

# Chesapeake



## Letter to Shareholders - 2006 Annual Report

### Dear Fellow Shareholders:

Each year, my letter to shareholders has two objectives: first, to showcase the company's achievements during the preceding year and second, to highlight the issues we believe will be most important to us in the year ahead. This year there are four such issues: people, land, technology and climate change. The first three I have referred to in the past as the "building blocks of value creation" in the exploration and production (E&P) business. The fourth is of increasing importance to our industry, the U.S. and the world. Growing concern about climate change will create many opportunities for Chesapeake and our industry to promote the substantial environmental benefits of clean-burning natural gas, thereby enhancing the future value of the company's substantial natural gas reserves.

### *2006 In Review*

Certainly 2006 was another in a series of extraordinary years for Chesapeake, as it was for energy producers and consumers around the globe. The year started with record high natural gas prices in the wake of Katrina and Rita's destructive path through the Gulf of Mexico. Only nine months later, the industry experienced four-year lows in natural gas prices primarily due to record warmth in the winter of 2005-06 and rebounding natural gas production volumes.

Despite long odds, this past winter started off with a repeat of the previous winter's record warmth, and natural gas prices ended 2006 near \$6 per mmbtu. However, a surprisingly strong cold spell from mid-January to mid-February 2007 eliminated the year-over-year natural gas storage surplus that had weighed heavily on natural gas prices for most of 2006. Natural gas prices have now settled into a more comfortable range around \$7.50.

Globally, last winter was the warmest in recorded history. Combined with political changes in Washington, D.C. last November, this record warmth has set the stage for a dramatically different environment in which to discuss global climate change. I will elaborate on the subject of climate change later in this letter.

Oil prices were also highly volatile in 2006, beginning the year just above \$60 per barrel, rising to \$77 during midsummer, and then falling back to \$60 by the end of the year (and as low as \$52 in early 2007). Although 91% of Chesapeake's production is natural gas, and oil and natural gas are not exact substitutes, oil still plays a very important role in how natural gas is priced. Natural gas prices have recently traded at a 20-40% discount to the price of oil on an energy equivalent (BTU) basis. Historically, the significant BTU discount of natural gas prices to oil prices has existed because natural gas is not as freely tradable around the world as oil and also natural gas is not influenced by geopolitical

tensions in the same way oil is. Over time, however, we believe that natural gas prices will trade more closely to BTU parity with oil, given our view that natural gas demand will increase more quickly than oil demand in the years ahead.

Despite the volatility in oil and natural gas prices, Chesapeake delivered exceptional operating and financial results during 2006. Of particular note is management's proven ability to harness oil and natural gas price volatility to Chesapeake's advantage. Through our industry-leading hedging program, we generated \$1.3 billion in additional revenue in 2006 by capturing unusually high oil and natural gas prices when they were available. Simply put, we seek to be "price-makers" rather than "price-takers." This is in contrast to most of our competitors who seem satisfied to accept the prevailing every day or every month market price for the oil and natural gas they sell.

In our view, there are times when oil and natural gas prices rise to levels that are either likely to be unsustainable or are so attractive financially we believe we must take some chips off the table for our investors. In addition to enhancing our revenues through hedging, we also significantly lower the company's risk profile by reducing investors' exposure to the inherent volatility of energy prices. We believe our hedging skills are an increasingly valuable (but perhaps underappreciated) aspect of our management team's capabilities.

Throughout the year, Chesapeake delivered consistently superior operational and financial results and steadily increased the company's net asset value per share. Unfortunately, our stock price decreased 8% during the year after having increased 92% in 2005. Against the backdrop of extreme volatility in natural gas markets that saw prices decline from near \$11 per mmbtu at the beginning of the year to a low of just above \$4 per mmbtu in the fall, the equity markets were unwilling to reward Chesapeake's strong operational and financial achievements in 2006.

Over time, however, the stock market has kept pace with the company's financial and operational performance (Chesapeake's stock price is up 2,100% in our 14 years as a public company) and we look forward to improved stock price performance in 2007 and the years ahead. We expect another terrific year of value creation this year through the continued execution of our simple and focused business strategy, the safe location of our assets onshore in the U.S. and the predictable base of production we generate every day from approximately 35,000 producing wells. These attributes enable us to create substantial shareholder value from a business managed to mitigate risk and capture value from increasing volatility in oil and natural gas markets, which are significantly influenced by unpredictable weather patterns and turbulent geopolitical events.

A closer look at Chesapeake's achievements in 2006 reflects the following financial and operational highlights:

- \* Average daily oil and natural gas production increased 23% from 1.28 bcfe to 1.59 bcfe;
- \* Proved oil and natural gas reserves increased 19% from 7.5 tcf to 9.0 tcf;
- \* Reserve replacement for the year reached 348% at a drilling and acquisition cost of only \$1.93 per mcf(1);
- \* Revenues rose 57% from \$4.7 billion to \$7.3 billion;
- \* Ebitda(2) increased 89% from \$2.7 billion to \$5.0 billion;
- \* Operating cash flow(3) grew 67% from \$2.4 billion to \$4.0 billion; and
- \* Net income per fully diluted common share increased 73% from \$2.51 to \$4.35.

As a result of our achievements in 2006, Chesapeake became the third-largest independent producer of U.S. natural gas and the seventh-largest U.S. natural gas producer overall. Given our production growth

trends and those of our competitors, we expect to end 2007 as a top-five producer of natural gas in the U.S. and possibly the largest independent natural gas producer. Moreover, we led the nation in drilling activity last year and we expect to do so again this year. In 2006, we utilized an average of 98 operated rigs and 79 non-operated rigs, or 11% of the nation's drilling rig fleet, to drill over 3,000 wells (1,450 net to Chesapeake). In 2007, we expect to use between 130-140 operated rigs and 80-90 non-operated rigs, thereby participating in approximately 13% of the nation's drilling activity. This drilling program should result in a production increase for 2007 of between 14-18%, an increase we expect will lead our large-cap peer group.

Chesapeake's proved and unproved oil and natural gas reserves continue to increase significantly as a result of our successful drilling and acquisition programs. Following an increase to 9 trillion cubic feet of natural gas equivalent (tcf) proved reserves (the energy equivalent of 1.5 billion barrels of oil) in 2006, Chesapeake's proved reserves should exceed 10 tcf by year-end 2007. Furthermore, we fully expect to reach at least 12 tcf (or 2 billion barrels of oil equivalent) by year-end 2009.

It is important to note the distinction between proved and unproved reserves has become increasingly blurred as the SEC definition of proved reserves (which was last updated in 1979) has not kept pace with the industry's ability to find, evaluate and produce natural gas reserves from unconventional reservoirs. While the industry has long known that fractured carbonates, tight sands and shales contain natural gas, it has only been the recent arrival of higher natural gas prices and greatly improved drilling and completion technologies that has made developing many of these reservoirs economical. However, because these reserves often lie in reservoirs that are continuous for tens of miles and the SEC definition of proved reserves only allows for the recognition of proved undeveloped reserves as direct offsets to producing wells in a particular formation, significant reserves of natural gas are not captured in the SEC's current definition of proved reserves. The substantial value of unproved reserves in unconventional reservoirs is evidenced by companies routinely valuing and paying for unproved reserves in today's acquisition market.

Our point is not to disagree with the SEC's reserve definitions, but rather to simply state our belief that today's E&P industry, and especially Chesapeake, is substantially undervalued in the equity markets because value is not always appropriately given by investors for what can be very significant amounts of low-risk unproved reserves.

At Chesapeake, we believe we have captured the nation's largest inventories of leasehold, 3-D seismic and unconventional natural gas resources. As a result, our 9 tcf of proved reserves are dwarfed by our 18 tcf of risked, unproved reserves and our 71 tcf of unrisked, unproved reserves. We believe Chesapeake's current stock price reflects very little of this large storehouse of future natural gas production. However, continued success from our industry-leading drilling campaign in 2007 should help highlight the enormity of Chesapeake's unproved reserves and should lead to more appropriate value recognition.

#### ***Chesapeake's Business Strategy and Natural Gas Focus***

Chesapeake's business strategy is one of the easiest to understand among all E&P companies. We grow onshore in the U.S. through a balance of drilling and acquisitions, we regionally consolidate to achieve economies of scale, we focus almost exclusively on finding and producing natural gas and we work proactively to mitigate risk through hedging. By consistently and effectively executing this strategy, Chesapeake has become a member of the S&P 500 Index and the Fortune 500, was recognized in January 2007 by Forbes as "the best managed oil & gas company in the U.S.,"(4) and has been one of America's top 15 best-performing stocks during the past eight years.(5) In addition to the simplicity of our business strategy, our early recognition of evolving trends in the industry and our willingness to

seize opportunities have distinguished Chesapeake among its peers and should provide us with competitive advantages for years to come.

Back in 1998 and early 1999, when natural gas was exceptionally cheap (frequently selling for less than \$1.25 per mmbtu), most industry and government observers predicted the U.S. natural gas market would increase from 22 trillion cubic feet (tcf) to 30 tcf per year by 2010 and natural gas prices would remain low indefinitely. After examining the fundamentals of the North American natural gas market, we arrived at a very different conclusion and began repositioning the company to pursue a contrarian strategy based on the following beliefs about the U.S. natural gas industry beyond the year 2000:

- \* depletion rates from producing wells would accelerate;
- \* finding, development and operating costs would increase;
- \* demand would gradually move away from more cost-sensitive industrial demand to less cost-sensitive electrical power generation demand; and
- \* production would soon reach a peak and begin a decline from which there would be no recovery, regardless of higher prices or improved technology.

These trends became evident when we studied U.S. oil production history and then predicted U.S. natural gas production would likely follow a similar bell-shaped curve of ramping up to an historic peak (1970 for oil, 2001 for natural gas) and then slowly but steadily declining thereafter. We also reasoned that the major oil companies would begin withdrawing from the search for increasingly scarce natural gas reserves in North America and refocus their natural gas strategies on building global natural gas franchises around more abundant worldwide natural gas reserves that could be transformed into liquefied natural gas.

Accordingly, we decided Chesapeake should position itself to be a first mover to take advantage of multiple opportunities that we believed would emerge in the first decade of the 21st century. To that end, we adopted four objectives:

- \* acquire all of the existing natural gas production and reserves we could afford;
- \* lease all the potentially productive natural gas acreage we could identify;
- \* hire all of the talented landmen, geoscientists and engineers we could find; and
- \* focus exclusively onshore in the U.S., safely away from hurricanes and geopolitical unrest.

Over the past nine years, we have accomplished these objectives. Meanwhile, with the help of higher oil prices, natural gas prices have risen to levels many times more than they were in 1998 and early 1999. More importantly, natural gas demand is likely to steadily increase as the U.S. economy grows and as natural gas is increasingly seen as the most practical way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reduce the risk of climate change. We believe this should lead to continuing natural gas price strength for years to come. As a result of anticipating these trends and getting ahead of our competition, Chesapeake remains very well positioned for future success.

### *People, Land and Technology*

Chesapeake's industry-leading drilling activity and consistent annual production growth require great people, abundant leasehold and the latest technologies – attributes that Chesapeake fortunately has in abundance. Our employees now number approximately 5,000, our leasehold inventory of 11 million net acres provides 26,000 future net drilling opportunities and our technological superiority in 3-D seismic interpretation, unconventional reservoir analysis and deep vertical and horizontal drilling capabilities provides many competitive advantages.

### *People*

First and foremost, Chesapeake is a people company – our employees work creatively and enthusiastically for our shareholders to profitably produce an environmentally superior product millions of Americans rely on every day. In 2000, Chesapeake was one of the first companies to recognize that after 15 years of downsizing, the E&P industry was not prepared to meet the rising demand for natural gas. The average age of a petroleum geoscientist, landman or engineer in the U.S. is now more than 50 years and after a five-year increase in energy prices, the country is still graduating fewer than 3,500 petroleum geoscientists and engineers per year (compared to almost 44,000 new lawyers each year). Retirements are estimated to be running at almost the same level as new graduates are entering the industry, and these retirements will accelerate in the next 15 years as today's average-aged geoscientist, landman and engineer reaches traditional retirement age.

Because of Chesapeake's early recognition of this looming shortage of industry talent, we began aggressively hiring young technical talent. We now employ more than 200 degreed geoscientists, landmen and engineers under the age of 35, and the average age of our geoscience, land and engineering departments has dropped from 49 in 2000 to 40 today. Talent creates value and our company has an abundance of talented people creating value every day. Chesapeake now employs nearly 1,100 employees in its geoscience, land and engineering departments, of which 70% are degreed professionals.

In total, the company has approximately 5,000 employees, of whom approximately 60% work in our E&P operations and 40% work in our oilfield service operations. Chesapeake's people are a highly valued (and much coveted) resource and we are proud they have chosen our company as their professional home. Continuing a tradition we started in 1994, a complete list of our employees sorted by the year they joined the company begins on page 28 of this report.

### Land

Now I would like to turn to my favorite of the three building blocks of value creation – land (in full disclosure of my bias on this point, I am a history major by education but a petroleum landman by vocational training). Land is the foundation of all value creation in the E&P business. Geoscientists and engineers can have great ideas, but without a lease those great ideas have no value – as we say in the business, "Without the lease, there is no grease." Chesapeake is one of the few E&P companies to have a landman as its CEO, and perhaps as a consequence, we have been more willing than our competitors to acquire an unusually large inventory of leasehold on which to drill wells. Our inventory of 11 million net acres of leasehold and 26,000 net drilling locations represents more than a 10-year drilling backlog and a vast storehouse of unrecognized value in our company.

We embarked on this aggressive "land grab" in 2000 as we recognized earlier than most of our competitors that vast new areas of the U.S. would open up for natural gas exploration and development when new horizontal drilling and completion technologies were applied to different types of rocks (now commonly referred to as "unconventional reservoirs") in a time of structurally higher natural gas prices. We believed this decade would go down in oil and natural gas history as a once-in-a-generation opportunity to acquire leases in the modern day equivalent of the great Oklahoma land rushes of the late 19th century.

Today that land grab is largely over, and not surprisingly, we believe Chesapeake won. The leasehold we now own could not be reassembled in today's ultra-competitive marketplace – and what we have built is unique, large and exceptionally valuable. Our investment to date in this undeveloped leasehold exceeds \$6 billion, but we believe its value over time will prove to be a significant multiple of that. Having acquired this enormous inventory of opportunities, we have also been building the employee, infrastructure and support systems to enable Chesapeake to execute a drilling program with a size and

technological sophistication that is unprecedented in the E&P industry. The results of this drilling program over the next few years are likely to make Chesapeake the largest producer of natural gas in the U.S. and should create billions of dollars of value for our shareholders.

To help investors more easily analyze Chesapeake's extensive drilling inventory, we divide it into four play types: conventional gas resource, unconventional gas resource, emerging gas resource and Appalachian Basin gas resource. The company's current leasehold and proved reserve, risked, unproved reserve and unrisked, unproved reserve totals by play type are set forth below:

\* 3.2 million net acres in our traditional conventional plays (i.e., much of the Mid-Continent, Permian, Gulf Coast, South Texas and other areas) on which we have identified approximately 3,500 drillsites, 3.9 tcf of proved reserves, approximately 3.1 tcf of risked, unproved reserves and approximately 20 tcf of unrisked, unproved reserves;

\* 1.3 million net acres in our unconventional gas resource plays (i.e., Fort Worth Barnett Shale, Sahara, Granite/ Atoka/Colony Washes, and Ark-La-Tex tight sands) on which we have identified approximately 9,800 drillsites, 3.4 tcf of proved reserves, approximately 6.6 tcf of risked, unproved reserves and approximately 11 tcf of unrisked, unproved reserves;

\* 2.7 million net acres in our emerging gas resource plays (i.e., Fayetteville Shale, Delaware Barnett and Woodford Shales, Deep Haley, Deep Bossier and others) on which we have identified approximately 3,300 drillsites, 0.2 tcf of proved reserves, approximately 5.6 tcf of risked, unproved reserves and approximately 36 tcf of unrisked, unproved reserves; and

\* 3.5 million net acres in the Appalachian Basin, where our play types range from conventional to unconventional to emerging gas resource. On the significant Appalachian Basin acreage base primarily acquired in our November 2005 acquisition of Columbia Natural Resources, we have identified approximately 9,000 drillsites, 1.5 tcf of proved reserves, approximately 2.4 tcf of risked, unproved reserves and approximately 4 tcf of unrisked, unproved reserves.

The company continues to actively acquire more acreage throughout our operating areas. In 2006, we acquired 1.9 million net acres through an aggressive land acquisition program currently utilizing almost 2,000 contract landmen in the field. This is an unsurpassed commitment to ensure Chesapeake will always have a substantial backlog of value-creating projects for its investors.

### Technology

In another example of early recognition of evolving industry trends, Chesapeake's management team in the late 1990s correctly anticipated that better technologies applied to unconventional reservoirs in a time of structurally higher natural gas prices would result in the discovery and development of many tcf of new natural gas reserves.

As I think back on Chesapeake's founding in 1989, this is exactly what we started our company to accomplish – utilize the new technology of drilling horizontal wells in unconventional reservoirs to avoid the risk of drilling a dry hole. We began by developing southern Oklahoma fractured carbonate rocks such as the Sycamore, Woodford, Hunton and Viola formations, and later expanded into various Austin Chalk plays of south-central and southeastern Texas. We did not know enough at the time to brand these fractured carbonates as "unconventional," but they certainly were. For a long time our company's reputation paid a price for focusing on these fractured carbonates, reservoirs that for decades the industry knew contained oil and natural gas, but were not economical to develop. Ironically, what was contrarian and controversial 18 years ago has today become a widely followed strategy in our industry.

While we were very successful in cracking the code to these unconventional reservoirs in Oklahoma and

Texas in the late 1980s and early 1990s, we were less successful in the mid-1990s extending our early success in the Austin Chalk to Louisiana. That painful failure in Louisiana and the collapse of oil and natural gas prices in 1998-99 led to Chesapeake's retreat, for a time, from unconventional plays. However, when it became clear after 2000 that unconventional formations might yield vast reserves of previously uneconomical natural gas to horizontally drilled wells with fracture stimulations isolated in discrete intervals (a technology not previously perfected), Chesapeake returned to its roots and began to aggressively pursue new unconventional gas resource plays with substantial upside.

The most notable of these unconventional plays is the Fort Worth Barnett Shale. Centered around Fort Worth, Texas, the Fort Worth Barnett Shale has emerged as one of America's largest natural gas fields and is the best example of what can happen at today's three-way intersection of improved horizontal drilling and completion technology, a better scientific understanding of how shales work and structurally higher natural gas prices. This play is currently responsible for approximately 4% of U.S. natural gas production and almost 10% of the nation's drilling activity. Its importance to the U.S. will greatly increase in the years ahead as Chesapeake and others drill thousands of wells to develop this exceptionally large natural gas resource base estimated to contain at least 25 tcf.

Chesapeake entered the Fort Worth Barnett Shale in 2002 through an acquisition that included 4,000 net acres in the play (for which, at the time of the acquisition, we gave no value). Since that time, we have assembled almost 200,000 net acres of leasehold in what is referred to as the Tier 1 area of the play, principally in Johnson, Tarrant and western Dallas counties. In the Tier 1 area, Chesapeake now owns the industry's largest leasehold position and has drilled or acquired nearly 400 wells that are today producing about 285 million cubic feet of natural gas equivalent (mmcf) (190 mmcf net to Chesapeake). We are currently the fourth-largest producer of natural gas in the Barnett play, but with our current drilling activity of 25 rigs moving to a projected industry-leading 35 rigs by midyear 2007, we anticipate becoming the second-largest producer of natural gas from the Fort Worth Barnett Shale by year-end 2007.

This year Chesapeake expects to invest approximately \$1 billion in the Fort Worth Barnett Shale to drill nearly 400 gross wells. While this represents just 25% of our drilling capital expenditures for the year, we anticipate this drilling program will be prolific enough to replace nearly all of Chesapeake's production during 2007, allowing our remaining capital expenditures to generate significant overall growth. Furthermore, this play will remain the foundation of our growth for years to come as we currently have enough leasehold to drill 2,300 additional net wells, representing almost 4 tcf of future reserves. In recognition of the play's attractiveness, we continue to acquire more leasehold in the play, especially in and around metropolitan Fort Worth, where we believe the most favorable geology exists and where the best wells will likely be drilled.

### *Climate Change*

Probably no public policy debate has evolved so dramatically in the past year as the debate about global climate change. A year ago, it would have been difficult to anticipate the broad consensus that has emerged among the world's scientists and policymakers about the need to begin taking action to reduce the threat of global climate change. As a company employing dozens of earth scientists (and two meteorologists), we are fully aware there have been many times in the past when the earth's temperatures were much higher than they are today, but with lower CO<sub>2</sub> levels, and also many times when CO<sub>2</sub> levels were much higher than they are today, but with lower global temperatures. So to us, climate change over a long period of time is a normal and inevitable process caused by an ever-changing planet.

However, even as we continue to learn more about the earth's long history of climate change, it is

difficult to ignore that humans directly and indirectly consume energy, create heat and release carbon – a simple fact of everyday life. The debate is centered around whether these human activities are the cause of the steady rise of greenhouse gas concentrations and worldwide temperatures during the past 20 years. Our view is that it is largely irrelevant whether or not the increases in greenhouse gas emissions and global temperatures are natural or influenced by humans. The fact is we can, and should, reduce our greenhouse gas emissions because the risks associated with failing to do so are simply too great.

This is where Chesapeake and natural gas can come to the rescue. As the debate in America intensifies about how to become more energy independent in an increasingly dangerous world and at the same time reduce greenhouse gas emissions in a growing economy, we need to frame the problem truthfully and solve it practically. The vast majority of greenhouse gas emissions are caused by transportation vehicles burning gasoline and diesel and by power plants and factories burning coal. Today, we see policymakers promoting alternative fuels such as wind, solar, biofuels and nuclear. These are all legitimate alternatives (although some much less so than others), yet none can offer energy in great abundance at a reasonable price anytime soon. On the other hand, burning natural gas instead of gasoline, diesel or coal reduces greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 50%. We believe the evidence clearly demonstrates that natural gas is by far the most practical solution to the problem – it is abundant, affordable, reliable, clean burning and domestically produced.

To spread the word about the positive attributes of natural gas, Chesapeake has recently helped establish a foundation based in Washington, D.C., called the American Clean Skies Foundation ([www.americancleanskies.com](http://www.americancleanskies.com)). This foundation will become a leading voice in the debate about how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and avoid abrupt climate change. The foundation will encourage conservation of all types of energy, but will primarily advocate the increased use of natural gas in the U.S. and around the world.

For many years, natural gas has been valued at a BTU discount to oil. We believe the opportunity is now at hand for the climate change debate to lead to an increased appreciation of natural gas and a higher valuation for the superior fuel we produce. We intend to do well for our shareholders by doing well for our country and our world. We hope you will join us by visiting the foundation's web site and adding your contribution to ours to make the world a better place.

### *Looking Forward*

As I conclude this letter and reflect on 2006's accomplishments and also consider the opportunities ahead, I am grateful for 14 years of investor support of Chesapeake. Following exceedingly humble beginnings and an adolescent growth spurt accompanied by many challenges, Chesapeake has now emerged as a true industry leader characterized by value creation, constant innovation, risk mitigation, forward thinking and hard work.

We have the commitment and talents of 5,000 top-notch employees, an engaged and insightful Board of Directors, a time-tested and successful business strategy, a value-added risk management program, a steadily improving balance sheet and a large and increasingly valuable onshore U.S. natural gas asset base. Furthermore, Chesapeake offers an entrepreneurial and experienced management team that has proven itself capable of creating value through a full range of commodity cycles and challenges in building a \$24 billion enterprise value company from an initial \$50,000 investment in just 18 years.

We are off to a great start in delivering another successful year of financial and operational performance to our shareholders in 2007. Chesapeake's production and proved reserves should once again reach new records with double-digit growth and we expect to generate another year of substantial gains from our hedging program. Though volatility will remain, natural gas prices should stay strong during the year as

tighter supply and demand fundamentals in both U.S. natural gas and world oil markets emerge this summer and beyond.

Finally, Chesapeake is on the right side of history in the climate change debate and we expect natural gas to become more highly valued in the years ahead as a result of its substantial environmental benefits. Just as coal was the fuel of the 18th and 19th centuries and oil was the fuel of the 20th century, natural gas will be the fuel of at least the first quarter of the 21st century and perhaps for far longer. As a result, we believe the stage is set for an extended period of strong natural gas prices and we look forward to Chesapeake continuing to deliver exceptional results to our shareholders in 2007 and beyond.

Best regards,  
Aubrey K. McClendon  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer  
March 31, 2007

(1) Reserve replacement is calculated by dividing the sum of reserve additions from all sources by actual production for the corresponding period. We calculate drilling and acquisition cost per mcf by dividing total costs incurred during the year, less certain costs primarily related to unproved property acquisitions, geological and geophysical cost and deferred taxes related to corporate acquisitions by total proved reserve additions excluding price-related revisions.

(2) Ebitda is net income before interest expense, income tax expense, and depreciation, depletion and amortization expense.

(3) Operating cash flow is net cash provided by operating activities before changes in assets and liabilities.

(4) Listing in Forbes' Platinum 400 list of America's Best Big Companies and recognized as the best managed company in the Oil & Gas Operations category in the magazine's 1/8/07 issue.

(5) Ranking is according to Zack's Investment Research (Zack's) based on stock price performance from 12/31/98 to 12/31/06 of over 3,200 companies tracked by Zack's with market capitalizations over \$50 million on 12/31/98.

Note: Reconciliations and other information on the measures referenced in notes 1, 2 and 3 are presented on the Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Financial Measures page on our web site at [www.chkenergy.com](http://www.chkenergy.com)