



## **AABE Fossil Energy Principles**

The American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE) recognizes the need for increased participation in the discussion on fossil energy policy by historically underserved communities. To that end, AABE supports the following fossil energy principles.<sup>1</sup>

- AABE supports a balanced energy portfolio approach for the United States, which includes the development all fossil energy (e.g., oil, natural gas, coal) reserves in a manner which can create jobs and spur economic development especially in historically underserved communities.
- AABE supports fossil energy policies that balance environmental improvements with economic development. Regulatory policies should seek to minimize possible negative impacts on jobs, trade imbalances, and the cost of goods and services while protecting the environment and maintaining reliability.
- AABE will work with the fossil energy industry to strengthen workforce development programs and develop business opportunities for diverse suppliers in all sectors.
- AABE recognizes the importance of fostering public-private partnerships for increasing research, development and deployment of clean technologies.
- AABE will work with the fossil energy industry to identify and support individuals from historically underserved communities for career opportunities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.
- AABE recognizes that there is no silver bullet for addressing environmental issues. A wide-array of technologies and policy options must be pursued, including clean coal standards.
- AABE recognizes the expanded use of natural gas as a potential bridge fuel between today's fossil energy demands and future clean technology advances.
- AABE supports infrastructure investments to enhance the procurement and transportation of energy sources to remote locales to meet growing domestic energy demands.
- AABE supports state and federal fossil energy policies that encourage environmentally-sound production and development of non-traditional sources of oil and natural gas (shale) deposits.
- AABE recognizes that full development of domestic energy resources will give the United States greater flexibility on the international front even as we strengthen our domestic competitiveness/economic standing in the world.

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<sup>1</sup> Approved by the AABE Board of Directors (November 2012)