



Whiting Petroleum Corporation

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NEWS RELEASE

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Whiting Petroleum Announces Promotions of Brent Jensen to Treasurer and Gale Keithline to Vice President, IT

DENVER – December 22, 2005 – Whiting Petroleum Corporation (**NYSE: WLL**) today announced the promotions of Brent Jensen to Treasurer and Chief Accounting Officer of the Company and Gale Keithline to Vice President of Information Technology. Previously, Mr. Jensen was the Company's Controller, a position he will continue to hold. Mr. Jensen will continue to report to Michael J. Stevens, Whiting's Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Keithline was Whiting's Director of IT. Mr. Keithline will continue to report to James J. Volker, Whiting's CEO. Both appointments will be effective January 1, 2006.

Mr. Jensen has been with Whiting since August 2005. He was previously Senior Audit Manager for PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP in Houston, Texas, where he also held various positions in their oil and gas audit practice after joining the company in 1994, including assignments in Milan, Italy and Moscow, Russia. He has 12 years of oil and gas accounting experience and is a certified public accountant. Mr. Jensen holds a Bachelor of Arts degree with an emphasis on accounting and business from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Prior to joining Whiting in 2002, Mr. Keithline was the principal of Impact Systems Consulting, an Evergreen, Colorado-based consulting firm involved in project management, infrastructure design/development and application development. He has more than 25 years of information technology experience, including positions with Resort Computer Corporation of Lakewood, Colorado and Industrial Computer Systems in Evergreen. Mr. Keithline holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Management Science from Metropolitan State College in Denver.

About Whiting Petroleum Corporation

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