



Whiting Petroleum Corporation

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NEWS RELEASE

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Whiting Announces Appointment of Bruce R. DeBoer as Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

DENVER – January 13, 2005 – Whiting Petroleum Corporation (NYSE: WLL) announced the appointment of Bruce R. DeBoer as Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary. Mr. DeBoer has 25 years of industry experience, most recently as Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of Tom Brown, Inc. until it was acquired. He previously held similar positions with Presidio Oil Company, Canterra Petroleum, Inc., and Energetics, Inc. in addition to the private practice of law in Denver.

James J. Volker, President and Chief Executive Officer of Whiting Petroleum stated: "Whiting is very pleased to have Bruce join us. With his strong industry knowledge and experience, we believe he will make valuable contributions to the growth of Whiting Petroleum Corporation."

Mr. DeBoer holds MBA and JD degrees from the University of South Dakota and is licensed to practice law in Colorado, Texas and South Dakota.

About Whiting Petroleum

Whiting Petroleum Corporation is a holding company for Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation and Equity Oil Company. Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation is a growing energy company based in Denver, Colorado that is engaged in oil and natural gas acquisition, exploitation, exploration and production activities primarily in the Gulf Coast, Permian Basin, Rocky Mountains, Michigan and Mid-Continent regions of the United States. The Company trades publicly under the symbol WLL on the New York Stock Exchange. For further information, please visit www.whiting.com.

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