NJR REPORTS FISCAL YEAR-TO-DATE AND SECOND-QUARTER EARNINGS PER SHARE

WALL, N.J. - New Jersey Resources Corporation (NYSE: NJR) today reported a 17 percent increase in earnings per share for the six months ended March 31, 2003, to $2.39, compared with $2.04 last year. Fiscal second-quarter earnings per share increased 17 percent to $1.52, compared with $1.30 last year. The increase in earnings is attributed primarily to continued customer growth, colder weather and improved wholesale energy services results.

“This winter’s severe cold tested both our natural gas distribution system and our employees. The earnings we reported today are a testament to our team’s hard work and dedication to quality,” said Laurence M. Downes, chairman and CEO of NJR. “We’re pleased that our financial results so clearly confirm our strategy of concentrating our efforts on meeting the energy needs of customers in our core energy business in New Jersey and achieving profitable growth in related energy markets,” Mr. Downes said.

Financial and operating highlights included:

- Higher Net Income and Earnings per Share - For the six months ended March 31, 2003, NJR earned $64.6 million, or $2.39 per share, compared with $54.6 million, or $2.04 per share, last year. New Jersey Natural Gas Company (NJNG) earned $53.7 million for the six-month period ended March 31, 2003, as compared with $48.4 million last year, driven by its continued profitable customer growth and one of the coldest winters in the Company’s history. NJR Energy Services Corporation (NJRES), NJR’s unregulated wholesale energy services subsidiary, reported a 115 percent increase in earnings to $11.2 million, compared with $5.2 million last year, due primarily to higher margins from increased transportation and storage assets. NJR earned $41.2 million, or $1.52 per share, for the three months ended March 31, 2003, compared with $34.9 million, or $1.30 per share, last year.

- Strong Customer Growth - During the first six months of the fiscal year, NJNG added approximately 1.1 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of new throughput, which is expected to generate about $3.3 million in gross margin. NJNG expects to maintain its approximately 3 percent annual customer growth rate in fiscal 2003, well above the national average for natural gas distribution companies. About 35 percent of new customers are expected to convert from other fuels. In fiscal 2003, NJNG expects to add more than 2 Bcf of firm sales representing more than $6 million of annual gross margin. Gross margin is defined as gas revenues less gas purchases, sales tax and a Transitional Energy Facilities Assessment (TEFA), which is included in Energy and other taxes on the Consolidated Statements of Income. Management believes that gross margin provides a more meaningful basis for evaluating utility operations since gas costs, sales tax and TEFA are passed through to customers and therefore, have no effect on gross margin. Gas costs are charged to operating expenses on the basis of therm sales at the rates included in NJNG’s Basic Gas Supply Service (BGSS) tariff. The BGSS allows NJNG to recover gas costs that exceed the level reflected in its base rates. Sales tax is calculated at 6 percent of revenue and excludes sales to cogeneration facilities, other utilities, off-system sales and federal accounts. TEFA is calculated on a per-therm basis and excludes sales to cogeneration facilities, other utilities and off-system sales.

- Cold Weather - For the six months ended March 31, 2003, weather was 12 percent colder than normal and 35 percent colder than last year. Weather for the second quarter was 13 percent colder than normal and 33 percent colder than last year. “Normal” weather is based on 20-year average temperatures. The impact of the weather is significantly offset by NJNG’s weather-normalization clause (WNC), which is designed to smooth out year-to-year fluctuations that may result from changing weather patterns on both NJNG’s gross margin and customers’ bills. As a result of the colder-than-normal weather, NJNG has deferred $7.4 million of margin during the first six months of this fiscal year under the WNC for future refund to customers. The cold weather resulted in approximately $2.2 million of additional margin beyond the amount captured by the WNC. Last year, $14.8 million of margin was accrued for future recovery under the WNC, and margin was reduced by approximately $3.6 million beyond the WNC due to 18 percent warmer-than-normal weather.

- Wholesale Energy Services - Earnings for NJRES during the first six months of the fiscal year benefited from increased basis, financial and daily trading margins resulting from increased transportation and storage portfolio that has been tailored to leverage opportunities created by the volatile wholesale natural gas market experienced this winter. Natural gas sold or managed under these transactions totaled 216 Bcf for the six months ended March 31, 2003, a 46 percent increase over the same period last year.

- Off-System Sales and Capacity Management Programs - NJNG shares margins earned from off-system sales, capacity release and portfolio-enhancement programs between customers and shareowners, based on a formula that is in effect until October 31, 2003. For the six months ended March 31, 2003, off-system and capacity management program sales were 264 Bcf, generating $2.9 million in margin and $11.7 million in credits to customers. NJNG customers have saved over $198 million on their natural gas bills, or approximately 5 percent annually, since these programs began in 1992. These programs have contributed to NJNG having the lowest total natural gas prices in New Jersey.

- Regulatory Update - During the quarter, NJNG filed a proposal with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) to initiate a Smart Growth pilot program that will provide the groundwork for major redevelopment activities in Asbury Park and Long Branch. The proposed program will upgrade a significant portion of the natural gas distribution system in both Asbury Park and Long Branch with new infrastructure to efficiently enhance the distribution system's capacity and support redevelopment opportunities. The plan proposes recovering costs through limited changes to the traditional regulatory treatment of utility infrastructure costs. NJNG is hopeful that action will be taken soon by the BPU. With approval of the program, NJNG would immediately complete final design plans and obtain needed permits to begin construction in the summer of 2003. The initiation of the pilot program in Asbury Park and Long Branch is expected to provide a model for future applications in other communities in NJNG's service area as well as the state. NJNG estimates that it will invest approximately $7 million in Asbury Park under this program. During the quarter, NJNG also filed for an update to its Remediation Adjustment Clause (RAC) tariff for recovery of manufactured gas plant (MGP) remediation costs incurred through June 30, 2002. Under the RAC, NJNG recovers its MGP expenditures with carrying costs, over rolling seven-year periods.

- Real Estate - In December 2002, Commercial Realty & Resources Corp. (CR&R), the Company's real estate development subsidiary, signed a lease to construct a 200,000-square-foot building for Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey. Construction is expected to begin in the third fiscal quarter of 2003, with a completion date in the third fiscal quarter of 2004.

New Jersey Resources Corporation (NYSE: NJR), a Fortune 1000 company and a member of the Forbes Platinum 400, provides retail and wholesale energy services to customers in New Jersey and in states from the Gulf Coast to New England, and Canada. Its principal subsidiary, New Jersey Natural Gas Company (NJNG), is one of the fastest-growing local distribution companies in the United States, and ranks highest in customer satisfaction for the Eastern U.S. Region in the J.D. Power and Associates 2002 Gas Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction Study.SM NJNG provides energy services to almost 440,000 residential, commercial and industrial customers in New Jersey's Monmouth and Ocean counties and parts of Morris and Middlesex counties and maintains a nearly 6,000-mile underground pipeline system. NJNG has added nearly 12,000 new customers for the past eight consecutive years, representing 2 billion cubic feet of new firm throughput annually. Other major operating subsidiaries of NJR include NJR Energy Services, which provides unregulated wholesale energy services, and NJR Home Services, which offers expert home-appliance service, sales and installations. For more information about the NJR family of companies, visit njliving.com.

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. NJR wishes to caution readers that the assumptions forming the basis for forward-looking statements include many factors that are beyond NJR's ability to control or estimate precisely, such as estimates of future market conditions and the behavior of other market participants. Other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from our expectations include, but are not limited to, weather conditions, economic conditions in NJNG's service territory, impact of regulation, fluctuations in energy-related commodity prices, conversion activity, other marketing efforts and other uncertainties. More detailed information about these factors is set forth in NJR's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including NJR's quarterly report on Form 10-Q filed on February 14, 2003. NJR's Form 10-Q is available at www.sec.gov.

The Company does not, by including this statement, assume any obligation to review or revise any particular forward-looking statement referenced herein in light of future events.

NEW JERSEY RESOURCES CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS

Thousands, except per share data *(Unaudited)*	Three Months Ended March 31, **2003**	2002	Six Months Ended March 31, **2003**	2002
Operating Revenues	**$1,152,700**	$525,780	**$1,821,479**	$921,611
Net Income	**$41,244**	$34,930	**$64,567**	$54,611
Earnings Per Common Share				
Basic	**$1.52**	$1.30	**$2.39**	$2.04
Diluted	**$1.50**	$1.29	**$2.35**	$2.01
Average Shares Outstanding				
Basic	**27,048**	26,863	**27,016**	26,800
Diluted	**27,467**	27,163	**27,428**	27,108

Consolidated Statement of Income

Consolidated Financial Highlights

J.D. Power and Associates 2002 Gas Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction Study.SM Study based on a total of 9,126 consumer responses. In the Eastern U.S., the top 15 Gas Utility companies were ranked in the study. www.jdpower.com.