



NEWS RELEASE

ESSENTIAL ENERGY SERVICES TRUST ANNOUNCES DECEMBER 2008 DISTRIBUTION

CALGARY, ALBERTA December 9, 2008 – Essential Energy Services Trust (“Essential” or the “Trust”) (TSX: ESN.UN) announced today the cash distribution for the period December 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008 has been set at \$0.015 per trust unit.

The cash distribution will be paid on January 15, 2009 to unitholders of record on December 31, 2008. The ex-distribution date is December 29, 2008.

Essential Energy Services Trust provides a range of oilfield services to oil and gas producers in western Canada related to the ongoing servicing of producing wells and new drilling activity.

This press release may contain forward-looking statements including expectations of future cash flow and earnings. These statements are based on current expectations that involve a number of risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results to differ from those anticipated. These risks include, but are not limited to: risks associated with the oilfield services sector (e.g. demand, pricing and terms for oilfield services; current and expected oil and gas prices; exploration and development costs and delays; reserves discovery rates; pipeline and transportation capacity; weather, health, safety and environmental risks), integration of acquisitions, competition, and uncertainties resulting from potential delays or changes in plans with respect to acquisitions, development projects or capital expenditures. Additional information on these and other factors that could affect the Trust's operations or financial results are included in the Trust's documentation and filings with Canadian securities regulatory authorities. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should assumptions underlying forward-looking statements prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those described in this press release. The Trust does not assume any obligation to update these forward-looking statements, except as required by law.

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The TSX has not reviewed and does not accept responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of this news release.