



For Immediate Release

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ITSSD Applauds Promotion of US-Asia Cooperation on Energy

Princeton, NJ – March 15, 2006 – In a March 14, 2006 Financial Times article entitled, “US ‘Must Work With China on Energy’”, Senator Lugar, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, was quoted as saying that “energy dependence...is the albatross of U.S. national security.” The article furthermore, notes that “to reduce US vulnerability, Senator Lugar would seek legislation to expand international cooperation with China and India to “enhance preparedness for major disruptions in oil supplies””.

The ITSSD applauds the administration's and senator's recognition that greater energy cooperation and coordination between the U.S., China and India is essential to address concerns about the growing global competition for energy resources, and its potential adverse impact on world energy prices, and thus, US national security.

We agree with the senator that these concerns lie behind the nuclear energy agreement reached between the US and India earlier this month, as well as, the July 2005 Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development, executed between the US, Australia, China, India, Japan and South Korea. Each initiative focuses on science and technology research and development and market-based incentives to create and commercialize new and available energy technologies that will provide safer, more secure and reliable, and cleaner burning energy at affordable prices.

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