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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Calgary, November 25, 2008

Ziff Energy Releases Annual Operations Analysis Canadian Operating Costs Continue to Soar

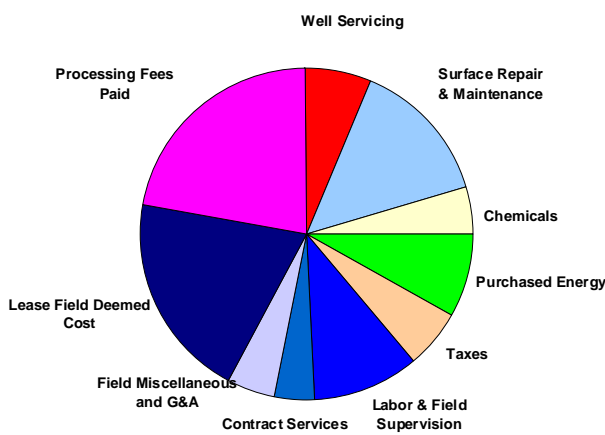
Recently Ziff Energy Group released its 15th edition of Improving Field Performance (WCSB) Study which assesses upstream operating costs and production reliability. The study assessed 300 fields and 32,500 producing wells, which produce 4.9 Bcf/d of gas and 340 MBbl/d of conventional oil. These represent annual operating costs of \$3.1 Billion, and are operated by both E&P companies and Trusts.

This analysis is especially important today with the huge declines in the oil and gas prices. Overall, the study found that oil & gas field operating costs in Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin continued to rise in 2007. Weighted average unit costs increased by 6% to \$0.97/McfE for gas fields and by 11% to over \$11.70/BOE for oil fields. Main drivers of the cost increase were the *many service costs that have increased* due to the high levels of activity, and higher *energy costs*.

The makeup of average gas and oil costs in 2007 is shown in the charts below:

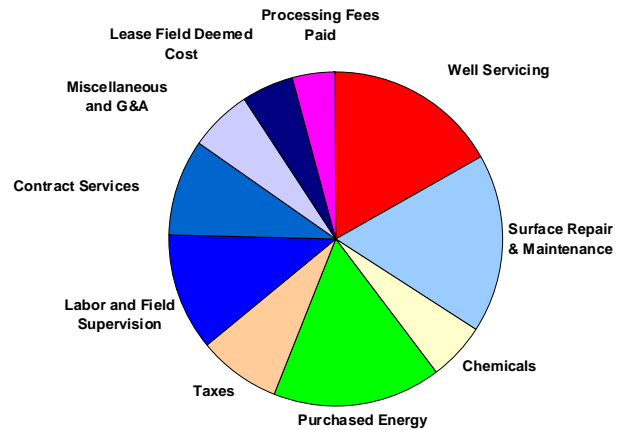
Average Operating Costs

Gas Fields



Total: 97¢/McfE

Oil Fields



Total: \$11.90/BOE

Production Reliability

This year, the study includes oil and gas Production Reliability assessment through evaluating Production Efficiency, Meantime between Incidents, Meantime to Recover, etc. Production efficiency of assessed oil and gas fields range from 75% to a “best in class” 98.7%, presenting significant opportunities for volume maximization. Reducing production incidents and down time not only increases the revenue, but also reduces unit operating cost.

Trends

- *Continuation of significant overall cost inflation* - the main goal of the operations study is to compare fields of similar type (200 gas; 100 oil). On average, the **potential operating cost reduction opportunities** were **20%** of total adjusted operating costs.
- *Significant cost improvement opportunities* are generally available within the following cost classifications:
 - **Energy**, particularly **Lease Fuel** consumption
 - **Processing Fees**
 - **Surface Repairs & Maintenance**
 - **Well Servicing**
 - **Contract Services**
 - **Labour & Field Supervision.**

(Some of these areas involve contract renegotiations).

In view of the recent dramatic drop in oil and gas prices, Ziff Energy forecasts that operators will need to focus on these areas in 2009.

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Ziff Energy Group, founded in 1982, is a leading North American gas consulting firm. On an international basis, Ziff Energy provides sophisticated industry and operational business analysis and custom consulting to the world wide energy industry. We have offices in Calgary and Houston, the primary oil and gas centers in North America. Our growing staff of 55⁺ includes **many industry specialists**, with **15 to 30 years of domestic and international experience**.

