



**U.S. Department of Energy
Washington D.C.**

December 10, 1999

CERTIFICATE OF DESIGNATION

NATIONAL ENERGY TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY

Fossil fuels – coal, petroleum and natural gas – have helped build America’s historic economic strength. More than 85 percent of our energy demands are supplied by these fuels. For most of the next century, the prosperity of our economy will continue to depend on their availability and our capability to use them in an environmentally acceptable manner.

The President’s Committee of Advisors on Science and Technology has cited improvements in the efficiency of fossil fuel combustion as the most significant opportunity for continuing environmental progress. Remarkable achievements have already been made, but much more can be done. New advances in computer simulation technologies, in revolutionary new concepts for coal and natural gas fueled power plants, in carbon sequestration technologies, and in the production of ultra-clean transportation fuels and chemicals now allow us to envision a future in which the economic advantages of fossil fuels can continue to be enjoyed without environmental concerns. Moreover, improvements in natural gas exploration, production, processing, and power generation are opening up new resources that can greatly enhance future energy supplies.

For much of this century, U.S. government research facilities at Pittsburgh, PA, and Morgantown, WV, have been at the forefront of advancements in fossil fuel and environmental technologies. In 1996, these facilities were consolidated to create the nation’s largest fossil fuel research complex.

Now it is time to take the next step and elevate this research center to the status of a National Laboratory and to include it as a full-fledged member in the most comprehensive research system of its kind in the world, while at the same time retaining its unique government-owned, government-operated status.

Therefore, on this day, December 10, 1999, I hereby designate the Federal Energy Technology Center to be renamed the National Energy Technology Laboratory.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Richardson".

**Bill Richardson
Secretary of Energy**