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Andy Karsner

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Andy Karsner is chairman and CEO of Manifest Energy, a firm committed to energy infrastructure development and financing. He is considered a global energy policy expert and thought leader on deploying clean energy technology at scale.

From 2006 to 2008, Karsner served as America's ninth assistant secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy ("EERE") during a period of unprecedented growth in clean energy technologies, investments and policy formulations. Karsner managed the approximately \$2 billion annual federal U.S. applied science, research, development and deployment portfolio, promoting marketplace integration of renewable and environmentally sound energy technologies for transportation, generation and efficiency. As assistant secretary, Karsner also served as America's top regulator for energy efficiency. During his tenure, his leadership was vital in building legislative coalitions to pass the landmark Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 and implementing the comprehensive Energy Policy Act of 2005. He distinguished himself in international climate deliberations as an architect of the Major Economies Process and negotiator of the Bali Roadmap.

Prior to public service Karsner held several global leadership positions, including CEO of Enercorp LLC, a power development firm involved in international project development, management and financing of renewable energy infrastructure; director and senior development manager for Wartsila Power Development and other multinational energy and development firms. In these roles, Karsner led a variety of multinational consortia in the successful financing and construction of infrastructure involving a wide range of technologies including natural gas, utility grade wind energy, distributed solar power, wood waste/biomass, distillates, heavy fuel oil and coal. Karsner's extensive experience spans equity investing, asset development, operations, commodities, project management and project financing large-scale power projects in North America, Asia, the Middle East and Africa. He personally led and participated in financial closings in excess of half-billion dollars and contributed to technology diffusion, job creation, and new company startups in both the developed and developing world.

Karsner currently sits on prominent several boards including: Applied Materials (Nasdaq: AMAT), the world's leading nano-manufacturer; Conservation International; University of Chicago's Argonne National Laboratory; the Automotive X Prize Foundation and the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation as well as an advisor to the Hudson Clean Energy Fund, Duke Energy and C3. He is a distinguished fellow at the Council on Competitiveness, a leader of the Energy Future Coalition and a member of the Hoover Institution's Energy Policy Task Force. He received top honors from the US Energy Association and the Alliance to Save Energy, the President's Award from the US Green Building Council, and was recently knighted by H.M. King Carl Gustav of Sweden.

Karsner received a B.A. with honors from Rice University, subsequently recognized as a distinguished alumnus, an M.A. from Hong Kong University and a fellowship from a Rotary International. Karsner and his wife spent twelve years based in London and Hong Kong. They are multilingual, have visited every continent and more than a hundred nations for work and pleasure, and reside with their three daughters in Alexandria, VA.