2007	2,000 bbl/d	US\$55.00 – \$83.60	WTI
Price collar	Calendar 2007	3,000 bbl/d	US\$55.00 – \$83.75	WTI

#### **FOREIGN CURRENCY**

	Period	Amount	Floor	Сар
Collar	Calendar 2006	US\$3,000,000 per month	CAD\$/US\$1.1700	CAD\$/US\$1.2065
Collar	February 1, 2006 to	US\$4,000,000 per month	CAD\$/US\$1.1500	CAD\$/US\$1.1835
	December 31, 2006			
Collar	January 9, 2006 to	US\$3,000,000 per month	CAD\$/US\$1.1500	CAD\$/US\$1.1780
	December 31, 2006			

#### INTEREST RATE SWAP

Period	Principal	Rate	
November 2003 to July 2010	US\$179,699,000	3-month LIBOR plus 5.2%	

Under the CICA guideline for hedge accounting, the Trust's financial derivative contracts for oil and foreign currency do not qualify as effective accounting hedges. Accordingly, these contracts have been accounted for based on the fair value method.

Subsequent to March 31, 2006, the Company entered into derivative contracts for the following:

OIL

	Period	Volume	Price	Index
Price collar	Calendar 2007	2,000 bbl/d	US\$60.00 - \$80.40	WTI
Price collar	Calendar 2007	1,000 bbl/d	US\$60.00 - \$80.60	WTI

#### 13. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

In October 2002, the Trust entered into a long-term crude oil supply contract with a third party that requires the delivery of up to 20,000 barrels per day of Lloydminster Blend crude oil at a price fixed at 71% of NYMEX WTI oil price. The contract is for an initial term of five years commencing January 1, 2003. The contract volumes increased from 9,000 barrels per day in January 2003 to 20,000 barrels per day in October 2003 and thereafter.

At March 31, 2006, the Trust had natural gas physical sales contracts with third parties as follows:

GAS

	Period	Volume	Price
Fixed price	April 1, 2006 to October 31, 2006	5,000 GJ/d	CAD\$8.40
Fixed price	April 1, 2006 to October 31, 2006	2,000 GJ/d	CAD\$9.01
Price collar	April 1, 2006 to October 31, 2006	5,000 GJ/d	CAD\$7.50 - \$10.50
Price collar	April 1, 2006 to October 31, 2006	2,000 GJ/d	CAD\$7.80 - \$10.55
Price collar	April 1, 2006 to October 31, 2006	3,000 GJ/d	CAD\$9.50 - \$12.60

At March 31, 2006 the Trust had operating lease and transportation obligations as detailed below:

	Payments Due Within					
(\$thousands)	Total	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years
Operating leases	7,712	1,621	1,955	1,985	1,985	166
Transportation agreements	3,009	1,733	1,099	177	-	-
Total	10,721	3,354	3,054	2,162	1,985	166

At March 31, 2006, there are outstanding letters of credit aggregating \$7.2 million issued as security for performance under certain contracts.

The Company has future contractual processing obligations with respect to assets acquired. The fair value of \$7.8 million of the original obligation is recorded as a deferred obligation and is being drawn down over the life of the obligations which continue until October 31, 2008 and which, at March 31, 2006, is recorded at \$4,016.

The Trust is engaged in litigation and claims arising in the normal course of operations, none of which could reasonably be expected to materially affect the Trust's financial position or reported results of operations.