

## NORTH WEST UPGRADING SELECTS CHEVRON LUMMUS GLOBAL

Chevron Lummus Global to Provide LC-FINING to the Alberta Oil Sands Upgrader

Richmond, CA, October 24, 2006 – North West Upgrading Inc. (North West), a Calgary-based, privately-owned company committed to building an independent, heavy oil upgrader in Alberta's Industrial Heartland, announced today the signing of a license agreement with Chevron Lummus Global LLC (CLG) to supply LC-FINING technology in its facility.

The 77,000 BPOD upgrader includes a residue hydrocracking plant utilizing LC-FINING technology as a key step in the manufacturing of refined products from bitumen. With this award, LC-FINING technology has been selected for five oil sands upgrading units in Canada.

"North West is pleased to sign this agreement with Chevron Lummus Global as it is the leader in residue hydrocracking with more than 20 years of international experience." said Robert Pearce, President and CEO of North West Upgrading. "This agreement builds our momentum as we anticipate receiving regulatory approval in 2007 and start-up of Phase One in 2010."

CLG's Joint Managing Director, Dr. Mal Maddock, stated that, "In residue hydroprocessing, this is a very strategic agreement for us and we look forward to providing a full range of support services to the North West Upgrading team today and in the future as they ramp up manufacturing products from bitumen." CLG will provide an engineering package including a reactor design package, follow-up technical support during the detailed engineering design, training prior to start-up, ISOFINING<sup>™</sup> catalysts and start-up support during the commissioning of the upgrader.

## About Chevron Lummus Global

CLG licenses refining hydroprocessing technologies and catalyst systems worldwide, and is a 50-50 joint venture between Chevron U.S.A. Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Chevron Corporation, and ABB Lummus Global. Please visit Chevron Lummus Global www.chevronlummus.com for more information.

## 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 receive regulatory approval by mid-2007, with construction to begin immediately after to achieve start up for the first phase in 2010. All three phases are expected to be operating by 2015. Please visit <u>www.northwestupgrading.com</u> for more information.