

The present focus on the downstream side is the automation of refineries at Barrancabermeja and Cartagena. A budget of \$30 million US has been approved for the expansion and revamping of the visbreaker and the 2000 topping unit at Barrancabermeja. A second proposal to increase the capacity by 50,000 MBPD is awaiting budget approval. At Cartagena, a budget of \$40 million US has been approved to upgrade the cracking unit and replace the topping furnaces.

## **2. BP Exploration Company**

The large discovery by BP and its partners is to be developed in two phases to reach a rate of 300 to 340 thousand barrels per day.

The Cusiana Phase I development is currently underway. This phase involves the installation of production facilities and pipelines at an estimated cost of \$1.4 billion US. This initial phase is expected to be completed by September 1994 and thus offers few opportunities for Canadian companies.

Phase II of the Cusiana/Cupiagua development has started with a request for proposals for the preliminary engineering design work from four American and one British company. This plan is expected to be completed in 12 to 18 months.

The major items for this phase are a new pipeline from Cusiana to the Caribbean coast and the corresponding offshore facilities, the drilling of additional development wells and the associated production facilities. The budget for Phase II is \$1.5 billion US.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Ecopetrol will shortly publish their guidelines for environmental audits. All Ecopetrol facilities will be audited. Through the association contracts, this means an audit for the entire industry. Opportunities exist for Canadian companies to work with Colombian companies as joint venture partners.