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Contact: Julia Selker
Email: jselker@bcse.org
Cell: 541.908.5792

BCSE Statement on U.S. Official Withdrawal from Paris Agreement

Washington, D.C. – Effective today, the United States completed its official withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, the multilateral commitment by countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions according to nationally determined contributions. Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) president Lisa Jacobson issued the following statement:

“The Business Council for Sustainable Energy is disappointed that the United States is no longer a signatory to the Paris Agreement. The BCSE’s long-standing position is that a multilateral approach to the global challenge of climate change is the most equitable, efficient and effective way forward. International cooperation also sends an important signal to global markets to accelerate the deployment of clean energy.

“Despite the decision by the Trump Administration to withdraw from the Paris Agreement, BCSE members remain uplifted by the level of sub-national action and commitment to address climate change. The leadership demonstrated by corporations, states and local governments, universities and other stakeholders to commit to reducing U.S. greenhouse gas emissions, to say “We Are Still In,” is an important signal to both domestic and international markets for clean energy.

“The BCSE will continue to participate in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change negotiations and work to help implement the goals in the Paris Agreement. This includes advocating for a coordinated effort across all levels of government, by all actors in the economy to address climate change, enhance our country’s resilience and accelerate the deployment of clean energy in America and abroad.”

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BCSE is a coalition of companies and trade associations from the energy efficiency, natural gas and renewable energy sectors, and also includes investor-owned utilities, public power, independent power producers, project developers, equipment manufacturers, and environmental and energy market service providers. 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 the Sustainable Energy in America Factbook for the latest industry information.