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**Subject:** Workshop on Geomechanical and Geodynamic Aspects of High-Efficiency Extraction of Coalmine and Coalbed Methane

Dear Colleague,

Pursuant to the decisions taken by the UNECE Working Party on Gas at its sixteenth session and by the UNECE Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane at its second session, both in January 2006, it is our pleasure to extend an invitation to you to participate in a workshop on coalbed methane and coal mine methane to be held in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 20 to 22 September 2006. The workshop is targeting an international audience to discuss the most appropriate technologies and practices for the development of more efficient and effective production of coalbed methane and coal mine methane.

The workshop is being organized in cooperation with PROMGAZ and VNIMI, the State Research Institute of Mining Geomechanics and Mine Surveying. In addition, the Russian Ministries of Education and Science, Industry and Energy, and other organizations including Rosenergo, Rostekhnadzor, Severstalresurs, and the Siberian Coal Energy Company (SUEK), are supporting the event.

Attached you will find the official announcement of the workshop including the call for papers, the provisional program, registration. We sincerely hope that you will be able to attend and participate in this important event.

Yours Sincerely,

Alexandre Chachine  
Secretary  
Working Party on Gas

Clark Talkington  
Secretary  
Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane