

John Podesta to Speak at GridWise® Global Forum

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Clean energy advocate and former Clinton chief of staff to deliver keynote address

October 18, 2011 - Washington, DC - The GridWise Alliance, the leading coalition advocating for the transformation of the electric system, in partnership with the United States Department of Energy (DOE), is pleased to announce that clean energy advocate and policy expert John Podesta, president, CEO, Center for American Progress (CAP), will serve as the featured keynote lunch speaker on Thursday, November 10 during the second annual GridWise Global Forum in Washington, DC. In response to this announcement, Forum Co-Chair and GridWise Alliance Chairman Bob Shapard issued the following statement:

“As a longtime champion for the global reduction of carbon-based energy, John Podesta has been a key figure in the fight to secure our clean energy future. From Capitol Hill to the White House, Mr. Podesta has been on the front lines in support of clean, sustainable energy policies to transform our nation’s economy, reduce our dependence on foreign oil and improve national security. There is so much that our global audience can learn from his experiences and gain from his insight of how best to modernize the way our world produces and consumes energy. I’m confident that his remarks will inspire and challenge us all to set our sights higher to make the electric grid better tomorrow than it is today.”

Prior to founding CAP in 2003, Podesta served as White House chief of staff to President Bill Clinton. He also served in the president’s cabinet, as a principal on the National Security Council, as both an assistant to the president and deputy chief of staff, as well as staff secretary and a senior policy advisor on government information, privacy, telecommunications security, and regulatory policy. Podesta has also held numerous positions on Capitol Hill, including counselor to Democratic Leader Sen. Thomas A. Daschle (1995-1996); chief counsel for the Senate Agriculture Committee (1987-1988); and chief minority counsel for the Senate Judiciary Subcommittees on Patents, Copyrights, and Trademarks; Security and Terrorism; and Regulatory Reform (1981-1987). Most recently, Podesta served as co-chair of President Obama’s transition.

To register to attend the much-anticipated second annual GridWise Global Forum, November 8-10, 2011 in Washington, DC, visit: <http://www.gridwiseglobalforum.org>. Forum events and announcements can also be followed on Twitter at: @gridwiseforum.

About the GridWise Alliance

The GridWise Alliance is the industry-leading coalition advocating for the transformation of the electric system for the public good. Through its diverse membership, the GridWise Alliance promotes the advancement of the electric system through thought leadership, production of white papers and reports, and legislative advocacy. Its 137 members include utilities, technology companies (large and small), telecommunications companies, equipment manufacturers and academia - all of which share a holistic and technology neutral view of the electric system.

For more information about the GridWise Alliance, visit: www.gridwise.org.