

AES Corporation  
The Global Power Company

The Honourable Donald L Evans                      December 7th 2001  
Secretary of Commerce  
US Department of Commerce  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 5858  
14th Street and Constitution Avenue  
Washington. DC 20230

Dear Mr Secretary,

On behalf of the AES Corporation I wish to express my strong support for a determination by the Department of Commerce that Kazakhstan should now enjoy market economy status. AES Corporation Headquartered in Arlington Va. is a major Global Power company operating in over 40 countries world-wide, we first entered the Kazakhstan market in 1996 when we purchased the countries largest power station now named AES Ekibastuz. Since that time we have made further significant investments into Kazakhstan through acquisitions of power generation and distribution facilities and by investing in their upgrade. Today we are proud to be the largest power Generation Company in the country.

Since independence in 1991, Kazakhstan has achieved significant progress in reform efforts that means, in my opinion, it has met all the criteria used by the Department to be granted market economy status. I can confirm the success of these reforms from our own experiences in operating large businesses in Kazakhstan for the past 5 years, it is also apparent that progress in improving the business climate continues to be made.

In order for the economy to diversify and to allow the increasing energy sector revenues to stimulate other sectors of the economy it is important to have non discriminatory access to US markets hence I also support the general move towards the approval of permanent normal trade relations for Kazakhstan. Looking ahead I see a good case emerging for Kazakhstans timely accession to the World Trade Organisation (WTO), therefore I think it is clear that the granting of market economy status now is another important step in this direction. A favourable decision now by the Department on this question can only work to promote further trade and investment between the two countries.

Sincerely,

G.K. Levesley  
Vice President AES Corporation

1001 North 19th Street  
Arlington, Virginia 22209  
(703)522-1315  
Telecopier (703)528-4510