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PRESS RELEASE

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**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL PRESIDENT LAWRENCE
WASDEN URGES ATTORNEYS GENERAL TO WEIGH SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY
DURING MAY 5-7 ENERGY SUMMIT**

COEUR D'ALENE, IDAHO --- As the debate over global climate change heats up and gas prices reach record highs, National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG) President and Idaho Attorney General Lawrence Wasden today urged state Attorneys General to accurately balance the facts with the law in their roles as the chief legal advisors in their states and jurisdictions.

Through his *2008 NAAG Presidential Initiative on Energy*, President Wasden host's the state Attorneys General and more than 100 of the nation's top energy industry representatives, federal regulators, environmentalists and other advocacy groups to discuss growing consumer concerns, demands on state resources and uncertainty with regard to climate predictability. The two-day meeting will address the complex mix of competing values that dominate every part of the energy field: reliability, resource use, emissions, sustainability and long-term environmental impact.

"My goal is to provide Attorneys General with sufficient information to deliver informed advice to their clients with regard to energy questions and issues," President Wasden said. "The information shared this week must rise above the level of rhetoric with regard to 'right or wrong' energy choices, and instead focus on finding the "best" solutions for our respective states and clients."

President Wasden explained that Attorneys General across the country must begin to consider how to advise governors, legislators and state agencies on the issues of energy regulation, transfer and use. Nationwide, state and federal officials are grappling with complex legal questions like: How much can the country rely on alternative forms of energy? Has the time come to revisit nuclear energy? Or, can wind, waves and other alternatives become significant sources of energy?

“We are seeking factual information and fair analysis of the law,” President Wasden said. “This forum is ideal for bringing together people whose knowledge can really deepen our understanding and allow us to serve our clients in the best possible way.”

The summit will include a number of experts and industry representatives: Shell Oil Company President John Hofmeister; Ward Hubbell, president of the Green Building Initiative, a not-for-profit organization that advocates residential and commercial construction practices that result in energy-efficient, healthier and environmentally sustainable buildings; Vice Admiral John J. Grossenbacher (Ret.), director of the Idaho National Laboratory; and U.S. Department of Energy Deputy General Counsel for Energy Policy Warren Belmar.

Other topics included on the agenda are: nuclear energy; emissions and their influence on state energy solutions; the development of new energy sources; global climate change and the law; regulation and deregulation of energy markets; current and future energy demands; energy delivery methods; and, alternative fuels.

For a copy of the agenda, visit www.naag.org. For press credentials and conference registration, contact Angelita Plemmer at 703-585-7486 or email aplemmer@naag.org.

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