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Case Western Reserve University and China's National Offshore Oil Corporation Sign Agreement at U.S. State Department

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton presides at ceremony

Washington, D.C. – With U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton present, Case Western Reserve University and the China National Offshore Oil Corp. – New Energy Investment Co., Ltd. (CNOOC-NEI) have formally signed an EcoPartnership agreement to develop technically feasible and economically viable solutions to energy and environmental issues.

The signing ceremony took place in Washington, D.C., on Tuesday, May 10, at the U.S. Department of State. William A. “Bud” Baeslack III signed for the university. Dr. Xiao Gang, Chief Scientist, signed on behalf of the CNOOC-NEI.

The CWRU – CNOOC-NEI collaboration has been named an EcoPartnership in a process overseen by the State Department and the China National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC). By signing, CWRU and CNOOC-NEI accept their EcoPartnership status and agree to abide by the rules of the program.

EcoPartnerships were created through the Framework for the Ten Year Cooperation on Energy and Environment between the governments of the United States and the People's Republic of China. That was signed on June 18, 2008.

The goal of the EcoPartnership Program is to facilitate a cooperative relationship between U.S. and Chinese sub-national organizations in order to share best practices and implement targeted pilot programs that can serve as a model for other enterprises in the U.S. and China. Academic, research, for and not-for-profit organizations are all part of the EcoPartner program. The CWRU – CNOOC-NEI relationship is the first EcoPartnership between a university and a corporate entity. There were several EcoPartnerships officially recognized Tuesday.

A link to the ceremony is available at: <http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2011/05/162947.htm> .

“We are very committed to this relationship, and we know it needs to expand beyond the government-to-government conversations,” Clinton said at the signing ceremony. She explained that the goal is to harness skills, in both the U.S. and China, of universities and companies to find solutions to common problems.

“That is especially true when it comes to clean energy, energy security, environmental stability, and climate change,” Clinton said.

CWRU and CNOOC-NEI will form a “U.S. – China Collaboration Platform,” which is intended to develop technically feasible and economically viable solutions to pressing energy and environmental issues by accessing the most promising technologies, research, knowledge and talent in the U.S., China and worldwide.

The Collaboration Platform will work with leading institutions in academia, industry, government and the non-profit sector to advance its work. Work areas shall include the clean use of coal; carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS); improved renewable energy capability (off-shore wind); improved battery and electric vehicle technology; modernization of the electrical grid; and other research aiming to combat climate change and promote low-carbon economic growth.

For more information on EcoPartnership program, visit: <http://www.ecopartnerships.gov/>. For the links announcing the CWRU – CNOOC-NEI EcoPartnership during the visit of Chinese President Hu to the U.S. in January 2011, see item 38 of the U.S. - China Joint Statement.

In English:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/01/19/us-china-joint-statement>

In Chinese:

<http://www.mfa.gov.cn/chn/pds/ziliao/zt/dnzt/hujintaozhuxifangwenmeiguo/t788163.htm>

Case Western Reserve University is one of the country’s leading research institutions. Located in Cleveland, Ohio, CWRU offers a unique combination of forward-thinking educational opportunities in an inspiring cultural setting. CWRU’s leading-edge faculty is engaged in teaching and research in a collaborative, hands-on environment. The university’s nationally recognized programs include arts and sciences, dental medicine, engineering, law, management, medicine, nursing and social work. About 4,200 undergraduate and 5,600 graduate students comprise the student body. Visit <http://www.case.edu/> to see how Case Western Reserve University thinks beyond the possible.

The **China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC)** is the third-largest oil company and the largest offshore oil and gas producer in the People’s Republic of China. Established in 1982, the company now has 65,800 employees. For more information on CNOOC, visit:

http://en.cnooc.com.cn/data/html/english/channel_110.html

China National Offshore Oil Corporation – New Energy Investment Co., Ltd. (CNOOC – NEI) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of CNOOC. Primary businesses include wind energy, coal-based clean energy, biomass energy, and renewable energy – including power batteries. For more information on CNOOC-NEI, visit:

<http://www.cnooltd.com/encnooltd/default.shtml>