



**NTR plc Hosts Gathering of Senior U.S. Business Leaders, Financiers and Policy Advisors; President Bill Clinton Delivers Keynote Address on 'Embracing Our Common Humanity'**

***Event Marks the Official Launch of the NTR Foundation***

NEW YORK (4<sup>th</sup> March 2010) - NTR plc, the international renewable energy group and the NTR Foundation ([www.ntr-foundation.org](http://www.ntr-foundation.org)), hosted a gathering of senior U.S. business leaders, financiers and policy advisors to discuss the issue of climate change. President Bill Clinton, founder of the William J. Clinton Foundation and 42<sup>nd</sup> President of the United States, delivered the keynote address: "*Embracing Our Common Humanity*." The event marked the official launch of the NTR Foundation, which has been established to make a measurable societal impact in the areas of climate change, resource sustainability and security of energy supply.

Commenting on the Climate Imperative, President Clinton stressed the need to talk about the economics of climate change. He said we should defend the science and prove the economics and that we cannot prevail on the larger struggle of the climate debate unless we prevail in the economics.

Among the leading U.S. business and climate policy figures who participated in a panel discussion on the climate imperative were: Reid Detchon, Vice President for Energy and Climate at the United Nations Foundation; Brendan McDonagh, Chief Executive Officer of HSBC North America Holdings Inc.; Rohit T. Aggarwala, Director of the New York City Mayor's Office of Long-term Planning and Sustainability; and Ashok Gupta, Director of Energy Policy, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC).

A robust debate and open exchange of views ensued on the climate imperative and the role of government and business. The panelists broadly agreed that both the business community and governments are accountable for developing an effective framework to actively address the climate imperative.

Jim Barry, Chief Executive NTR plc, said: "Business considers the climate change challenge to be real and is responding, irrespective of government action. The United States needs more cohesive and effective legislation to ensure the country is competitive in the emerging global clean energy economy."

Tanya Harrington, Director, NTR Foundation, stressed the significant role the global philanthropic community can play in addressing the climate imperative. "A key goal for the NTR Foundation is to bring together leading philanthropic organizations and policy experts to jointly find the best means of addressing this urgent issue. Today's debate, where we drew attention to the need for business to be more engaged in climate policy, was an important first step towards achieving this."

**About NTR plc**

NTR plc, the international renewable energy group, builds and runs green energy and resource-sustaining businesses. Founded in 1978, NTR has evolved from being a developer and operator of infrastructure in Ireland to an international developer and operator of renewable energy (wind, solar and ethanol) and sustainable waste management businesses in the USA, UK, and Ireland. The company employs over 4,100 people.

[www.ntrplc.com](http://www.ntrplc.com)

**About NTR Foundation**

The mission of the NTR Foundation is to address the challenges posed by climate change, resource sustainability and security of energy supply through the provision of targeted financial and expert support to entrepreneurial projects, research programmes and non-governmental organizations.

[www.ntr-foundation.org](http://www.ntr-foundation.org)

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