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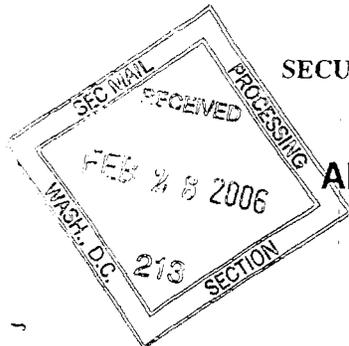


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| OMB Number: | 3235-0123 |
| Expires: | January 31, 2007 |
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ANNUAL AUDITED REPORT FORM X-17A-5 PART III

| |
|-----------------|
| SEC FILE NUMBER |
| 8-66251 |

FACING PAGE

Information Required of Brokers and Dealers Pursuant to Section 17 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 17a-5 Thereunder

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING 01/01/05 AND ENDING 12/31/05
MM/DD/YY MM/DD/YY

A. REGISTRANT IDENTIFICATION

NAME OF BROKER-DEALER:
Pickering Energy Partners, Inc.

| |
|-------------------|
| OFFICIAL USE ONLY |
| FIRM ID. NO. |

ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: (Do not use P.O. Box No.)
1800 West Loop South, #300

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| Houston <small>(City)</small> | Texas <small>(State)</small> | 77027 <small>(Zip Code)</small> |
|---|--|---|

NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO CONTACT IN REGARD TO THIS REPORT
Ms. Christine Drusch **713-333-2966**
(Area Code - Telephone No.)

B. ACCOUNTANT IDENTIFICATION

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT whose opinion is contained in this Report*
UHY Mann Frankfort Stein & Lipp CPAs, LLP

| | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| 12 Greenway Plaza, Suite 1202 <small>(Address)</small> | Houston <small>(City)</small> | Texas <small>(State)</small> | 77046 <small>(Zip Code)</small> |
|--|---|--|---|

- CHECK ONE:
- Certified Public Accountant
 - Public Accountant
 - Accountant not resident in United States or any of its possessions.

PROCESSED
MAY 04 2006
THOMSON FINANCIAL

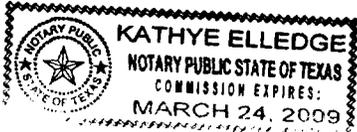
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*Claims for exemption from the requirement that the annual report be covered by the opinion of an independent public accountant must be supported by a statement of facts and circumstances relied on as the basis for the exemption. See section 240.17a-5(e)(2).

Handwritten signature/initials

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, Christine Drusch, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of my knowledge and belief the accompanying financial statements and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of Pickering Energy Partners, Inc., as of December 31, 2005, are true and correct. I further swear (or affirm) that neither the company nor any partner, proprietor, principal officer or director has any proprietary interest in any account classified solely as that of a customer, except as follows:



Kathye Elledge

Notary Public

Christine Drusch

Signature
Chief Operating Officer

Title

This report** contains (check all applicable boxes):

- (a) Facing page.
- (b) Statement of Financial Condition.
- (c) Statement of Income (Loss).
- (d) Statement of Changes in Financial Condition.
- (e) Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity or Partners' or Sole Proprietor's Capital.
- (f) Statement of Changes in Liabilities Subordinated to Claims of Creditors.
- (g) Computation of Net Capital.
- (h) Computation for Determination of Reserve Requirements Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3.
- (i) Information Relating to the Possession or Control Requirements Under Rule 15c3-3.
- (j) A Reconciliation, including appropriate explanation of the Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-3 and the Computation for Determination of the Reserve Requirements Under Exhibit A of Rule 15c3-3.
- (k) A Reconciliation between the audited and unaudited Statements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of consolidation.
- (l) An Oath or Affirmation.
- (m) A copy of the SIPC Supplemental Report.
- (n) A report describing any material inadequacies found to exist or found to have existed since the date of the previous audit.

**For conditions of confidential treatment of certain portions of this filing, see section 240.17a-5(e)(3).

CONTENTS

| | <u>Page</u> |
|--|-------------|
| Independent Auditors' Report | 2 |
| Statements of Financial Condition | 3 |
| Statements of Income | 4 |
| Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity..... | 5 |
| Statements of Cash Flow | 6 |
| Notes to Financial Statements | 7-10 |
| <u>Supplementary Information</u> | |
| Schedule I - Calculation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1 of the Securities and Exchange Commission | 11 |

Independent Auditors' Report

To the Stockholders of
Pickering Energy Partners, Inc.
Houston, Texas

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial condition of Pickering Energy Partners, Inc. at December 31, 2005 and 2004, and the related statements of income, changes in stockholders' equity and cash flows for the years then ended that you are filing pursuant to Rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Pickering Energy Partners, Inc. at December 31, 2005 and 2004, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying information included in Schedule I is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements, but is supplementary information required by Rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements, and in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

UHY Mann Frankfort Stein & Lipp CPAs, LLP

Houston, Texas
February 14, 2006

PICKERING ENERGY PARTNERS, INC.
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

| | December 31, | |
|--|---------------------|-------------------|
| | 2005 | 2004 |
| ASSETS | | |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Cash | \$ 678,417 | \$ 719,826 |
| Receivable from clearing brokers | 201,075 | 64,545 |
| Federal income taxes receivable | 11,144 | - |
| Other current assets | 30,520 | 44,400 |
| TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS | 921,156 | 828,771 |
| PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, net | 103,802 | 106,883 |
| OTHER LONG-TERM ASSETS | 9,364 | 39,928 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$ 1,034,322 | \$ 975,582 |
| LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | \$ 65,905 | \$ 17,840 |
| Federal income taxes payable | - | 56,500 |
| Deferred income tax liabilities - current | 45,500 | 16,500 |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES | 111,405 | 90,840 |
| DEFERRED INCOME TAX LIABILITIES - long-term | 35,500 | 32,500 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | 146,905 | 123,340 |
| COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES | - | - |
| STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| Common stock, no par value, 1,000,000 shares authorized, 65,000 shares issued and outstanding | 650,000 | 650,000 |
| Retained earnings | 237,417 | 202,242 |
| TOTAL STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | 887,417 | 852,242 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | \$ 1,034,322 | \$ 975,582 |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

PICKERING ENERGY PARTNERS, INC.
 STATEMENTS OF INCOME

| | <u>Year Ended December 31,</u> | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| | <u>2005</u> | <u>2004</u> |
| REVENUE | | |
| Commissions | \$ 8,243,024 | \$ 1,756,961 |
| Other revenue | 1,832,943 | 277,440 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | <u>10,075,967</u> | <u>2,034,401</u> |
| EXPENSES | | |
| Salaries and benefits | 7,617,801 | 760,201 |
| Clearance fees | 1,012,244 | 386,423 |
| Other operating expenses | 1,381,391 | 580,035 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | <u>10,011,436</u> | <u>1,726,659</u> |
| INCOME BEFORE FEDERAL INCOME TAXES | 64,531 | 307,742 |
| FEDERAL INCOME TAXES | <u>29,356</u> | <u>105,500</u> |
| NET INCOME | <u>\$ 35,175</u> | <u>\$ 202,242</u> |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.
INFORMATION ON THIS PAGE IS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL.

PICKERING ENERGY PARTNERS, INC.
 STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY
 YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004

| | Common Stock | | Retained Earnings | Total |
|------------------------------|--------------|------------|----------------------|------------|
| | Shares | Amount | | |
| Balance at January 1, 2004 | 10,000 | \$ 100,000 | \$ - | \$ 100,000 |
| Issuance of common stock | 55,000 | 550,000 | - | 550,000 |
| Net income | - | - | 202,242 | 202,242 |
| Balance at December 31, 2004 | 65,000 | 650,000 | 202,242 | 852,242 |
| Net income | - | - | 35,175 | 35,175 |
| Balance at December 31, 2005 | 65,000 | \$ 650,000 | \$ 237,417 | \$ 887,417 |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.
INFORMATION ON THIS PAGE IS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL.

PICKERING ENERGY PARTNERS, INC.
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOW

| | Year Ended December 31, | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------|
| | 2005 | 2004 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Net income | \$ 35,175 | \$ 202,242 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided (used in) by operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation | 34,086 | 21,882 |
| Deferred income taxes | 32,000 | 49,000 |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities: | | |
| Receivable from clearing brokers | (136,530) | (64,545) |
| Other current assets | 2,736 | (44,400) |
| Other assets | 30,564 | (39,928) |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | 48,065 | 17,840 |
| Federal income taxes payable | (56,500) | 56,500 |
| NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES | (10,404) | 198,591 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Additions to property and equipment | (31,005) | (128,765) |
| NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES | (31,005) | (128,765) |
| CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Issuance of common stock | - | 550,000 |
| NET CASH PROVIDED BY FINANCING ACTIVITIES | - | 550,000 |
| NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH | (41,409) | 619,826 |
| CASH AT BEGINNING OF YEAR | 719,826 | 100,000 |
| CASH AT END OF YEAR | \$ 678,417 | \$ 719,826 |

NON-CASH INVESTING AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES AND OTHER REQUIRED DISCLOSURES

During 2005 and 2004, the Company paid \$79,269 and \$0 in federal and state taxes, respectively.

NOTE A - ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Organization: Pickering Energy Partners, Inc. (the "Company"), a Texas corporation formed in October 2003, is a limited broker-dealer registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") under Rule 15c3-3(k)(2)(i), which provides that the Company will not maintain any margin accounts, will promptly transmit customer funds and deliver securities received, and does not hold funds or securities for, or owe money or securities to, customers. The Company is wholly-owned by Straight Line Holdings, L.L.C. ("SLH LLC").

The Company, a Houston-based research firm, focuses on market research and industry analysis in the energy and related industries. The Company participates, on a limited basis, in the underwriting of securities offered for initial sale in public markets. The Company participates in the brokerage of publicly-traded securities for commissions. The Company was granted membership in the National Association of Securities Dealers ("NASD") on May 5, 2004. At December 31, 2005, the Company was registered as a limited broker-dealer in 35 states.

Beginning in 2005, under the terms of agreements with clearing organizations, the Company must maintain in deposit accounts either cash, U.S. Government or U.S. Government-insured securities, having an aggregate market value of \$100,000. The Company must maintain the accounts until the termination of the clearing agreements. The Company must also maintain a minimum net capital and provide insurance of at least \$1 million during the term of the agreements. The Company is required to be in compliance with applicable local, state and federal regulations.

The Company does not carry customer accounts or perform custodial functions relating to customer securities. Accordingly, the Company is exempt under SEC Rule 15c3-3(k) 2(ii) from certain regulations concerning reserves and protection of customer securities; consequently, Computation for Determination of Reserve Requirements, and Information Relating to the Possession or Control Requirements pursuant to SEC Rule 15c3-3 are not required.

Use of Estimates: The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Revenue and Expense Recognition: Revenues are recorded when earned, and expenses when incurred utilizing the accrual method of accounting. Commission income and related expenses are recognized on a settlement date basis.

Cash and Cash Equivalents: The Company considers all highly liquid investment purchases with a maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Depreciation and Amortization: Furniture and equipment are depreciated on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives of three to seven years.

Income Taxes: The Company follows the liability method of accounting for income taxes in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 109. Under this method, deferred income taxes are recorded based upon differences between the financial reporting and tax bases of assets and liabilities and are measured using the enacted tax rates and laws that will be in effect when the underlying assets or liabilities are recovered or settled.

NOTE A - ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES
 (CONTINUED)

Stock Options: SLH LLC issued options to the employees of the Company for the purchase SLH LLC units. Accounting Principles Board (APB) Opinion No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*, and related interpretations, requires the Company record compensation expense for options granted by the Parent company to the employees of a consolidated subsidiary. The Company has chosen to account for stock options and options to purchase units of SLH LLC issued to employees of the Company using the intrinsic value method prescribed in APB No. 25. Accordingly, compensation cost for options is measured as the excess, if any, of the fair value of the SLH LLC units at the date of the grant over the amount an employee must pay to acquire the units. The SLH LLC grants options at or above the fair value of the SLH LLC units at the date of each grant.

In December 2004, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 123, *Share-Based Payment (Revised 2004)* ("SFAS 123(R)"). SFAS 123(R) requires the Company to measure all employee stock-based compensation awards using a fair value based method and record such expense in its financial statements if the requisite service to earn the award is provided. Until the Company adopts SFAS 123(R) in the first quarter of fiscal 2006, the Company will continue to use the intrinsic value method for its options under APB Opinion No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees* ("APBO 25"), and related interpretations in accounting for options. The alternative fair-value accounting methods provided under SFAS 123 require the use of option valuation models, such as the Black-Scholes option-pricing model.

In 2005, had the Company implemented the fair value method proscribed by Statement of Financial Accounting Standard (SFAS) No. 123, the compensation cost would have been immaterial.

NOTE B - NET CAPITAL REQUIREMENT

As a registered broker-dealer, the Company is subject to the SEC Uniform Net Capital Rule 15c3-1. The Company does not hold funds or securities for, or owe money or securities to customers or carry accounts of or for customers. In accordance with paragraph (a) (2) of SEC Rule 15c3-1, the Company is required to maintain minimum net capital equal to the greater of the minimum net capital requirement of \$100,000 as defined in the regulations or 6 2/3% of aggregate indebtedness. At December 31, 2005, the Company had net capital of \$732,587, which was \$632,587 in excess of its minimum required net capital of \$100,000.

NOTE C - COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Office lease expense attributable to non-cancelable leases was approximately \$130,855 and \$69,600 for 2005 and 2004, respectively. Future minimum rental commitments under the office space lease agreement are as follows:

| <u>Year Ending December 31,</u> | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| 2006 | \$ 90,687 |
| 2007 | 56,448 |
| | <u>\$ 147,135</u> |

PICKERING ENERGY PARTNERS, INC.
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004

NOTE D - PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and equipment consist of the following:

| | December 31, | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | <u>2005</u> | <u>2004</u> |
| Furniture and office equipment | \$ 159,770 | \$ 128,765 |
| Less: accumulated depreciation | <u>(55,968)</u> | <u>(21,882)</u> |
| | <u>\$ 103,802</u> | <u>\$ 106,883</u> |

Depreciation and amortization for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004 was \$34,086 and \$21,882, respectively.

NOTE E - INCOME TAXES

Federal and state income taxes are as follows:

| | Year Ended December 31, | |
|----------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| | <u>2005</u> | <u>2004</u> |
| Federal: | | |
| Current | \$ (2,644) | \$ 56,500 |
| Deferred | <u>32,000</u> | <u>49,000</u> |
| | <u>\$ 29,356</u> | <u>\$ 105,500</u> |

Actual income tax expense differs from income tax expense computed by applying the U.S. federal statutory corporate rate of 34% - 35% to income before taxes for the year ended December 31, 2005, primarily due to non-deductible expenses.

Deferred income tax provisions result from temporary differences in the tax bases of assets and liabilities. The tax effects of these temporary differences, representing deferred tax assets and liabilities, result principally from the following:

| | December 31, | |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| | <u>2005</u> | <u>2004</u> |
| Current deferred income tax liabilities: | | |
| Accounts receivable, accounts payable, and accrued liabilities | \$ 45,500 | \$ 16,500 |
| Non-current deferred income tax liabilities: | | |
| Depreciation | <u>35,500</u> | <u>32,500</u> |
| | <u>\$ 81,000</u> | <u>\$ 49,000</u> |

PICKERING ENERGY PARTNERS, INC.
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004

NOTE F - OPTION GRANTS

During 2005, the SLH LLC granted certain employees options to purchase 614 Series A and Series B units of SLH LLC with an average exercise price of approximately \$973 per unit.

The following table summarizes the option activity for the year ended December 31, 2005:

| | Units Under Option | Weighted Average Exercise Price |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Balance at December 31, 2004 | - | \$ - |
| Granted | 614 | 973 |
| Exercised | (249) | 970 |
| Canceled | (20) | 970 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Balance at December 31, 2005 | 345 | \$ 975 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Options exercisable at December 31, 2005 | 264 | \$ 975 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |

The options outstanding at December 31, 2005, have an average exercise price of \$975 per unit with a weighted average remaining contractual life of approximately two years as of December 31, 2005.

NOTE G - EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS

During 2005, the Company created a defined contribution and profit sharing plan qualified under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code for the benefit of its U.S. employees. The 401(k) Plan allows eligible employees to contribute up to 90% of their eligible compensation, subject to IRS limitations. Under the provisions of the 401(k) Plan, the Company, at its discretion, may make discretionary contributions and match participant contributions, up to 4% of each participant's salary. The Company made no discretionary contributions during 2005. The Company made matching contributions of \$77,907 to the Plan during 2005.

NOTE H - CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK

The Company maintains cash deposits with banks and brokerage firms which from time to time may exceed federally insured limits. Management periodically assesses the financial condition of these institutions and believes that any possible loss is minimal.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

PICKERING ENERGY PARTNERS, INC.
 SCHEDULE I - CALCULATION OF NET CAPITAL REQUIREMENT UNDER RULE 15c3-1
 OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 DECEMBER 31, 2005

| | | | |
|---|---------|----|-----------------|
| TOTAL STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | | \$ | 887,417 |
| Deductions for non-allowable assets: | | | |
| Property and equipment, net | 103,802 | | |
| Federal income taxes receivable | 11,144 | | |
| Other current assets | 30,520 | | |
| Other long-term assets | 9,364 | | |
| | | | <u>154,830</u> |
| NET CAPITAL BEFORE HAIRCUT ON SECURITIES POSITIONS | | | 732,587 |
| Haircuts on securities | | | <u>-</u> |
| NET CAPITAL | | \$ | <u>732,587</u> |
| AGGREGATE INDEBTEDNESS | | | |
| Items included on statement of financial condition: | | | |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses | | \$ | 65,905 |
| Deferred income taxes | | | <u>81,000</u> |
| TOTAL AGGREGATE INDEBTEDNESS | | \$ | <u>146,905</u> |
| COMPUTATION OF BASIC NET CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS | | | |
| Minimum net capital required (6 2/3% of total aggregate indebtedness) | | \$ | <u>9,799</u> |
| Minimum dollar net capital requirement | | \$ | <u>100,000</u> |
| Net capital requirement (greater of minimum net capital required or minimum dollar net capital requirement) | | \$ | <u>100,000</u> |
| EXCESS NET CAPITAL | | \$ | <u>632,587</u> |
| Ratio: aggregate indebtedness to net capital | | | <u>.20 to 1</u> |

There is no material difference between the above computation and the Company's computation of net capital as reported in Company's Part II of Form X-17A-5 (as amended) as of December 31, 2005.

See independent auditors' report.



PICKERING ENERGY PARTNERS, INC.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' SUPPLEMENTARY
REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL**

DECEMBER 31, 2005

**Independent Auditors' Report on the Internal
Control Required by SEC Rule 17a-5**

Board of Directors
Pickering Energy Partners, Inc.

In planning and performing our audits of the financial statements and supplemental schedules of Pickering Energy Partners, Inc. (the "Company") for the year ended December 31, 2005, we considered its internal control, including control activities for safeguarding securities, in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on internal control.

Also, as required by Rule 17a-5(g)(1) of the Securities Exchange Commission ("SEC"), we have made a study of the practices and procedures followed by the Company including tests of such practices and procedures that we considered relevant to the objectives stated in Rule 17a-5(g) in making the periodic computations of aggregate indebtedness (or aggregate debits) and net capital under Rule 17a-3(a)(11) and for determining compliance with the exemptive provisions of Rule 15c3-3. Because the Company does not carry securities accounts for customers or perform custodial functions relating to customer securities, we did not review the practices and procedures followed by the Company in any of the following:

1. Making quarterly securities examinations, counts, verifications, and comparisons
2. Recordation of differences required by Rule 17a-13
3. Complying with the requirements for prompt payment for securities under Section 8 of Federal Reserve Regulation T of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

The management of the Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal control and the practices and procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of controls and of the practices and procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph and to assess whether those practices and procedures can be expected to achieve the SEC's above-mentioned objectives. Two of the objectives of internal control and the practices and procedures are to provide management with reasonable but not absolute assurance that assets for which the Company has responsibility are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Rule 17a-5(g) lists additional objectives of the practices and procedures listed in the preceding paragraph.

Pickering Energy Partners, Inc.

Page 2

Because of inherent limitations in internal control or the practices and procedures referred to above, errors or fraud may occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any evaluation of them to future periods is subject to the risk that they may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the effectiveness of their design and operation may deteriorate.

Our consideration of internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in internal control that might be material weaknesses under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of the specific internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that errors or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. However, we noted no matters involving internal control, including control activities for safeguarding securities that we consider to be material weaknesses as defined above.

We understand that practices and procedures that accomplish the objectives referred to in the second paragraph of this report are considered by the SEC to be adequate for its purposes in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and related regulations, and that practices and procedures that do not accomplish such objectives in all material respects indicate a material inadequacy for such purposes. Based on this understanding and on our study, we believe that the Company's practices and procedures were adequate at December 31, 2005, to meet the SEC's objectives.

This report is intended solely for the use of the stockholders, management, the SEC, the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc., and other regulatory agencies that rely on Rule 17a-5(g) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in their regulation of registered brokers and dealers, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

VHY Mann Frankfort Stein & Lipp CPAs, LLP

Houston, Texas
February 14, 2006