

**Carnegie Mellon**

**Department of Media Relations**  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Alumni House  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
412-268-2900  
Fax: 412-268-6929

**Contact:** Chriss Swaney  
412-268-5776  
swaney@andrew.cmu.edu

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Mark Burd  
412-268-3486  
mburd@andrew.cmu.edu

**Media Advisory: Carnegie Mellon's Lester Lave To Testify  
At Senate Hearing About Renewable Energy Resources**

**Event:** Carnegie Mellon University's Lester B. Lave is scheduled to testify at a hearing of the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources in Washington, D.C., about an amendment that requires retail sellers of electricity to obtain certain percentages of their electric supply from new renewable energy resources. Lave, the Harry B. and James H. Higgins Professor of Economics and Finance and professor of engineering and public policy at Carnegie Mellon, will discuss both the challenges and feasibility of implementing a renewable electricity standard.

Lave, who is also co-director of the university's Electricity Industry Center, is expected to urge the Senate Committee to focus on letting the alternative technologies compete to achieve the goals of reducing carbon-dioxide emissions, improving environmental quality generally, increasing energy security and sustainability, and lowering electricity prices. While renewable energy may achieve many of these goals, competing technologies are likely to find better ways to meet America's energy needs.

Already, renewables account for almost 3 percent of U.S. electricity production, and will probably surpass the committee's proposed 4 percent target by 2011, according to industry analysts. Lave also will recommend that committee members tighten the definition of efficiency and eliminate the limit on energy contributions so regions with scant wind and solar resources can meet legislative goals at a lower cost.

**When:** 10 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 10.

**Where:** Room 5D-366, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C., 20515

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**About Carnegie Mellon:** Carnegie Mellon is a private research university with a distinctive mix of programs in engineering, computer science, robotics, business, public policy, science and social science, fine arts and the humanities. More than 11,000 undergraduate and graduate students receive an education characterized by its focus on creating and implementing solutions for real problems, interdisciplinary collaboration, and innovation. A small student-to-faculty ratio provides an opportunity for close interaction between students and professors. While technology is pervasive on its 145-acre Pittsburgh campus, Carnegie Mellon is also distinctive among leading research universities for the world-renowned programs in its College of Fine Arts. A global university, Carnegie Mellon has campuses in Silicon Valley, Calif., and Qatar, and programs in Asia, Australia and Europe. For more, see [www.cmu.edu](http://www.cmu.edu).