



# News Release



Office of Public Affairs

U.S. Embassy

## U.S. Government’s Commitment to Address Pakistan’s Energy Needs Re-affirmed

**Islamabad, June 25, 2007** -- The U.S. Charge d’Affaires, Peter W. Bodde, today reaffirmed the U.S. Government’s commitment to addressing Pakistan’s energy needs.

He was speaking at the inauguration of a two-day Renewable Energy Symposium where wind and solar maps of Pakistan’s and Afghanistan’s renewable energy sources were presented with the support of USAID’s South Asia Regional Initiative for Energy (SARI/Energy).

“The wind and solar maps provide the People and Governments of Pakistan and Afghanistan a quantified and qualified assessment of wind and solar energy resources of their respective countries,” the American diplomat said.

The Federal Minister for Water and Power, Liaquat Ali Jatoi, inaugurated the symposium which is co-sponsored by the Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) and SAARC Chamber of Commerce. USAID Pakistan Mission Director Anne Aarnes, FPCCI President Tanvir Sheikh, Advisor to the Afghan Minister of Energy Amin Munsif, and USAID South Asian Initiative for Energy (SARI/E) Regional Coordinator Robyn McGuckin were also present on the occasion.

Federal Minister Liaquat Jatoi assured “continuing support and patronage and Government of Pakistan’s commitment” to successfully meet the challenge of providing energy security to the country.

The wind and solar maps launched at the symposium were funded by USAID SARI/Energy. The U.S. National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) produced the maps. The mapping exercise for both Pakistan and Afghanistan was completed in April 2007.

The United States is the largest bilateral donor of assistance to Pakistan. Through the USAID, it is providing to Pakistan, over five years, \$1.5 billion in the five major areas of education, health, economic growth, democracy & governance, and earthquake reconstruction.

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