



For Immediate Release

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**NORTH WEST UPGRADING RECEIVES REGULATORY APPROVAL WITH
CONDITIONS FROM ALBERTA ENERGY AND UTILITIES BOARD**

***Independent Upgrader is First in Line to Receive Approval to Build in
Alberta's Industrial Heartland***

Calgary, AB, August 8, 2007 – North West Upgrading Inc. (North West), a Calgary-based, privately-owned company building an independent, heavy oil upgrader in Alberta's Industrial Heartland, announced today that per the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board (EUB) Decision 2007-058, released August 7, 2007, the EUB has found the North West Upgrader Project to be in the public interest, and that, subject to conditions listed, the EUB is prepared to approve North West's Project. Within the Decision Report, and with respect to the SocioEconomic Project benefits, it is stated that "...the Board believes that the overall benefits derived from the project will be significant for the region, for Alberta, and for Canada."

North West filed its Project Application No. 1444141 with the EUB and Alberta Environment January 30, 2006 and, following a technical review of the application and environmental impact assessment, a public hearing was held from May 1st – May 10th, 2007. The application and public hearing process brought forward all the evidence considered by the EUB in reaching its decision.

"We appreciate the comments and support offered by our local stakeholders and will continue to work with them through the entire life of the Project. We will use what we've heard through consultation and the public hearing process as a foundation for our communications," stated Doug Bertsch, VP Regulatory Affairs for North West Upgrading.

"We are pleased to reach this very important milestone for the North West Upgrader Project," said Robert Pearce, President and CEO of North West Upgrading. "This facility will be a significant link in the infrastructure value chain required to turn bitumen into products and we look forward to creating the spin-off benefits which will flow from the North West Upgrader."



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About North West Upgrading

North West Upgrading Inc. is a Calgary-based, privately-owned company committed to building an independent, heavy oil upgrader in Alberta's Industrial Heartland. The Upgrader will enhance the economic value of Alberta's bitumen and heavy oil production by producing light, low sulphur products and diluent. The Upgrader will have a total processing capacity of 231,000 barrels per day of blended feedstock (150,000 barrels per day of crude bitumen) over three phases. North West anticipates it will achieve start up for the first phase in late 2010. All three phase are expected to be operating by 2015. www.northwestupgrading.com.