ACC: ENERGY AND MANUFACTURING KEY TO BLUEPRINT FOR STRONGER ECONOMY

State of the Union Address Confirms Importance of Domestic Energy Production

WASHINGTON, D.C. (January 24, 2012) – Cal Dooley, President and CEO of the American Chemistry Council (ACC), issued the following statement in response to President Obama’s State of the Union address.

“The American Chemistry Council welcomes the President’s focus on energy and manufacturing – key to any blueprint for a stronger economy. Our member companies and their more than 780,000 employees are part of the answer, creating solutions that will enable a strong, secure and sustainable future.

“Meeting America’s challenges will require a true national energy strategy. It must encourage robust energy development, diversify energy supplies, and give energy efficiency its due. Fortunately, a golden opportunity is right under our feet. Natural gas from shale is a prime example of the ‘homegrown energy’ the President wants America to use. It’s a game changer for the chemistry industry and other manufacturers, who can use more affordable and stable supplies to expand exports and create jobs. The chemistry industry is driving this manufacturing renaissance.

“To realize our economic potential, we need effective, fiscally responsible policies and balanced, rational regulations that will allow the nation to capitalize on our significant domestic energy sources while also protecting our environment.

“We look forward to learning more about the proposals the President outlined tonight, and to working with policymakers to develop a national energy strategy.”

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The American Chemistry Council (ACC) represents the leading companies engaged in the business of chemistry. ACC members apply the science of chemistry to make innovative products and services that make people’s lives better, healthier and safer. ACC is committed to improved environmental, health and safety performance through Responsible Care®, common sense advocacy designed to address major public policy issues, and health and environmental research and product testing. The business of chemistry is a $720 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation’s economy. It is one of the nation’s largest exporters, accounting for ten cents out of every dollar in U.S. exports. Chemistry companies are among the largest investors in research and development. Safety and security have always been primary concerns of ACC members, and they have intensified their efforts, working closely with government agencies to improve security and to defend against any threat to the nation’s critical infrastructure.