This document was prepared by the Asociación Nacional de Instituciones Financieras - ANIF, for Japan Bank for International Cooperation - JBIC.

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Bogotá, June 17, 2008.
Introduction

This study presents an overview of the Natural Gas and Electricity Sector in Colombia. The information contained herein that serves as the basis for graphs, charts and analysis comes from the following government agencies, trade organizations, or companies: Ministerio de Minas y Energía ("Ministry of Mining and Energy"; Minminas), Unidad de Planeación Minero Energética ("Unit of Mined Energy Planning"; UPME), Comisión de Regulación de Energía y Gas ("Regulatory Commission for Energy and Gas"; CREG), Superintendencia de Servicios Públicos Domiciliarios ("Superintendent of Public Utilities"; SSPD), Agencia Nacional de Hidrocarburos ("National Agency of Hydrocarbons"; ANH), Interconexión Eléctrica (ISA), Sistema Único de Información (SUI), XM, Naturgas, Promigas, Ecopetrol, and British Petroleum.

In accordance with the expressed needs of the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), this study possesses two main components: 1) an examination of the natural gas sector and 2) an analysis of the current state of electricity production. The first section places the Colombian natural gas sector in an international context, explains the market and regulatory structure of the sector, evaluates recent trends in gas reserves and production, looks at the distribution of users according to industry, socioeconomic status and geography, and details the evolution of natural gas usage for vehicles. The second section highlights the main players in the electricity sector, notes the utilization of available electricity production capacity, describes the infrastructure supporting electricity transport, provides data on the distribution of subscribers, shows the recent dynamics of energy market pricing, and finally, includes the updated tables and charts from the study Colombia’s Sector Outlook: Electricity, Natural Gas, Oil and Transportation undertaken in 2006 by Anif in response to a request by JBIC.