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FACT SHEET

**The United States and Chile: Environment, Energy, and Climate Change**

The United States and Chile work together bilaterally and regionally to protect the environment, combat climate change, and enhance clean energy growth. Both the United States and Chile participate in activities under the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA), Energy Working Group activities under the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and are members of the International Renewable Energy Agency. The United States supports Chile's candidacy for membership in the International Energy Agency.

In June 2009, the Department of Energy (DOE) signed a Clean Energy Technology Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Chile under ECPA. Under the MOU, DOE provides technical support to Chile's Renewable Energy Center and two pilot solar plants in Chile's northern desert. The United States and Chile look to increase active collaboration on wind and geothermal energy, biofuels and biomass projects.

Chile and the United States cooperate constructively on climate change mitigation to encourage effective outcomes from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The United States and Chile signed an Environmental Cooperation Agreement in 2003. Together we are engaging in efforts to address sectors including mining, forestry, transportation, fisheries and agriculture; work focuses on key themes of good governance, natural resources protection, and private sector environmental performance.

Chile and the United States recognize the importance of working bilaterally and regionally through ECPA, and globally through the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. This year Chile and the United States will work together to implement the agreements reached in Cancun, including on transparency, adaptation, technology, finance, and forest preservation.

Other areas of cooperation include:

- **Sister Parks Arrangement between Alaska's Glacier Bay National Park and Patagonia's Francisco Coloane Marine Protected Area:** The United States and Chile are working together to better manage their marine protected areas under the bilateral Environmental Cooperation Agreement. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Park Service (with the support of the Department of State) will work with their Chilean counterparts for the long-term protection of natural resources in both countries. This partnership is the first of its kind focused on integrated marine and terrestrial protected areas.
- **Greening the Supply Chain:** The United States and Chile are launching a new public/private partnership for small and medium sized Chilean businesses to implement

cleaner production processes and use technologies to reduce waste, minimize CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and decrease materials consumption. The U.S. Department of State has worked with the NGO “World Environment Center” and Chile Oliva, an olive oil industry association and its member companies, to diminish the sector’s environmental impact, save money and enhance competitiveness.

- **Chile’s Renewable Energy Center:** Under ECPA, DOE is providing financial and technical support to Chile’s Renewable Energy Center. In the future, this center will be a regional resource for other Western Hemisphere governments.
- **Andean Glacier Monitoring and Research Center:** Under ECPA, the United States intends to support the establishment of a regional research network for glacier monitoring and modeling led by Chile’s world class researchers. This network will inform policy and decision-making by providing a more robust understanding of how glacial retreat will impact water security in Andean glacier countries.
- **Geothermal Energy Cooperation:** The U.S. Department of Energy’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory geothermal expert will travel to Chile to provide technical support for geothermal training and industry development. The United States plans to take home lessons learned from Chile’s experiences in geothermal power development.

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