



U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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USTDA SUPPORTS CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY IN TURKEY

ANKARA, TURKEY (August 28, 2009) – Today, USTDA awarded a grant to Turkish Coal Enterprises (TKI) to help reduce carbon emissions from the use of coal for energy production. Reflecting the Obama Administration’s strategy of leveraging efficiency and renewable energy investments in Turkey, the grant continues USTDA’s support for Turkey’s energy sector by funding a feasibility study on the development of a coal gasification plant, which would produce pipeline-quality substitute natural gas (SNG) as a cleaner-burning alternative .

The \$437,020 grant was conferred during a signing ceremony held at TKI’s offices in Ankara. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i. of the U.S. Embassy in Ankara Douglas Silliman and TKI Director General Dr. Selahaddin Anac signed the grant agreement on behalf of the U.S. government and TKI, respectively. Senior Commercial Officer at the U.S. Commercial Service in Ankara James Fluker and Mr. Muammer Bulut Deputy Director General of TKI signed as witnesses to the grant agreement.

"Today's grant provides an important opportunity for Turkey to reduce carbon emissions as it meets its domestic energy needs," said Silliman. "In a country where domestic coal resources account for one-quarter of primary energy consumption, the U.S. government is proud to support the development of new technologies that contribute to energy security in an environmentally responsible fashion."

Currently, Turkey’s is meeting its rapid increase in demand for natural gas through imports. The proposed coal gasification project would increase Turkey’s energy security by providing a clean, domestic source for natural gas to meet the country’s growing energy demands.

These priorities are reflected in an April 2009 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between USTDA and the Turkish Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, which identified potential energy efficiency, renewable energy and clean coal technology activities for USTDA funding in support of Turkey’s most important energy sector goals. The USTDA grant awarded today funds a feasibility study to make recommendations for the design, construction and operation of a coal gasification facility which would result in clean-burning SNG for Turkey’s gas transmission system.

(MORE)

The opportunity to conduct the feasibility study for TKI pursuant to the USTDA grant awarded today will be competed on the Federal Business Opportunities (FBO) website. A link to the FBO posting will be posted on USTDA's website at www.ustda.gov. Interested U.S firms should submit proposals according to the instructions in the FBO announcement. TKI will select the U.S. firm that will provide the USTDA-funded assistance.

The U.S. Trade and Development Agency advances economic development and U.S. commercial interests in developing and middle-income countries. The agency funds various forms of technical assistance, feasibility studies, training, orientation visits and business workshops that support the development of a modern infrastructure and a fair and open trading environment. USTDA's strategic use of foreign assistance funds to support sound investment policy and decision-making in host countries creates an enabling environment for trade, investment and sustainable economic development. In carrying out its mission, USTDA gives emphasis to economic sectors that may benefit from U.S. exports of goods and services.

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