



# Media Release

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## **WOODSIDE PROVIDES \$12.5 MILLION TO SUPPORT RICE UNIVERSITY-LED PROJECT TO ADVANCE DECARBONISATION**

Rice University and Woodside Energy today announced a ground-breaking five-year technology collaboration aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and providing lower carbon solutions. Woodside will provide \$12.5 million to fund the creation of the Woodside-Rice Decarbonisation Accelerator, an initiative that aims to bring breakthrough decarbonisation technology from the Rice labs to market.

“This collaboration is a testament to the power of merging academic expertise with industry insight and support. Together, we aspire to redefine the future of energy and climate,” said Rice University President Reginald DesRoches. “Our announcement today is an important step toward achieving that task.”

“Net Zero is not a destination but a journey. Over the next 10 years emerging and breakthrough technologies must come to market if society is to meet its climate goals,” said Woodside CEO Meg O’Neill. “We are proud to work with a world-class university like Rice to help meet that challenge.”

Speaking to an audience in Houston to announce the new collaboration, Paul Cherukuri, Rice’s Chief Innovation Officer, noted Rice’s expertise. “Rice boasts a distinguished track record in carbon research and innovation. We are excited to focus the expertise of Rice’s brilliant faculty and students in collaboration with Woodside Energy to accelerate and scale up the commercialisation of new technologies. I look forward to working with Woodside and my esteemed Rice colleagues including Aditya Mohite, Naomi Halas, Pulickel Ajayan, Bruce Weisman and Peter Nordlander.”

Speaking at the same event, Woodside Executive Vice President of Technical Services Daniel Kalms emphasised the significance of the new collaboration being based in Houston. “Houston, as the world’s energy capital, is perfectly positioned to help develop the breakthrough technologies needed for the energy transition. Rice is a great Houston institution with a long history of being a global thought leader in all things energy. This collaboration is a great fit with Woodside as a leading global energy company.”

The goal of the accelerator is to fast-track the commercialisation of technologies, with a specific focus on manufacturing products derived from captured carbon dioxide and methane. Specifically, Rice hopes to leverage cold plasma technology, a unique approach to breaking down carbon dioxide. These products have potential applications to make better batteries, transistors, and other critical materials for energy technologies.

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### **About Woodside Energy**

Woodside Energy is a global energy company, founded in Australia, working across three continents to produce oil and natural gas and pursue new energy opportunities. From the first LNG plant in the southern hemisphere, to the world’s largest not-normally crewed offshore platform, Woodside has long been a leader in developing and applying new technologies.

**About Rice University**

Located on a 300-acre forested campus in Houston, Rice University is consistently ranked among the nation's top 20 universities by U.S. News & World Report. Rice has highly respected schools of architecture, business, continuing studies, engineering, humanities, music, natural sciences and social sciences and is home to the Baker Institute for Public Policy. With 4,574 undergraduates and 3,982 graduate students, Rice's undergraduate student-to-faculty ratio is just under 6-to-1. Its residential college system builds close-knit communities and lifelong friendships, just one reason why Rice is ranked No. 1 for lots of race/class interaction, No. 2 for best-run colleges and No. 12 for quality of life by the Princeton Review. Rice is also rated as a best value among private universities by Kiplinger's Personal Finance.

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