

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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U.S. Clean Energy Industry Showcases Climate Action at COP 23

Bonn, Germany – American clean energy industries are taking a leadership role, demonstrating their action and commitment by making the business case for climate action at the 23rd Conference of the Parties (COP23) to the United Nations Framework Convention (UNFCCC). On Tuesday, the Council released a paper, [Powering Ambition at COP 23](#), which articulates how the falling costs of clean energy technologies makes it more affordable for countries to power ambition toward strong climate action.

Ms. Lisa Jacobson, President, Business Council for Sustainable Energy

“Our industries – energy efficiency, natural gas and renewable energy – are the growth sectors of the U.S. energy economy, and support over 3 million jobs in America. We are here at COP 23 to show that we can do more with these existing clean energy technologies and we can help countries raise ambition. The United States is decoupling economic growth and emissions. We also know that it costs less to reduce those emissions, due to the falling costs of technologies.”

Mr. Clay Nesler, Vice President, Global Sustainability and Industry Initiatives, Johnson Controls

“The results from our 2017 Global Energy Efficiency Indicator Survey shows that 70% of organizations across 12 countries are paying more attention to energy efficiency and renewable energy than a year ago. It also reveals a growing interest in net-zero energy buildings and resilience as key drivers for the industry. Market forces are also driving investments as 43% of respondents say they are willing to pay more to lease space in a certified green building. Policy is also an important factor with benchmarking, transparency and disclosure policies being the most effective driver for increasing investment.”

Ms. Melissa Lavinson, Vice President, Federal Affairs and Policy and Chief Sustainability Officer, PG&E Corporation

“At PG&E we take a holistic approach to greenhouse gas emissions and climate change, an approach that emphasizes collaboration and partnership with our customers. Seventy percent of the electricity that we provide our customers is greenhouse gas free. We think of ourselves not only as an energy provider but also a climate solutions company. In California and globally, we are going to need transformative approaches in both the energy and transportation sectors. We also have to build an infrastructure that is resilient, and we are pleased to announce a partnership with the Bay Area Council to launch a fund to engage communities on climate resilience activities, to support mitigation and adaptation planning.”

Ms. Ashley Allen, Climate and Land Senior Manager, Mars, Inc.

“Mars, Inc. is ‘all in’ on climate action. Climate change is not a political issue for Mars, it is a science issue, and a business issue. Clean energy is part of the solutions we are using at Mars to lower our carbon footprint. We have made great progress towards our 100% renewable energy target by 2040, and in five countries our operations are powered by 100% renewable energy.”

Ms. Elizabeth Beardsley, Senior Policy Counsel, U.S. Green Building Council

“Our mission at the U.S. Green Building Council is to transform the built environment to one that is sustainable, resilient, prosperous, and equitable, through tools such as LEED, our Education channel, and our new data platform, Arc. We are at COP to highlight green buildings as a key opportunity for climate action that offers significant co-benefits for occupant health and productivity. Green buildings are a major economic opportunity, projected to add \$300 billion to U.S. GDP from 2015-2018.”

Mr. Jeff Moe, Director, Energy Policy and Global Product Advocacy, Center for Energy Efficiency and Sustainability at Ingersoll Rand

“At Ingersoll Rand, we define sustainability as delivering profitable growth, fostering social improvement and solving major environmental issues. Our company has committed to reduce the GHG refrigerant footprint of our products by 50% by 2020 and to reduce the GHG emissions of our own operations by 35% by 2020. Ingersoll Rand has also set aside \$500 million for innovation in new solutions by 2020. We are on track to achieve those goals. To date, our efforts have avoided 6.7 million tons of CO₂e which approximates the energy use from 700,000 homes. If the rest of the industry followed suit, we could see reduction of 4 - 8% of global GHG emissions.”

Mr. Thomas Weber, President, Jupiter Oxygen Corporation

“The more ambitious our climate goals are, the more the use of carbon capture, utilization and storage technologies will be required. We need to reduce the cost of carbon capture technology and find utilization options for the carbon dioxide. Jupiter Oxygen Corporation’s innovative high flame temperature, oxy-combustion process increases fuel efficiency in fossil-fuel power plant boilers while capturing CO₂ and other significant air pollutants. Jupiter Oxygen has identified a pathway for the utilization of this CO₂ followed by safe, secure sequestration in underground formations. Jupiter Oxygen is developing a demonstration project in Western China and has identified potential sites in India, Mexico and the United States. It is crucial to establish these technologies now so that we can achieve a realistic pathway in the future to meet our global climate mitigation goals.”

RESOURCES

View [video of the event](#).

Read BCSE paper: [Powering Ambition at COP 23](#)

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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](#) 2017 edition for the latest industry information.