Heinz Haller,
Executive Vice President, Performance Products & Systems
The Dow Chemical Company
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West Virginia Remarks

Good morning. It's great to be here today to help launch this new technology – one that fits so well with Dow's strengths, and one with limitless potential for a positive contribution to our nation's energy future.

At Dow, we do what has come naturally to us for more than a century. We take science and technology, and apply innovation and the principles of chemistry to constantly improve what is essential to human progress. As a $57 billion global corporation with more than 150 manufacturing sites and customers in 160 countries, we consider it our responsibility not only to provide exceptional solutions and products for water, food, pharmaceuticals, to packaging and personal care, but to also find viable solutions to some of the world's most pressing challenges.

For example, last year when Dow announced its Energy Plan for America, we talked about helping to address CO_2 reduction. The chemical industry is one of the world's largest and most intensive users of fossil fuels. Some have said our use of these natural resources disqualifies us from being part of the change we seek. On the contrary, as we show here today, chemistry is – and will be – at the heart of the world's energy transformation.

The direct connection between energy and our economy demands that we get busy addressing the global challenge of developing a secure and stable energy supply. At Dow we believe this goal, in conjunction with addressing environmental issues like climate change, is one of the most urgent challenges that our company and society face.

We have been strong advocates of expanding beyond a traditional dependency on oil and natural gas to encompass the abundant and affordable sources of coal in support of growing energy demands. Today, we demonstrate that commitment in a tangible way by launching this new venture.

West Virginia and our operations here provide everything we need to make a project like this possible – expertise, talent and most importantly resources, especially natural resources like coal. Who understands coal better than the people of West Virginia? It is affordable and abundant – an essential element to America's --- and the world's -- energy mix. Today, coal represents more than 40 percent of the world's power generation. But the key to keeping it a viable source of power is to reduce the CO_2 that is released to the atmosphere.

The goal to slow, stop, then reverse the growth of greenhouse gas emissions is worthwhile and we are in full support of measures that can make this aim a reality. It is essential that our efforts and our policy be both environmentally effective and economically sustainable. Coal needs the certainty that a price on carbon will provide.

It will assure that we can deploy the innovative carbon capture technologies like the one we demonstrate here today.

But what's keeping us from finding the solution to this problem? There are a few major hurdles: CO_2 reduction is complex and other solutions have not been energy efficient. This collaboration with Alstom addresses these challenges.

First, Dow's technology makes carbon capture easier. We have put our exceptional chemistry expertise, our reliable supply chain, our R&D powerhouse, and our focus on solving global challenges to work on this issue. Dow's Oil & Gas business, which developed the breakthrough Amine technology used in this project, gets the credit.

This advanced Amine technology shows great promise in advancing cost-effective carbon capture, ultimately allowing coal to continue to be an important source of U.S. energy for decades to come. This is a great example of how we can harness the power of chemistry to solve the world's climate challenge.

Second, previous attempts to capture carbon have been inefficient from an energy standpoint, based on the additional load put on power generation plants. By combining Dow's chemistry expertise, the process equipment expertise of Alstom, and the jointly-developed technology of Dow and Alstom's Advanced Amine Process, we are making CO_2 capture from power plants dramatically more energy efficient than other carbon capture alternatives.

This pilot plant is a major leap to make clean, cost-effective, and replicable carbon capture technology a reality. As a world leader in chemistry, we will continue to search for and deliver solutions to energy alternatives, less carbon intensive raw material sources, and other solutions not yet imagined. We will remain focused on finding answers that address energy efficiency, renewable energy, improving the environmental performance of our existing energy sources and enable carbon capture and sequestration.

With Alstom as our partner, we have a combination of demonstrated leadership in sustainable energy innovation. Dow brought the chemistry expertise, Alstom brought the power segment expertise, and together we quickly designed and constructed a reliable, safe facility. It is important to note that we made the announcement for the West Virginia pilot on March 30 and today it is operating.

The Dow/Alstom project represents one step forward in the advancement of the world's energy challenge. It has potential for West Virginia, for the U.S., and the world. We know that by further investing in R&D to fuel the best and brightest minds in the chemical industry, and by having this pilot plant as our training ground, we will continue to bring forward viable solutions grounded in science and technology.

Thank you again to our hosts here in West Virginia. Now I would like to turn the podium over to Tim Curran, of Alstom.