

## **Opta Minerals Schedules Second Quarter 2006 Financial results Release and Conference Call**

**WATERDOWN, ON, Monday July 31, 2006** – Opta Minerals Inc. (TSX: OPM, OPM.WT), announced today that it will issue financial results for the second quarter ended June 30, 2006 on Wednesday August 2, 2006 after the close of the stock market.

Opta Minerals' President and CEO, David Kruse, also plans to host a conference call at 3:00 PM Eastern Standard Time on August 3, 2006, to discuss quarterly and recent corporate developments. After opening remarks, there will be a question and answer period. This conference call can be accessed with the toll free dial-in number (719) 457-2650 or (800) 946-0742 followed by pass code: 4168439. If you are unable to listen live, the conference call will be archived and can be accessed at the following replay numbers between August 3<sup>rd</sup> and August 9<sup>th</sup> with the toll free dial-in number (888) 203-1112 or (719) 457-0820 followed by pass code: 4168439.

Opta Minerals is a vertically integrated producer, manufacturer, distributor and recycler of silica-free loose abrasives, roofing shingle granules, industrial minerals, specialty sands and related products for use primarily in the foundry, steel, marine/bridge cleaning and municipal water filtration industries. The Company has experienced solid growth since July 1995, through a combination of internal growth and successfully integrated strategic acquisitions to become one of the dominant regional suppliers of silica-free loose abrasives in a number of select markets on the east coast of North America. These results were achieved while the Company was an operating group of SunOpta and during a period in which SunOpta dedicated the majority of its resources to building its core organic and natural food business.

The Company currently has production and distribution facilities in Ontario, Quebec, Louisiana, South Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Ohio, Indiana and New York and one of the broadest product lines in the industry. Recognizing that the fragmentation and lack of consolidation among suppliers in its industry has provided it with a strategic growth opportunity, the Company intends to capitalize on this opportunity to become one of the dominant North American suppliers of silica-free loose abrasives while at the same time leveraging this core expertise to expand its breadth of services and product offering in other industrial minerals

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