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GOLD RESERVE CONFIRMS RECEIPT OF PERMIT TO AFFECT FOR CHOCO 5

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON July 19, 2005

Gold Reserve Inc. (TSX and AMEX: GRZ) announced today it has received the Permit to Affect Natural Resources from the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARNR) for its Choco 5 property located in Venezuela's El Callao mining district. The Company expects to soon commence an aggressive exploration program on the property. The Company will base its exploration effort out of its office in El Callao. The Company's geologists have already identified some drill targets and are commencing a geophysics and geochemistry program designed to identify other targets.

Choco 5 is a 5,000 hectare concession located in the western end of the El Callao mining district. Choco 5 is contiguous and adjacent to Bolivar Gold Corp.'s (TSX: BGC) Choco 10 property, which has recently commissioned a new 6,000 tonne per day mill. Bolivar Gold and Gold Fields Limited (NYSE and YSE: GFI) are also actively exploring other properties in the region and nearby Hecla Mining Company (NYSE: HL) is developing Mina Isadora, which it expects to place into production in 2006.

Doug Belanger, President of Gold Reserve, stated, "We are very pleased to receive the Permit to Affect Natural Resources so soon after the receipt of the Permit to Occupy the Territory. We are now in a position to move forward with our exploration of the Choco 5 property. This adds a new element to Gold Reserve in addition to the development of the Brisas project."

Gold Reserve Inc. is a Canadian company which has the Choco 5 gold exploration property and the Brisas gold/copper project in southeastern Venezuela. The Brisas project has 10.1 million ounces of gold and 1.29 billion pounds of copper in proven and probable ore reserves. Further information on Brisas tonnage and grades is available at www.goldreserveinc.com. A positive production decision was made earlier this year on the Brisas project.

Certain statements included herein, including those that express management's expectations or estimates of our future performance, constitute "forward looking statements" within the meaning of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward looking statements are necessarily based upon a number of estimates and assumptions that, while considered reasonable by management are inherently subject to significant business, economic and competitive uncertainties and contingencies. We caution that such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other risk factors that may cause the actual financial results, performance, or achievements of Gold Reserve to be materially different from our estimated future results, performance, or achievements expressed or implied by those forward looking statements. These are discussed in greater detail in Gold Reserve's filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission at

www.sec.gov and the Annual Information Form and other reports filed with Canadian provincial securities commissions at www.sedar.com. Gold Reserve expressly disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward looking statement whether as a result of new information, events or otherwise.

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