

*For Immediate Release – February 18, 2010*

## **U.S. Energy to Increase its Drilling Activities in the ‘Hot’ Bakken & Marcellus Shale Regions**

*U.S. Energy announced today that the company is participating in a joint venture project located in the Bakken Shale in North Dakota. At this time, a significant acreage position is being acquired and drilling activities are planned for the next 12 months.*

*Douglas K. Walch, President of U.S. Energy recently commented, “we are excited about the opportunity to expand U.S. Energy’s operations throughout onshore North America, including multiple areas that have seen recent increases in development such the Bakken and Marcellus shales. The current project in the Bakken shale are another example of U.S. Energy’s dedication towards discovering new areas for oil and gas development and implementing the newest technologies available. We expect many of these areas, once proven, will become part of our future drilling programs.”*

*Oil & gas development in the Bakken shale has seen a steep increase in recent years as the implementation of new technologies, such as horizontal drilling and multi-stage fracturing, has made reserves located in the Bakken Shale much more attractive. The Bakken formation, which stretches from Canada into North Dakota and Montana, is estimated to hold up to 3.7 billion barrels in oil reserves, which would make it the second largest oil field in U.S. history next to those in Alaska.*

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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