

Jeremy Gaines, MSNBC  
jeremy.gaines@msnbc.com  
(201) 583-5362

Barbara Levin, NBC News  
barbara.levin@nbcuni.com  
(212) 664-2265

Fleishman-Hillard for GHP  
(713) 513-9500  
John Roper ([john.roper@fleishman.com](mailto:john.roper@fleishman.com))  
John Ambler, ([john.ambler@fleishman.com](mailto:john.ambler@fleishman.com))  
Micah Hirschfield,  
([micah.hirschfield@fleishman.com](mailto:micah.hirschfield@fleishman.com))

**NBC News' Tim Russert to Moderate "Houston's Presidential Summit" on Energy Policy Issues**

*Leading Democratic and Republican presidential candidates to discuss energy issues*

**Houston, October 15, 2007**-NBC News Washington Bureau Chief and Moderator of "Meet the Press," Tim Russert will moderate a three-hour discussion on energy among leading Republican and Democratic presidential candidates at "Houston's Presidential Summit" on Nov. 13, 2007, from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. (EST). The Summit is sponsored by the Greater Houston Partnership in association with The Sierra Club Foundation. Portions of the event will air live on MSNBC. All three hours of "Houston's Presidential Summit" will stream live on MSNBC.com.

Energy issues will be the focus of the Summit, the purpose of which is to have a constructive dialogue-in a non-debate format-on what policies would best meet today's U.S. energy needs now and those of future generations. Topics will go well beyond oil and gas. Candidates will be asked to explore their views on alternative energies, biofuels, nuclear power and a host of energy technologies under development.

Said Russert, "Rank and file Democrats and Republicans want the tough questions asked and answered. This forum will provide an opportunity for Americans to learn where the candidates stand on the critically important issue of energy."

Each candidate will be questioned individually by Mr. Russert before a live audience. The Summit will be held at the George R. Brown Convention Center in downtown Houston.

"Houston is the energy capital of the world and is the obvious place to explore the nation's and the world's future energy needs," said Jeff Moseley, president and CEO of the Greater Houston Partnership. "Houston is at the center of innovation and creativity in finding energy solutions."

The candidates are expected to discuss their energy policies and the interrelationship of those policies with environmental issues. Recent polls show that stubbornly high fuel costs have elevated the importance of energy in the minds of most Americans, making it one of the most vital topics among voters as the nation heads into the 2008 presidential election.

Several leading candidates from the Democratic and Republican parties have strongly indicated they plan to appear at the Summit. A list of participating candidates will be announced soon.

The Greater Houston Partnership, the primary advocate of the Houston area business community, is sponsoring "Houston's Presidential Summit." The Summit will be part of a day-long symposium featuring internationally renowned speakers and energy authorities. Further details, plus sponsorship and ticket information, can be found at <http://www.houstonspresidentalsummit.com/> or by contacting the Partnership at 713.844.3600.

MSNBC is airing coverage of "Houston's Presidential Summit" as part of its "Super Tuesday" series, leading up to the 2008 presidential election. Every other Tuesday, the network offers a full day of political coverage, part of MSNBC's commitment to be the place for politics.

***The Greater Houston Partnership** is a 501(c)(6) organization that is the primary advocate of the Houston-area business community and is dedicated to building regional economic prosperity. It represents 10 counties: Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, San Jacinto and Waller. With more than 2,000 member organizations, the Partnership represents approximately one fourth of the region's workforce. It is hosting Houston's Presidential Summit<sup>SM</sup> to inform and educate the general public on the critical role of energy to the economic prosperity and security of the United States. The Greater Houston Partnership and the Houston's Presidential Summit<sup>SM</sup> do not endorse, support or oppose any candidate for President. Visit the Greater Houston Partnership at [www.houston.org](http://www.houston.org).*

*"Founded in 1960, **The Sierra Club Foundation** is a public charity whose mission is to advance the preservation and protection of the natural environment by empowering the citizenry, especially democratically-based grassroots organizations, with charitable resources to further the cause of environmental protection. The Sierra Club is the vehicle through which The Sierra Club Foundation generally fulfills its charitable mission."*