



**Extracted from  
Remarks by Energy  
Secretary Spencer Abraham  
Public Energy Forum Lunch  
Conference of G8 Energy Ministers  
Detroit, Michigan  
May 2, 2002**

Advanced technology, and the contributions of science, play a critical role in our future energy plans. Along with promising innovations such as hydrogen fuel cells, the President is anxious to accelerate fusion power as a realistic source of energy.

We are now engaged in serious consultation here in the United States and around the world on how best to pursue a fusion program.

President Bush is particularly interested in the potential of the international effort known as ITER and has asked us to seriously consider American participation.

This major international effort will answer a critical scientific question: Can a fusion reaction – the kind of reaction that powers the sun – be harnessed here on earth for the benefit of all mankind?

As for our final challenge, increased international dialogue, this conference is the latest proof of the importance this Administration places on forging closer international relationships to guarantee mutually beneficial energy policies and outcomes.

There are many areas where we are already working closely with various international partners to address these challenges, and there are many more potential areas for cooperation.