



NRG Energy's David Crane and Madeleine Albright Talk 'Sense and Sustainability' About the Energy Industry at Second Platts Lecture

NRG CEO Advocates Comprehensive Energy Strategy with Regional Focus; Former U.S. Secretary of State Albright Examines Impact of Sustainability on International Policy

NEW YORK, Dec. 3, 2008 -- At the second annual Platts Lecture, "Sense and Sustainability: What Strategies Will Really Work to Create a New Energy Future?" NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NRG) President and CEO David Crane and former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright tackled some of the most compelling issues surrounding global energy sustainability. The lecture took place today at Deutsche Bank headquarters in New York City in conjunction with the 10th annual Platts Global Energy Awards.

In today's Platts Lecture, Crane offered sweeping, comprehensive suggestions for tackling sustainability issues, such as establishment of a public infrastructure corporation that would become self-sustaining; and a regional approach to alternative energy that respects the strengths of geography, i.e., the Western region of the United States harnessing solar power and the Midwest harnessing wind.

"The energy industry stands poised," said Crane, "to take a significant step forward in addressing our nation's energy needs in a manner that does not mean a step backward in terms of our stewardship of the global environment."

Crane is a noted advocate of the need for climate legislation and clean energy. His company, wholesale power generator NRG Energy, was selected the Platts "Energy Company of the Year" in 2007. He and the company also won an "Industry Leadership Award" at the 9th annual Platts Global Energy Awards last year.

Dr. Madeleine Albright, Principal of The Albright Group LLC, Chair and Principal of Albright Capital Management LLC, examined the political environment and global issues that underpin the sustainability debate, offering her views on the challenges facing the new U.S. Presidential administration. "It's true that each nation is concerned with its own interests," said Albright, "but every nation must realize that it has no greater interest than a healthy and livable planet."

Albright differentiated "energy security" from "energy independence," stating that given global interdependence, an emphasis on the former can certainly be achieved more quickly. She also talked about support of robust cap-and-trade policies, financial incentives for green technologies and sustainability initiatives at all levels.

Like Crane, Albright expressed optimism about the prospects of a new, comprehensive U.S. energy policy and enhanced U.S. engagement in the global carbon emissions dialogue.

The Platts Lecture series aspires to raise the level of global energy industry debate, creating the definitive forum for the examination of serious long-term issues facing the world's energy businesses and policy-makers. Sponsors of the Platts Lecture included R.W. Beck, returning for a second year as the principal sponsor, and Deutsche Bank, Standard & Poor's, and Oracle.

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