

Penn Virginia Corporation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PENN VIRGINIA CORPORATION ANNOUNCES NEW DIRECTOR

RADNOR, Pa., January 8, 2003 – Penn Virginia Corporation (NYSE: PVA) announced today that Gary K. Wright was elected to the Company's Board of Directors.

Mr. Wright has 35 years of experience in the energy industry. He has been an independent consultant since 2001. For the preceding 28 years Mr. Wright worked in banking for the Chase Manhattan Bank and its Houston predecessors including Chemical Bank and Texas Commerce Bank. While in banking he held a variety of senior positions in which he dealt with major oil companies and independent producers. Mr. Wright began his career as a petroleum engineer with Chevron Oil Company and holds degrees in both petroleum engineering and law.

Penn Virginia President and Chief Executive Officer, A. James Dearlove said, "Penn Virginia has further strengthened its Board of Directors by adding an individual of Gary's knowledge and experience in oil and gas as well as finance. We look forward to working with him in continuing to build the Company. "

PVA is an energy company engaged in the exploration, acquisition, development and production of crude oil and natural gas. Through its ownership in Penn Virginia Resource Partners, L.P. (NYSE:PVR), PVA is also in the business of managing coal and timber properties. PVA is headquartered in Radnor, PA.