

Dear Sir or Madam:

We would like to respectfully correct the record with regard to erroneous press descriptions being circulated and referenced purporting to describe the beneficiaries of the Research Partnership to Secure Energy for America, a consortium formed in 2002 to develop new technologies to increase domestic energy supplies for American consumers.

The founding members of this consortium are universities – New Mexico Tech, Texas A&M, University of Houston, West Virginia University, and Louisiana State University, as well as the Gas Technology Institute, a non-profit research laboratory located in DesPlaines, Illinois. Since its founding, RPSEA has added an additional 14 research universities as members, including **Stanford, MIT, Penn State, University of South Carolina, Florida International University, University of Southern California, University of Texas, Colorado School of Mines, University of Oklahoma, University of Alaska, University of Tulsa, University of Kansas, Rice, and Mississippi State**.

The Chairman of the Board of RPSEA is the President of New Mexico Tech University who has held this position since the consortium was founded in January of 2002. Further, universities and non-profit institutions hold a majority of seats on RPSEA's Executive Committee as permanent voting members. RPSEA's governance structure was specifically designed to ensure that academia had significant and perpetual influence over the establishment and implementation of the organization's research agenda.

We are attaching a description of the portfolio of research projects that have been managed by RPSEA which, as you can see, includes a variety of research recipients, most of whom are universities, or universities working with industry partners. *This research was performed at locations across the country, not exclusively in Texas as implied in press reports.* It is also worth noting that *none of these awards went to Halliburton* (inaccurately described in the press as the intended recipient of RPSEA's research funds), although RPSEA would consider making project awards to any proposal of high technical merit that would advance energy security and environmental protection. We are also attaching a description of the fellowship program RPSEA has supported at various universities across the country.

To ensure the highest quality of research, all of RPSEA's research projects were externally peer-reviewed by an organization consisting of premier scientists, many of whom are former science advisors to Presidents, both Democrat and Republican; research awards were made on technical merit, regardless of memberships in the consortium. As you can see from these attachments, RPSEA has supported a range of projects designed to enhance domestic energy production, mitigate its environmental impacts and help develop the next generation of energy technologists to provide the intellectual underpinnings for an affordable and sustainable energy future.

The only "capital" that universities have to expend is the quality of the research we perform. We have joined together in the Research Partnership to Secure Energy for America to do what universities do best – conduct and manage quality research. As researchers intent on enhancing energy security, however, we will most certainly continue to work with our industry partners to help ensure the technologies we develop move rapidly into the marketplace, where they can be used to help find and produce affordable domestic supplies of energy.

Our universities would not be party to any organization for which the intended recipients of scarce research dollars did not possess the capability, technical skills, and motivations to help meet the nation's pressing energy needs. Inaccurate press stories and their circulation impugn the integrity of our institutions and the research we perform. We are proud of our contributions to securing the nation's future energy needs and look forward to discussing this with you further should you need additional information that might clarify the record in this regard.

Sincerely,

**Dr. Roland Horne
Stanford University**

**Dr. Dan López
New Mexico Tech**

**Dr. Colin Scanes
Mississippi State**

**Dr. Ernest Moniz
MIT**

**Dr. Stephen Holditch
Texas A&M/ TEES**

**Dr. John Weete
West Virginia University**

**Dr. Dag Nummendal
Colorado School of
Mines/CERI**

**Dr. Bill Fisher
University of Texas
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**Dr. Shirish Patel
University of Alaska
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**Dr. Gary Martin
ED, Rice Energy &
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**Dr. Art Weglein
University of Houston**

**Dr. Dean Oliver
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**Dr. Robert Thunell
University of South
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**Dr. Harold Silverman
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**Dr. Mohan Kelkar
University of Tulsa**

**Dr. Paul Willhite
University of Kansa**

**Dr. Iraj Ershaghi
Southern California University**