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BCSE Reaction to President Obama's Speech on Energy

Washington, DC—The Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) released the following statement from BCSE President Lisa Jacobson in reaction to President Obama's speech today on America's energy future:

"The President's speech today laid out ambitious but realistic goals for our nation's energy future. Enhanced energy security and American leadership in the clean energy industries are vital to both our short-term economic recovery and our long-term economic growth. We support the President's call for bipartisan action on these fronts where common ground can be found.

"As the President noted, increased use of natural gas vehicles and electric vehicles is part of the solution to our energy security challenges. These advanced vehicles can play an important part in reducing the foreign sources of oil needed for the transportation sector. The BCSE looks forward to working with the President and Congress to build workable policies that can translate those aspirations into real, practical programs that decrease our dependence on foreign oil and spur the deployment of vehicles that run on American-made electricity and American natural gas.

"As the Administration noted today, the President's Better Buildings Initiative announced last month is an excellent example of the kind of policy that can energize the private sector, move investment in to the American economy, and improve our long-term energy outlook. Renewable energy, distributed generation, the direct use of natural gas in homes and businesses, a smarter grid, and a wide variety of next-generation energy efficiency technologies can strengthen electric grid reliability and reduce electric and heating bills. Moving forward with policies that modernize and strengthen our energy infrastructure now will help assert American leadership in the industries that will be crucial to prosperity in the 21st century."

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, commercial end-users and environmental market service providers. Founded in 1992, the Council advocates for policies at state, national and international levels that increases the use of commercially-available clean energy technologies, products and services. The coalition's diverse business membership is united around the revitalization of our economy and creation of a secure and sustainable energy future for America. Learn more at <http://www.bcse.org>.