

## **JOINT STATEMENT**

### **The Eighth Meeting of the U.S.-Kazakhstan Energy Partnership**

Today's eighth meeting of the U.S.-Kazakhstan Energy Partnership reflects the commitment of President Nazarbayev and President Obama to the development of the strategic bilateral relationship between our countries and reaffirms the long and fruitful history of cooperation in the energy sector. At the Energy Partnership meeting, led by United States Deputy Secretary of Energy Daniel Poneman and Minister of Oil and Gas of the Republic of Kazakhstan Sauat Mynbayev, the participants agreed to build upon past achievements, to resolve issues on the agenda and to design new initiatives to serve the interests of the two countries. The Governments of the United States and the Republic of Kazakhstan, through the appropriate ministries and agencies, will cooperate to enhance nuclear security; build capacity in nuclear energy, renewable energy technology and energy efficiency; promote regional electricity cooperation; reduce methane emissions; and diversify export routes for oil and natural gas.

As a result of the meeting today, the co-chairs approved a Joint Action Plan that outlines cooperation in the following four areas: Nuclear Security and Nuclear Power; Hydrocarbon Resources; Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency; and Electric Power.

In the area of nuclear security and nuclear power, the United States and the Republic of Kazakhstan intend to comply with the terms of the Implementing Arrangement; to advance cooperation on the Second Line of Defense program; to continue to cooperate on the development of a nuclear security training center; to begin modification of the Sodium Processing Facility to solidify the sodium coolant from the BN-350 reactor in Kazakhstan; to continue efforts to convert the Institute of Nuclear Physics' VVR-K research reactor from HEU fuel to LEU fuel; and to initiate a training program in small- and medium-sized nuclear reactor technologies.

In the area of energy efficiency and renewable energy, the United States and the Republic of Kazakhstan intend to further cooperation in improving energy efficiency in the industrial sector; conduct a training program on renewable energy integration, analysis, and regulation; and explore training possibilities in energy service company contracting to improve energy efficiency.

In the area of hydrocarbon energy, the United States and the Republic of Kazakhstan intend to develop joint efforts to increase the production of oil and gas, including study of exploration and production of coal-bed methane and to support Kazakhstan's effort to diversify export routes to deliver energy resources to the international market; to expand participation by Kazakhstan in the Global Methane Initiative and to further the adoption by Kazakhstan of the Extractive

Industries Transparency Initiative; and to build on cooperation in the integration of compressed natural gas transport technology in Kazakhstan.

In the area of electric power, the United States and the Republic of Kazakhstan intend to expand cooperation to improve regional electricity trade, promote competition, and improve domestic power transmission reliability.

The Parties agree to continue work on the Energy Partnership as specified in the Summary Joint Action Plan. The Parties plan to hold the next meeting of the U.S.-Kazakhstan Energy Partnership in Washington, DC in 2012. The exact date of the meeting will be determined through diplomatic channels.

**SIGNED** in Astana, Kazakhstan in duplicate on October 14, 2011.

FOR THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Poneman', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

DANIEL PONEMAN

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Mynbayev', with a large circular flourish at the beginning.

SAUAT MYNBAYEV