

GULF COAST WESTERN AGREES TO PARTICIPATE IN VALENTINE FIELD PROSPECT IN LAFOURCHE PARISH, LOUISIANA

(DALLAS, TEXAS – April 18, 2008) --- Dallas-based Gulf Coast Western has agreed to participate in the drilling of a significant prospect on the west flank of the Valentine Field in Lafourche Parish, Louisiana. The Eagle prospect is a 3-D controlled fault closure similar to adjacent producing fault blocks that have produced in excess of 140 billion cubic feet of gas equivalent. The Eagle prospect is scheduled to begin drilling by May 5th, 2008. The first well has estimated potential reserves of 40 billion cubic feet of gas equivalent.

“The opportunity to drill in the Valentine Field, with its prolific history, is very exciting for us” said Matthew H. Fleeger, President & CEO of Gulf Coast Western. “The technical attributes of the Eagle prospect are excellent and we are expecting great results.” Mr. Fleeger continues, “Our strategic relationship with Sterling Energy continues to deliver outstanding prospects.”

Gulf Coast Western maintains a strategy focused on acquiring interests in prospects and properties that have excellent geological and geophysical attributes in well developed structures which provide significant return potential with quantified downside risk for our participating partners. Gulf Coast Western plans on investing over \$20 million dollars in projects in 2008 and doubling that in 2009.

Gulf Coast Western, a Dallas-based company founded in 1970, focuses on the exploration, development and acquisition of domestic oil and gas reserves.