

Obama highlights energy policy as security issue

US President Barack Obama's agenda on energy and the environment has been placed upfront on the revitalised White House website, reflecting its national importance alongside the economic agenda. The 44th US President says there is much work to be done. "The state of the economy calls for action, bold and swift, and we will act – not only to create new jobs, but to lay a new foundation for growth. We will build the roads and bridges, the electric grids and digital lines that feed our commerce and bind us together," Obama says in his inaugural speech. "We will harness the sun and the winds and the soil to fuel our cars and run our factories," he adds. Framing the energy issue in national security terms, he says the US "will work tirelessly to lessen the nuclear threat, and roll back the spectre of a warming planet". "Each day brings further evidence that the ways we use energy strengthen our adversaries and threaten our planet," Obama says.

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