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PERC Releases New Propane Research and Development Roadmap

Plan outlines a new strategic framework guiding efforts through 2012

WASHINGTON (January 1, 2010) — The Research and Development Advisory Committee (RDAC) of the Propane Education & Research Council (PERC) has published the *2009 Propane Research and Development Roadmap*.

In an effort to align guidance from the new PERC Strategic Plan with the challenges and opportunities driving the propane industry, the roadmap describes a new strategic framework that will guide RDAC's efforts and resource allocation over the next four years.

The roadmap's strategic framework centers on four strategic priorities that will enable RDAC to maintain a balance between researching promising innovative concepts and accelerating its technology commercialization efforts:

- **Developing new technologies:** researching and developing innovative propane technologies to increase propane use year-round and nationwide.
- **Commercializing new products:** allocating resources to support achieving market readiness and acceptance.
- **Improving the operation of the industry:** improving the efficiency and safety of operations to maintain and grow the industry's customer base.
- **Conducting communications and outreach:** better informing the industry, the government, and the public about propane and propane technologies.

Several factors provided the impetus for RDAC to update its roadmap from 2000 with a focus on priorities over the next four years: the new industry goals amid an increasing nationwide focus on energy, the lessons learned from the past decade of propane research and development projects, and the emergence of the new PERC Strategic Plan. The roadmap update process offered the opportunity to assess RDAC's achievements to date, reevaluate industry needs, and ensure that RDAC's action priorities reflect the new strategy.

For more information about the roadmap or PERC's research and development program, visit www.propanetechnology.com or contact PERC's Greg Kerr at 202-452-8975 or greg.kerr@propanecouncil.org.

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The Propane Education & Research Council was authorized by the U.S. Congress with the passage of Public Law 104-284, the Propane Education and Research Act (PERA), signed into law on October 11, 1996. The mission of the Propane Education & Research Council is to promote the safe, efficient use of odorized propane gas as a preferred energy source.