
**CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES CONSOLIDATES COTE D'IVOIRE INTERESTS
CALGARY, ALBERTA – MAY 1, 2001 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Canadian Natural Resources Limited ("Canadian Natural") announces that it has completed the acquisition of additional equity interests in Côte d'Ivoire Block CI-26, effective January 1, 2001. The assets, which were acquired from Addax Petroleum Côte d'Ivoire Limited, the wholly owned subsidiary of Addax Petroleum N.V., include a 22.33% equity interest in the Espoir field, which is located 60 kilometres south-west of Abidjan, the major city in Côte d'Ivoire on the west coast of Africa. This purchase increases Canadian Natural's equity in the field to 58.67%.

Canadian Natural operates the Espoir field which has estimated recoverable gross reserves of 93 million barrels of oil and 180 billion cubic feet of natural gas. The field is scheduled to commence production in early 2002, at 7,500 barrels per day of oil and 20 million cubic feet per day of natural gas net to Canadian Natural's increased ownership interest; with production levels peaking on a net basis at 16,500 barrels of oil per day and 20 million cubic feet per day of natural gas.

The development of Espoir is proceeding on schedule within a gross capital budget of US\$265 million, with the first phase of development taking place at East Espoir. Installation of the well head tower was completed in April, and drilling of the first of seven development wells planned for 2001 will commence in June. Construction of the subsea pipeline, which will carry associated natural gas production, is virtually complete. The field development plan includes two wellhead platforms with hydrocarbon processing on a Floating Production Storage and Offtake ("FPSO") vessel. Development of the West Espoir accumulation will proceed after full development of East Espoir, in approximately three years.

Canadian Natural's partners in Espoir are Petroci Exploration Production S.A.(20%) and Tullow Ltd. (21.33%).

The acquisition is a continuation of Canadian Natural's strategy to expand its international production base to in excess of 100,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day by 2005, representing a doubling of current international production levels of approximately 50,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day, an increase of 25% from production levels at the time of acquiring Ranger Oil in July 2000. This strategy, which commenced with the acquisition of Ranger utilizes the international experience in Canadian Natural's London office to focus on exploitation opportunities located offshore West Africa, which Canadian Natural can operate to provide meaningful annual growth in it's international oil and natural gas production and reserves.

In commenting on the acquisition, Allan Markin, Chairman, stated "This acquisition is consistent with Canadian Natural's strategy which embodies high ownership levels, operatorship and a focus on key basins. When combined with other offshore leases, including the nearby Baobab discovery on Block CI-40 which is still under evaluation, we are excited about the long term potential of this new core area."

Canadian Natural Resources Limited is a senior independent oil and natural gas exploration, development and production company based in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. The Company's operations are focused in Western Canada, the North Sea and Offshore West Africa.

Additional Information on the Espoir Development is available on Canadian Natural's website. For more information, please contact:

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TRADING SYMBOLS

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