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For Immediate Release

Department of Energy Releases Record of Decision on FutureGen

Washington, D.C. — The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) today issued its Record of Decision (ROD) on FutureGen, representing an important milestone on the path forward to developing important technology to reduce emissions from coal-fueled power plants.

Recently, the DOE reached an agreement with the FutureGen Alliance to proceed with activities towards the construction of the first commercial scale, fully integrated carbon capture and sequestration project in the country in Mattoon, Ill. That agreement included that DOE would issue a ROD by the middle of July, and that commitment has now been fulfilled.

The ROD is a final public decision that certifies the site meets environmental requirements for the project. The Environmental Impact Statement was completed in November 2007, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), to assess the environmental impacts associated with the project.

"Today's announcement from the U.S. Department of Energy is a major step forward on our journey to build the world's cleanest burning coal-fired power plant," said Illinois Governor Pat Quinn. "We will continue to work in strong partnership with the FutureGen Alliance, DOE and our partners to make FutureGen a reality."

FutureGen Alliance Chief Executive Officer Michael J. Mudd said the ROD is a welcome achievement in the Alliance's renewed partnership with DOE. "The Alliance appreciates Secretary Chu and his staff at DOE for all their hard work in accomplishing this important objective for the project," said Mudd. "We look forward to continuing to work together as we move forward on restarting design activities, updating the cost estimate and expanding membership in the Alliance so that the people of Mattoon, our nation and the world can reap the benefits of FutureGen."

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