

August 4, 2003

ULTRA PETROLEUM REPORTS 483 % EARNINGS GROWTH IN 2ND QUARTER

Houston, TX - Ultra Petroleum (AMEX-UPL, TSX-UP) today reported earnings increased 483% to \$7,620,055 or \$0.10 per share for the quarter ending June 30, 2003 compared to \$1,306,868 or \$0.02 per share for the same period in 2002. Cash flow ⁽¹⁾ for the quarter ended June 30, 2003 increased 291% to \$16,248,578 or \$0.21 per share, compared to \$4,153,428 or \$0.05 per share for the same period in 2002.

For the six-month period ending June 30, 2003 earnings increased 425% to \$15,841,546 or \$0.20 per share, compared to \$3,018,304 or \$0.04 for the same period in 2002. Cash flow ⁽¹⁾ for the six-month period increased 259% to \$33,835,203 or \$0.43 per share, compared to \$9,415,433 or \$0.12 per share for the same period in 2002.

Production for the second quarter increased 88% to 5.9 Bcfe; averaging 65 MMcfe/d compared to 3.1 Bcfe or 34 MMcfe/d for the same quarter in 2002. Average natural gas prices increased to \$3.93 per Mcf for the second quarter compared to \$2.52 for the same period in 2002. Average oil prices for the second quarter of 2003 increased to \$30.84 compared to \$25.58 in 2002.

Production for the six-month period ended June 30, 2003 increased 73 % to 12.3 Bcfe, or 68 MMcfe/d compared to 7.1 Bcfe or 39.2 MMcfe/d for the same period in 2002. Average natural gas prices for the second quarter increased to \$3.86 per Mcf compared to \$2.36 per Mcf during the same period in 2002 while average oil prices increased to \$29.90 compared to \$22.85 in 2002.

During the quarter Ultra's bank group increased Ultra's borrowing base to \$155 million from \$120 million, adding Bank of Scotland to its existing group which includes Bank One, NA, Union Bank of California, Guarantee Bank, Hibernia National Bank and Compass Bank, with Banc One Capital Markets, Inc. acting as arranger on the transaction. At June 30, 2003 Ultra had \$72 million drawn under its bank facility.

“By nearly doubling second quarter production to 5.9 Bcfe, an amount greater than our total year 2000 production, we enjoyed a 483% increase in earnings to \$7.6 million. Over the past few years I've said that that we would focus on growing reserves, and then production, and earnings and cash flow would follow. We are seeing the results of that direction, and it is rewarding to see our growth targets met or exceeded while continuing with our excellent cost structure. Recent operational successes instill an added

confidence that our 2003 growth targets of increasing production 55% to 27 Bcfe and increasing proved reserves 25% to 875 Bcfe will be met. Enjoying what has already been a much better year for Rocky Mountain natural gas prices than was 2002, I anticipate 2003 will be a record year for Ultra Petroleum,” stated Michael D. Watford, Ultra’s Chairman, President and CEO.

	For the Three-Month Period Ended		For the Six-Month Period Ended	
	30-Jun-03	30-Jun-02	30-Jun-03	30-Jun-02
Production				
Oil Production-bbls	47,479	26,628	100,773	60,722
Natural Gas (Mcf)	5,592,979	2,963,417	11,598,117	6,733,658
Gas Equivalent Production - Mcfe	5,877,853	3,123,185	12,302,755	7,098,190
Realized Product Prices				
Oil Price - \$/bbl	\$ 30.84	\$ 25.58	\$ 29.90	\$ 22.85
Gas Price 0 \$/mcf	\$ 3.93	\$ 2.52	\$ 3.86	\$ 2.36
Revenues				
Oil Revenue	\$ 1,464,430	\$ 681,105	\$ 3,012,936	\$ 1,387,478
Gas Revenue	\$ 22,001,224	\$ 7,462,282	\$ 45,123,812	\$ 15,862,228
Total Revenues	\$ 23,465,654	\$ 8,143,387	\$ 48,136,748	\$ 17,249,706
Operating costs and expenses				
Operating expenses	667,134	418,277	1,612,420	905,144
Taxes	2,603,589	783,452	5,266,810	1,719,039
Gathering	1,702,938	890,468	3,296,174	1,956,946
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	3,451,894	1,745,291	7,057,740	3,853,588
General and administrative	1,503,772	1,210,952	2,741,475	2,059,263
Stock compensation	405,720	425,280	1,018,220	796,165
Interest and debt expense	750,834	692,156	1,404,434	1,206,217
Total direct expenses	11,085,881	6,165,876	22,397,273	12,496,362
Interest and other income	11,191	5,346	19,768	12,336
Income Tax - deferred	4,770,909	675,989	9,917,697	1,747,376
Net Income	\$ 7,620,055	\$ 1,306,868	\$ 15,841,546	\$ 3,018,304
Per common share - basic	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.04
Per common share - fully diluted	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.20	\$ 0.04
Cash flow from operations (1)				
Per common share - basic	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.13
Per common share - diluted	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.12
Shares outstanding	74,226,168	73,837,543	74,226,168	73,837,543
Weighted Average - Basic	74,172,652	73,771,411	74,115,066	73,634,564
Weighted Average - Diluted	78,303,218	77,648,635	78,121,136	77,523,856
Costs per Mcfe				
Operating Expenses	0.113	0.134	0.131	0.128
Severance/Production Taxes	0.443	0.251	0.428	0.242
Gathering	0.290	0.285	0.268	0.276
Total Lease Operating	0.846	0.670	0.827	0.645
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	0.587	0.559	0.574	0.543
General and administrative	0.256	0.388	0.223	0.290

These statements are unaudited and subject to year-end adjustments.

(1) "Cash flow" refers to cash flow from operations before net changes in non-cash working capital.

Reconciliation of cash flow from operations before change in net working capital.	Three Months Ended June 30		Six Months Ended June 30	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 29,476,795	\$ 6,586,373	\$ 42,893,154	\$ 6,238,927
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ (11,004,469)	\$ (3,236,891)	\$ (9,615,237)	\$ 4,868,729
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	\$ 1,889,436	\$ 2,048,087	\$ 2,233,743	\$ (937,041)
Accounts receivable	\$ (2,003,492)	\$ (1,269,670)	\$ 564,995	\$ (806,481)
Restricted cash	\$ 364	\$ 531	\$ 726	\$ 1,299
Other long-term obligations	\$ (2,110,056)	\$ 25,000	\$ (2,242,178)	\$ 50,000
Cash flow from operations before net change in net working capital	\$ 16,248,578	\$ 4,153,428	\$ 33,835,203	\$ 9,415,433

Ultra Petroleum is an independent, exploration and production company focused on developing its long life natural gas reserves in the Green River Basin of Wyoming, and oil reserves in Bohai Bay, offshore China. Ultra is listed on the American Stock Exchange under the ticker "UPL" and on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the ticker "UP" with 74,227,668 shares outstanding.

The United States Securities and Exchange Commission permits oil and gas companies, in their filings with the SEC, to disclose only proved reserves that a company has demonstrated by actual production or conclusive formation tests to be economically and legally producible under existing economic and operating conditions. We may use certain terms in this press release, relating to reserves and/or production that the SEC's guidelines strictly prohibit us from including in filings with the SEC. U.S. Investors are urged to consider closely the disclosure in our Form 10-K available from us at 363 North Sam Houston Parkway E., Suite 1200, Houston, TX 77060. You can also obtain this form from the SEC by calling 1-800-SEC-0330.

This news release includes "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The opinions, forecasts, projections or other statements, other than statements of historical fact, are forward-looking statements. Although the Company believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, they can give no assurance that such expectations will prove to have been correct. Certain risks and uncertainties inherent in the Company's businesses are set forth in their filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Full details regarding the selected financial information provided above will be available in the Company's annual report and in the Annual Information form to be filed under the cover of Form 10-K.

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