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Before joining BP in 2002 Mr Jackson, who is a solicitor, was company secretary and general counsel at Powergen plc for 13 years. He played a key role in the legal affairs of Powergen, starting with its privatisation and culminating in its acquisition by E.ON AG. in early 2002.

Paying tribute to Judith Hanratty, BP chairman Peter Sutherland said: "As company secretary and head of the chairman's office since 1994, Judith has created an exceptional legacy for the future.

"She has been instrumental in creating the model for corporate governance in BP which is recognised as being of the highest quality. As a member of the Bar with a wide range of business experience in the UK and abroad, Judith has developed, within the BP model, the role of the company secretary's office in providing specialist counsel and support to the board and the chairman.

"Her attributes of integrity and outstanding professionalism have been greatly valued by the board as a whole."

Further enquiries:

BP press office, +44 (0)207 496 4076

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

BP p.l.c.  
(Registrant)

Dated: 24 July 2003

/s/ D. J. PEARL  
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D. J. PEARL  
Deputy Company Secretary