

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DEPUTY SECRETARY OF ENERGY  
DANIEL PONEMAN  
ADDRESSES NPC MEETING

WASHINGTON, D.C., September 17, 2009—At its meeting today, the National Petroleum Council (NPC) heard from Deputy Secretary of Energy Daniel Poneman. He stated the importance of energy, including oil and gas, to the nation's economy. He also stressed the need to transition to a lower carbon energy future for reasons of energy security, economic prosperity, and climate change. In his remarks, Deputy Secretary Poneman recognized the value of the Council and its reports to the Department of Energy, emphasizing the need for industry and government to work together to overcome energy challenges in a manner consistent with environmental protection, economic growth, and national security objectives.

Accordingly, the Deputy Secretary conveyed, and the Council approved, Secretary Chu's request for the Council's advice on Future Transportation Fuels and North American Resource Development.

In requesting the Future Transportation Fuels study, the Secretary asked the Council:

...to conduct a study on future transportation fuels which would analyze U.S. fuels prospects through 2030 for auto, truck, air, rail, and waterborne transport. The study should address fuel demand, sources, manufacturing, distribution, and infrastructure. Of particular interest is the Council's advice on policy options and pathways for integrating new fuels and vehicles into the marketplace, including infrastructure development. Factors to consider include technological advances, market dynamics, environmental mandates, cost/benefit tradeoffs, and impacts on land and water use.

In requesting the North American Resource Development study, the Secretary asked the Council:

...to reassess the North American resources production supply chain and infrastructure potential, and the contribution that natural gas can make in a transition to a lower carbon fuel mix. Your study should describe the operating practices and technologies that will be used to minimize environmental impacts, and also describe the role of technology in expanding accessible resources. Of particular interest is the Council's advice on policy options that would allow prudent development of North American natural gas and oil resources consistent with government objectives of environmental protection, economic growth, and national security.

In other action at the meeting, the Council elected Claiborne P. Deming to serve as Chair of the NPC for a second one-year term. Mr. Deming is Chairman of the Executive Committee of Murphy Oil Corporation, El Dorado, Arkansas. Mr. David J. O'Reilly, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, Chevron Corporation, San Ramon, California, was also re-elected to serve as Vice Chair of the Council.

The NPC is a federal advisory committee to the Secretary of Energy. From 1946 until the implementation of the U.S. Department of Energy Organization Act of 1977, the NPC served as an advisory body to the Secretary of the Interior. The sole purpose of the Council is to advise, inform, and make recommendations to the Secretary of Energy, at his request, on matters pertaining to oil and natural gas or to the oil and gas industries.

Contact: Carla Scali Byrd, Information Coordinator  
(202) 393-6100  
cbyrd@npc.org