

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
AND  
THE NATIONAL ENERGY ADMINISTRATION OF  
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA  
CONCERNING COOPERATION ON STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVES

The Department of Energy of the United States of America (DOE) and the National Energy Administration of the People's Republic of China (NEA), hereinafter collectively the "Participants":

AWARE of the important role a country's strategic petroleum reserves play in stabilizing the international petroleum market in the event of a supply disruption and securing domestic petroleum supply; and

DESIRING to cooperate, to their mutual benefit, concerning their respective countries' strategic petroleum reserve holdings,

Have reached the following understanding:

Section 1 – Areas of Planned Cooperation

DOE, through its Office of Fossil Energy/Strategic Petroleum Reserve Office (SPRO) and NEA, through its China National Oil Reserve Office (NORO), plan to:

- 1.1 cooperate in areas of safety, technology development, and management of strategic petroleum reserves;
- 1.2 conduct regular interactive activities, such as holding symposia on technological subjects and exchanging scientific and technical information;
- 1.3 hold annual conferences to facilitate communication aimed at improving their capabilities to address unexpected disruptions of petroleum supply; and
- 1.4 cooperate in such other areas as the Participants may jointly decide in writing.



## Section 2 – Annual Conferences

2.1 Representatives of SPRO and NORO are to participate in annual conferences, to be held alternately in the United States and in the People's Republic of China, or at such other times and places as SPRO and NORO jointly decide.

2.2 The theme(s) of each annual conference may include, but are not limited to, technology (such as construction techniques, standards specifications); management (such as reserves project management, enterprise operation,); and policy (such as fill, release and drawdown policy); international oil market analysis, and emergency response exercises.

## Section 3 – Management

3.1 SPRO and NORO intend to each designate a working level Coordinator to manage the cooperative activities contemplated under this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), including efficient and effective means of ensuring the exchange of relevant scientific and technical information concerning the maintenance and management of strategic petroleum reserves.

3.2 The Principal Coordinators may, as appropriate, create a working group composed of experts from SPRO and NORO for each particular area of cooperation.

3.3 Each working group is to hold meetings at such times and places as SPRO and NORO jointly decide.

## Section 4 – General Considerations

4.1 This MOU does not create any legally binding obligations.

4.2 Each Participant is to be responsible for the costs it incurs in participating in the activities contemplated by this MOU.

4.3 Each Participant should protect any non-public information received from the other Participant to the maximum extent permitted by the laws of the receiving Participant's government.

## Section 5 - Commencement, Revision, and Discontinuation

5.1 Cooperative activities under this MOU are to commence upon signature and to continue for 5 years.

5.2 This MOU may be revised and extended by the Participants' mutual consent in writing.

5.3 The Participants may discontinue their participation under this MOU at any time by mutual consent in writing. Alternatively, a Participant that wishes to discontinue its participation in this MOU should endeavor to provide at least 90 days advance notice in writing to the other Participant.

Signed at Beijing, in duplicate, this 10 day of July 2014, in the English and Chinese languages.

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:



FOR THE NATIONAL ENERGY  
ADMINISTRATOR OF THE  
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA:

