

Natural Resource Partners L.P.
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NEWS RELEASE

Natural Resource Partners L.P. Increases Distribution for 23rd Consecutive Quarter

HOUSTON, April 22, 2009 – **Natural Resource Partners L.P. (NYSE:NRP)** announced today that the Board of Directors of its general partner has declared a first quarter 2009 distribution of \$0.54 per unit for NRP, an increase of \$0.005 in its quarterly distribution. The distribution will be paid on May 14, 2009 to unitholders of record on May 4, 2009. This is the 23rd consecutive increase in the quarterly distribution and represents a 9% increase in the distribution over the first quarter 2008.

Company Profile

Natural Resource Partners L.P. is headquartered in Houston, TX, with its operations headquarters in Huntington, WV. NRP is a master limited partnership that is principally engaged in the business of owning and managing mineral reserve properties. NRP owns coal reserves and coal handling and transportation infrastructure in the three major coal producing regions of the United States: Appalachia, the Illinois Basin and the Powder River Basin. In addition, the partnership owns and manages aggregate reserves being mined in West Virginia and Washington.

For additional information, please contact Kathy H. Roberts at 713-751-7555 or kroberts@nrplp.com. Further information about NRP is available on the partnership's website at <http://www.nrplp.com>.