



NEWS RELEASE

Contacts: Ken Dennard / ksdennard@drg-e.com
Stephen B. Gray / sgray@drg-e.com
DRG^{&E} / 713 529-6600

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dennard Rupp Gray & Easterly, LLC Names M. Carol Coale Managing Director

HOUSTON – January 29, 2008 – Dennard Rupp Gray & Easterly, LLC (DRG^{&E}), a leading provider of advanced investor relations counsel and innovative analytical services for public and private companies, today announced that M. Carol Coale has joined DRG^{&E} as a Managing Director.

Prior to joining DRG^{&E}, Ms. Coale served as the Managing Director of the Energy Group at Sanders Morris Harris (SMH Capital) and provided sell-side research on integrated natural gas, power and exploration & production companies.

Kip Rupp, managing partner of DRG^{&E}, stated, “We are very pleased to welcome Carol to the firm. She brings over 20 years of Wall Street experience to DRG^{&E}, including a year as a Portfolio Manager at an energy hedge fund. Carol was a Senior Vice President for 10 years at The Prudential Equity Group LLP where she was the Senior Equity Analyst for natural gas, utilities, and power company securities. She was ranked an All American Analyst for six consecutive years in the Institutional Investor magazine survey, reaching the number one spot in 2002. She also achieved the top ranking in Greenwich and Starmine analyst surveys during that same time period, and was ranked three times as an All-Star analyst in the Wall Street Journal's stock picking survey. We believe Carol can leverage her industry knowledge and Wall Street experience to add significant value and counsel to our clients under our *IR+*[®] and *InsideOutlook*[®] services.”

Stephen Gray, DRG^{&E}'s chief executive officer, added, “For more than a decade, DRG^{&E} has been pioneering the next generation of best practices in investor relations services from the traditional agency model to a more transparent and compliance-based model created by the combination of proactive investor relations and superior analytical services. The addition of Carol Coale and her significant Wall Street experience demonstrates our continuing commitment to provide leading value-added analytical counsel and services to our clients.”

More About Ms. Coale

Before joining Prudential in 1994, Ms. Coale spent five years with energy boutique Howard Weil Labouisse Friedrichs, and was a fixed income analyst and trader at Rauscher Pierce Refsnes (now RBC Capital), E. F. Hutton, and Rotan Mosle (now UBS). Carol earned her MBA from Southern Methodist University and is an honors graduate with a BA from the University of Texas in Austin.

About DRG&E

Dennard Rupp Gray & Easterly, LLC, headquartered in Houston with offices in Atlanta and San Antonio, provides a full range of investor relations and analytical services, financial media communications services and strategic counsel to enhance the visibility, transparency and credibility of its clients within the investment and business communities.

Founded in January 1997, DRG&E expanded its traditional *IR Counsel*[®] in 2002 by introducing *InsideOutlook*[®], a ground-breaking service staffed with experienced former sell-side research analysts. *InsideOutlook* provides public companies unprecedented 24/7 access to experienced analysts who assist clients in developing enhanced public disclosures that increase operational and financial transparency, build management credibility, and help clients effectively communicate the correct message to the investment community. DRG&E innovated again in 2006 with the addition of its IR+[®] service along side its analytical offering. IR+ provides companies with high-level, custom consulting services from its former sell-side analysts, as well as quarterly deliverables (“Direct Report”) that further leverage its Wall Street experience and analytical capabilities.

Since inception, DRG&E has contracted with over 80 companies and currently represents over 30 public and private companies totaling over \$30 billion in cumulative revenues, over \$20 billion in cumulative market capitalization and an aggregate workforce of over 75,000 employees. For more information regarding DRG&E clients or its services, visit the website at <http://www.drg-e.com> or call 713-529-6600.

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