

Attention Business Editors:
Harvest Energy Trust Announces Appointment of Independent Director

(HTE.UN - TSX)

CALGARY, Dec. 12 /CNW/ - Harvest Energy Trust ("Harvest") is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Hank B. Swartout to the Board of Directors of Harvest Operations Corp., the manager for Harvest. Mr. Swartout has over 25 years of oil and natural gas industry experience and will provide significant operational and corporate governance experience, which will be an asset to Harvest as it pursues its growth plans. Mr. Swartout is Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer of Precision Drilling Corporation, an international integrated oilfield drilling and energy service company.

Harvest Energy Trust is a Calgary based oil and natural gas trust that strives to deliver stable monthly cash distributions to its Unitholders through its strategy of acquiring, enhancing and producing crude oil, natural gas and natural gas liquids. Harvest has successfully acquired high quality medium and heavy gravity crude oil properties in East Central Alberta and will endeavor to deliver superior economic returns to Unitholders. Harvest's strategy is to retain up to 50% of its cash flow for capital reinvestment in the form of existing property enhancement and new property acquisitions while maintaining a high rate of cash distributions. Harvest currently operates approximately 99% of its production, enabling it to pursue additional asset growth through property optimization and enhancement.

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(HTE.UN.)

CO: Harvest Energy Trust
ST: Alberta
IN: OIL
SU: PER

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