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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**UNITED STATES AND CHINA EXPLORE ENERGY-SAVING  
STRATEGIES FOR COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS**

***PLAN WILL DEMONSTRATE HOW BUSINESSES CAN SAVE  
MONEY AND ENERGY***

The United States and China have agreed to explore strategies for applying energy-saving technologies to commercial buildings in China, the Department of Energy announced today. The two governments also agreed to develop a plan for demonstrating these technologies.

Officials of the two countries signed a Statement of Work today to explore designs for a mid-sized commercial office building in downtown Beijing that, if constructed, would showcase energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies with their associated economic and environmental benefits. The building design would include a "hands-on" laboratory to provide Chinese builders and architects an opportunity to learn more about energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies and strategies.

"This provides an important opportunity for the United States and China to cooperate on designing energy-efficient buildings," said Acting Secretary of Energy Elizabeth Moler. "We will be integrating U.S. building know-how and expertise with Chinese building practices to design energy-efficient buildings that can both save money and reduce greenhouse gas emissions."

The initial feasibility study will explore building designs, features and costs that could help businesses in China save on energy bills while reducing emissions of greenhouse gases and other sources of local air pollution. The study will also examine ways to measure the energy savings and emissions reductions. The designs and strategies developed to measure greenhouse gas emissions reductions, in particular, would be consistent with the provisions for Activities Implemented Jointly developed by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The commercial building in Beijing that could result from this effort would also serve as the offices for China's Agenda 21 agency -- a national effort to pursue sustainable development and clean energy options and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

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