



MEDIA CONTACTS:

Ryan Cunningham

Ryan.cunningham@cunninghamenergy.com

304.344.9291

Seth Morton

smorton@vestaog.com

For Immediate Release

**CUNNINGHAM ENERGY PARTNERS WITH VESTA O&G
TO GROW WEST VIRGINIA OPERATIONS**

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – West Virginia-based oil and gas producer Cunningham Energy has been engaged by Pennsylvania-based investment company Vesta O&G to increase investment and growth opportunities in the Mountain State.

“I’ve been involved in West Virginia’s oil and gas business for many years, and it’s exciting to see others recognize the potential of local producers like us, who are committed to contributing to the local and state economy,” said Cunningham Energy President Ryan Cunningham.

Vesta O&G is primarily focused on developing conventional reservoirs throughout North America. It seeks opportunities to work with smaller operators who have a track record of success within the company’s areas of operation.

“We have engaged Cunningham Energy to develop assets in West Virginia because we believe in the modern techniques Cunningham has pioneered in this region,” said Seth Morton, Vesta O&G’s Head of Development. “Ryan and his family have owned land and oil and gas production operations in West Virginia for generations and we’re proud to help continue that legacy.”

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The Cunningham family has more than 170 years of history in West Virginia and many years of involvement in the oil and gas industry in West Virginia and Texas. After graduating from college, Ryan Cunningham began his petroleum production and exploration career in Clay County, West Virginia, working for D & A Oil and Gas Corporation. Since that time, he has gained valuable experience by learning about his field from all sides — he learned about the inner workings of the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection as an employee there early in his career, and then learned about the financial aspects of building a business while working for an investment firm in New York.

Cunningham is committed to seeing West Virginia succeed. He said he always knew he would return to his home state.

“All my experiences helped prepare me to come back home and really grow a business,” Cunningham said. In 2008, he founded Cunningham Energy as a true independent oil and gas production firm concentrating on tight conventional reservoir production in proven areas of development. Charged with acquisitions and long-term planning for exploration efforts, he said he knew he would need to think big if he were going to compete in today’s oil and gas market. “The industry is tough on small operators, so I was always on the lookout for ways to improve our position,” he said.

Cunningham Energy employs more than 30 people in Kanawha County, with plans to hire more as it expands its operations. “I hope that when I look back on my career, these projects with Vesta O&G will have marked the beginning of a new chapter of growth, innovation and investment in this state and beyond,” Cunningham said.

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About Cunningham Energy

Cunningham Energy is an independent producer of oil and gas based in Charleston, West Virginia. The company was formed in 2008 for the purpose of acquiring, exploring and producing oil and gas in the Appalachian, Illinois and Williston Basins. Since its inception, Cunningham Energy has relied on past experience and new technologies to succeed in the ever-changing field of efficient energy production. Cunningham Energy is positioned to take advantage of current and future trends in oil and natural gas production throughout these basins thanks to its innovative, but responsible, decision-making process. Learn more at www.cunninghamenergy.com.

About Vesta O&G

Vesta O&G is primarily focused on developing innovative plays in conventional reservoirs in North America and seeking opportunities to engage expert, independent operators that demonstrate specialized reservoir knowledge.

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