



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BCSE Statement on US International Climate Change Commitment

Washington, DC – The Business Council for Sustainable Energy’s President Lisa Jacobson issued the following statement on today’s submission of the United States’ pledge to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC):

“The Business Council for Sustainable Energy commends the United States on its continued global leadership on climate change with the formal announcement of its commitment to reduce economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions 26 – 28% over 2005 levels by 2025. The deployment of clean energy technologies – both commercially available and next-generation solutions – will play a key role in the United States meeting this 2025 target.

“As countries work towards a new international climate agreement in Paris in December 2015, this pledge by the United States and its bilateral agreement with China last November will serve as a catalyst to bring other countries to the table to take action on climate change. This US leadership on climate change will also create jobs at home and provide for a diverse energy supply that will strengthen the US economy.

“The Council’s low-carbon technology solutions will be best supported through a Paris agreement that includes a commitment to helping developing countries create the necessary enabling environments, and strengthens the absorptive capacity that will incentivize innovation and establish sustainable markets for doing business. A strong intellectual property regime will ensure that both technology avenues – existing and next-generation – are available.”

The Council believes that an ambitious international agreement will drive low-carbon investment and innovation, as articulated in our position paper *[“A Framework for a 2015 Climate Change Agreement and Accelerated Clean Energy Deployment,”](#)* and that there are real and actionable steps that can be taken to deliver significant emissions reductions in the energy sector globally.

Further, as detailed the recently released *[Sustainable Energy in America Factbook](#)*, a long-term transformation in the way Americans produce and consume energy is well-underway, with 40% of all electricity coming from lower-carbon sources of renewables and natural gas in 2014, and 93% of new power capacity built coming from these sectors since 2000. Total US investment in clean energy technology, increased five-fold over the past ten years, topping \$51.8 billion in 2014, second in the world only to China. Most important to note is that throughout this clean energy transformation, since 2007 the American gross domestic product (GDP) has increased 8% and our energy-related emissions have fallen 9.2%.

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The Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) is a coalition of companies and trade associations from the energy efficiency, natural gas and renewable energy sectors, and also includes independent electric power producers, investor-owned utilities, public power and commercial end-users. Established in 1992, the Council advocates for policies that expand the use of commercially-available clean energy technologies, products and services. For more information on the Council, please visit: www.bcse.org and download [Sustainable Energy in America Factbook](#) 2015 edition for the latest industry information.