

For Immediate Release

February 18, 2004

***Petroleum Research Atlantic Canada continues expansion with first onshore exploration and production member***

Halifax, NS – Petroleum Research Atlantic Canada is continuing to expand its membership base with the addition of Columbia Natural Resources Canada, Limited (CNRC). CNRC is PRAC's 39<sup>th</sup> member and the first that is engaged in onshore exploration and production activity in eastern Canada.

“We are pleased to welcome Columbia as a member,” said Lee Shinkle, PRAC's Executive Director. “The addition of CNRC to PRAC not only raises awareness of the fact that we have an onshore industry in Eastern Canada but it will provide insight into some of the issues facing this developing sector and offer a local perspective on onshore R & D needs.”

Columbia Natural Resources LLC (CNR), a Triana Energy Company, is one of the leading natural gas producers in the Eastern United States. Headquartered in Charleston, West Virginia, CNR operates over 8,200 wells throughout the Appalachian Basin, and has over 4.5 million acres of mineral interest holdings from Tennessee to New Brunswick, Canada, accounting for 1.2 trillion cubic feet of natural gas reserves. CNR operates over 6,400 miles of gathering pipeline, serving over 200 other Appalachian producers throughout West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio and Virginia.

CNR's Canadian Subsidiary, Columbia Natural Resources Canada, Limited, holds over 800,000 net acres of exploration licenses in New Brunswick, having drilled some 14 exploration wells in the region since 1999.

Petroleum Research Atlantic Canada is a federally incorporated, not for profit, public-private partnership that began operations in 1999. PRAC is committed to increasing capacity and scale of petroleum related research in Atlantic Canada. PRAC's 39 members are drawn from academia, federal and provincial governments and industry. Visit PRAC online at [www.pr-ac.ca](http://www.pr-ac.ca)

-30-

For further information, please contact:

Amanda Barrett at 902-494-2762, [amanda.barrett@pr-ac.ca](mailto:amanda.barrett@pr-ac.ca)

Jim Dissen at 304-353-5112, [jdissen@TrianaEnergy.com](mailto:jdissen@TrianaEnergy.com)