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Layne Christensen Announces Coalbed Methane Gas Project in the Illinois Basin with Triple A Minerals, L.L.P.

MISSION WOODS, Kan.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Aug. 12, 2003--Layne Christensen Company (Nasdaq:LAYN) today announced it has signed a letter of intent with Triple A Minerals, L.L.P. ("Triple A") to develop a large coalbed methane ("CBM") project in the Illinois Basin.

The project, totaling over 100,000 gross acres, was awarded to Layne Christensen Company ("Layne") by Triple A at the end of June. The acreage is contiguous and Triple A is the sole mineral rights owner of the coal. Upon completion of the transaction, Layne will acquire 100% of the working interest in the project.

Layne expects to drill several coreholes in the preliminary stages of the project, collecting samples in all potentially productive zones. Core sample results of the subsurface geology will lead to pilot well programs and ultimately to constructing the well field and necessary gas gathering and transportation infrastructure.

Clyde Black, Managing Partner of Triple A Minerals, stated: "In considering a partner to develop our coalbed methane reserves, we focused on financial, technical and operational capabilities. Layne fit the bill across the board. We believe this project has tremendous potential and are pleased to have Layne's Energy Division heading up this effort."

Colin Kinley, President of the Layne Energy Division, stated: "This project gives Layne the sizable entry we have been searching for in the Illinois Basin. Once the gas production potential has been proven, we believe our ability to control all phases of the work in the field and the ability to dedicate significant resources to the project can compress time to achieve better returns. We believe that the Illinois Basin holds great opportunity and are excited about working with Triple A Minerals to create real value with this prospect."

Jeff Mohajir, Executive Vice President of the Layne Energy Division, stated further: "Unconventional gas is rapidly becoming one of the major components of our nation's natural gas supply and is projected to be the largest single component by the year 2015. With this agreement, Layne Energy further positions itself as a major player in unconventional gas production."

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Exchange Act of 1934. Such statements are based on current expectations and are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions, including, but not limited to, prevailing prices for various metals and unanticipated slowdowns in the Company's major markets. Should one or more of these underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those currently estimated. These statements are made as of the date of this release, and the Company assumes no obligation to update such forward-looking statement or to update the reasons why actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in such forward-looking statements.

Layne Christensen Company provides sophisticated services and related products for the water, mineral, construction and energy markets.

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