Meeting the Energy Challenge—Improving Communication Among Consumers, Academia, NGOs, Oil Companies, and Government

Moderators:
Sandeep Khurana, Advisor, Devon Energy Corporation; David Holt, Executive Director, Consumer Energy Alliance

The worldwide quest to define future energy needs has brought the issue of partnership among consumers, academia, NGOs, oil companies, and the government to the forefront. The world’s energy supply is predicted to rely heavily on fossil fuel resources for the foreseeable future. However, short-term vision has sometimes discouraged, or even shut-off, exploration by oil companies, which further weakens our supply lines. Some oil companies are investing in alternative sources, but these resources can merely keep pace with demand. Meanwhile, consumers are struggling with price fluctuations, and political leaders are overwhelmed with rhetoric and the constant struggle to develop a comprehensive, balanced national energy policy.

This panel will discuss the cost of energy, fluctuations in supply and demand, and discussion on how an effective partnership among these entities is the way forward.

Some issues covered will include:
- Tackling demand through partnership among government, consumers, academia, NGOs and the industry
- Improving consumer awareness of oil and gas as energy sources
- Expanding access for offshore drilling
- The role of government as a watchdog, and its need to actively participate in understanding energy sources and its future
- Economic and employment impact and opportunities created by a comprehensive policy
- Incentives for oil companies to ensure supply for the future
- Climate change legislation and economic implications
- Alternative energy and its future

PANELIST
Marvin E. Odum, President, Shell Oil Company

Marvin E. Odum is president of Shell Oil Company and executive vice president for the Americas for Shell Exploration & Production. Odum joined Shell as an engineer in 1982 and has held a range of management positions in technical and commercial operations, including his current position in Shell Exploration & Production. Prior to this assignment, he was chief executive officer of InterGen, a global power generation company. He also served as Shell Gas & Power Director for the Americas.

In addition, he remains a member of the Global Exploration & Production Leadership Team.

Odum serves on the board of directors of the American Petroleum Institute (API) and is chairman of the API Upstream Committee. He is a member of the Dean’s Council of the Harvard Kennedy School and the University of Texas College of Engineering Advisory Board.

Odum earned a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Texas and a master’s degree in business administration from the University of Houston.

For more information, visit www.otcnet.org/2009
Before her election to Congress, Lee served two terms as one of the first African American women at-large members of the Houston City Council. Prior to her council service, she was an associate municipal court judge for the city of Houston. Lee earned a BA in political science from Yale University with honors, followed by a JD from the University of Virginia Law School.

Sheila Jackson Lee, US House of Representatives
Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee is serving her seventh term as a member of the United States House of Representatives. She represents the 18th Congressional District of Texas, centered in Houston. In the 110th Congress, she was named the new chairwoman of the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection. She sits on three congressional committees—the House Committees on the Judiciary, Homeland Security, and Foreign Affairs.

In addition, Lee is a founder, member, and cochair of the Congressional Children’s Caucus, the Pakistan Caucus, Afghan Caucus, and newly formed African American Caucus. Lee has been actively engaged in addressing and resolving the genocide in Darfur. Lee recently received the 2006 Award for Policy at the 16th Annual Philip Burton Immigration & Civil Rights Awards. In 2005, Congresswoman Jackson Lee was awarded the Drum Major Award for Public Service by the Revelation Center . As a captain in the US Marine Corps, he commanded an infantry company in Vietnam.

Bill Graves, President and CEO
American Trucking Associations
Bill Graves is president and CEO of American Trucking Associations (ATA), the national trade and safety organization of the United States trucking industry. Through its 50 affiliated state trucking associations, conferences and other organizations, it represents motor carriers before all branches of the government.

In January 2003, Graves completed 22 years of public service in the state of Kansas highlighted by two terms as Governor of Kansas. He was reelected to his second term with the largest percentage of votes in Kansas history.

Under his administration, Kansas taxpayers saw the largest tax cut in state history, and many state services were streamlined. In 1999 he signed an historic 10-year, $13-billion comprehensive transportation program into law, improving highways, railroad infrastructure, airports, and public transit service in Kansas.

As Commander–in-Chief of the Kansas National Guard, Graves oversaw the deployment of Kansas troops to Bosnia, Turkey, and the Persian Gulf, among other areas. Prior to his election as governor, he served two terms as Kansas Secretary of State.

In addition to his duties at ATA, Graves serves on the board of the International Speedway Corporation, the leading promoter of motorsport racing in America.

Graves earned a degree in business administration from Kansas Wesleyan University in his hometown of Salina, Kansas and attended graduate school at the University of Kansas.

James May, President and CEO
Air Transport Association
James May is president and chief executive officer of the Air Transport Association of America, Inc. (ATA), the nation’s oldest and largest airline trade association. May joined ATA in February 2003, and has led the association through an especially challenging time in its history. Under his leadership the association has worked to provide the safest form of transportation, add value to the airlines’ involvement in global, economic well-being, modernize the nation’s air traffic control system, and expand dialogue with congress and the administration.

Prior to joining ATA, May served as executive vice president of the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB); vice president, public affairs for the Coca-Cola Bottling Company of New York; directed government relations for PepsiCo; and served as vice president, public affairs for the Grocery Manufacturers of America.

May currently serves as cochair of the NextGen Institute Management Council and as a member of the Advisory Board of Directors for the Hollings Cancer Center. As a captain in the US Marine Corps, he commanded an infantry company in Vietnam.

Jason Grumet, Executive Director
National Commission on Energy Policy
Jason Grumet has worked at the intersection of science, policy and politics throughout his career. In 2007, Grumet founded the Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC) to develop substance based, bipartisan solutions to pressing policy challenges. With the leadership of former Senate Majority Leaders Howard Baker, Tom Daschle, and Bob Dole, the BPC is currently focused on five major issues: energy policy, national security, homeland security, health care, and transportation policy.

Grumet has a long history in energy and environment issues. Since 2001, he has directed the National Commission on Energy Policy (NCEP) which has released a number of significant studies and continues to actively advocate for its policy recommendations in Congress and with the Administration. He is a frequent witness at Congressional hearings and is regularly featured in national media.

Grumet received a BA degree from Brown University and his JD from Harvard University.

Jack N. Gerard is president and CEO of the American Petroleum Institute, the national trade association that represents all aspects of America’s oil and natural gas industry.

Gerard brings a strong industry trade association background to API, as well as experience on Capitol Hill. He most recently served as president and CEO of the American Chemistry Council, and earlier held the same title at the National Mining Association.

During his three years at the Chemistry Council, the association fortified its advocacy initiatives on issues important to the chemicals industry and worked closely with Congress on major legislation. Gerard also spent close to a decade working in the US Senate and House. He came to Washington in 1981, and worked for Representative George Hansen. He also worked for Senator James A. McClure, who chaired the US Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Gerard joined Senator McClure in founding McClure, Gerard & Neuschwander, a Washington, DC-based government relations consulting firm. Gerard served as chairman and chief executive officer and focused on issues such as international sports, telecommunications, energy, and mining.

He holds a BA in political science and a JD from George Washington University.