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... MEDIA UPDATE ...

The following is a statement by President Bush about ITER, a major international fusion project. Energy Secretary Abraham announced the President's decision that the U.S. will participate in the project in remarks today at the Department of Energy's Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory. Secretary Abraham's prepared remarks are available at www.energy.gov

The White House
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

January 30, 2003

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I am pleased to announce that the United States will join ITER, an ambitious international research project to harness the promise of fusion energy. The results of ITER will advance the effort to produce clean, safe, renewable, and commercially-available fusion energy by the middle of this century. Commercialization of fusion has the potential to dramatically improve America's energy security while significantly reducing air pollution and emissions of greenhouse gases.

The United States will be working with the United Kingdom, other European Union nations, Russia, China, Japan and Canada on the creation of ITER. Today, I am directing the Secretary of Energy to represent the United States at the upcoming ITER meetings in St. Petersburg, Russia. We welcome the opportunity to work with our partners to make fusion energy a reality.

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