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***Paris Agreement Enters into Force, Time for Action Echoed by Business, Scientists Alike***

Washington, DC – The Business Council for Sustainable Energy commends national leaders across the globe for accelerating the Paris Agreement’s entry into force. With 72 countries, representing 56.75% of global emissions now officially joining the agreement, these two pre-requisite thresholds for entry into force were surpassed much sooner than originally expected.\*

Lisa Jacobson, President of the Business Council for Sustainable Energy, offered the following statement on reaching this diplomatic milestone:

“The achievement of the Paris Agreement’s rapid entry into force speaks to the global community’s understanding of the urgent need to take action on climate change. That sense of urgency is echoed in a recent [open letter by 375 members of the National Academy of Sciences](#) that draws attention to the serious risks of climate change.

“In the light of these calls to action, the Council draws attention to the fact that we have an existing suite of commercially-available clean energy technologies that can deliver greenhouse gas emissions reductions and bolster our communities’ resilience to a changing climate.

“A broad array of public policies – from energy to tax policy to the Clean Power Plan to national commitments under the Paris Agreement – are what is needed to create market certainty and drive accelerated investment into and deployment of these clean energy solutions.

“The Council is committed to helping countries to implement the Paris Agreement, and will be leading a delegation of its member companies to the upcoming 22nd Conference of the Parties (COP 22) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Marrakech, Morocco, November 7-18. In light of today’s news, the Paris Agreement will be officially in effect at the opening of COP 22.”

\*See United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change website: <http://unfccc.int/2860.php>, as of October 5, 2016.

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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](http://www.bcse.org) and download [Sustainable Energy in America Factbook](#) 2016 edition for the latest industry information.*