Statement

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ACC WELCOMES SENATOR ROCKEFELLER BILL SUSPENDING EPA GHG REGULATION FROM STATIONARY SOURCES
Congressional Action Imperative to Suspend Development of Regulations, Assert Primacy in Climate Policy Development

ARLINGTON, VA (March 4, 2010) – Today Senator Jay Rockefeller (D-WV) introduced a bill to suspend potential Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulation of greenhouse gases from stationary sources for two years. The legislation directs that for two years after enactment the EPA can take no regulatory action and that no stationary source shall be subject to any requirement to obtain a permit or meet a New Source Performance Standard under the Clean Air Act with respect to carbon dioxide or methane, except for the widely-supported motor vehicle emission standards. Additional information is available at http://rockefeller.senate.gov/press/record.cfm?id=322764&

American Chemistry Council (ACC) President and CEO Cal Dooley issued the following statement:

“We welcome Senator Rockefeller’s decision to introduce this bill. Given the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) inadequate response to the many important questions being raised about the economic impact of pending EPA regulations, it’s imperative that Congress step in, suspend development of the regulations, and assert firm control over national climate policy. Senator Rockefeller’s bill is a measured response that deserves serious consideration by the House and Senate. We also commend the leadership of those in Congress who, like Senator Rockefeller, understand the consequences of EPA’s action for American jobs and the economy.

“We agree with Senator Lisa Murkowski’s assessment that Senator Rockefeller’s bill is a sign of growing ‘resistance to EPA’s back-door climate regulations.’ We urge Congress to move quickly to halt EPA’s ill-considered regulatory plan, and the Rockefeller legislation is an important step in the process. Congress must also develop a long-term greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategy for the nation.

“As we stated last week, we believe the EPA response is incomplete and unacceptable. It does not address the significant concerns that have been raised by Members of Congress and the business community about the impact of the regulations on investment in new facilities, business expansion, and job creation. While regulation of GHGs from stationary sources goes to the heart of our economic recovery and America’s competitiveness, EPA’s proposal fails to provide the
protection needed. For ACC’s statement on the EPA response, see http://americanchemistry.com/10724.”

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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 $689 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.