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The University of Texas at Austin Hildebrand Department of Petroleum and Geosystems Engineering Cockrell School of Engineering

## INTERNATIONAL SWITCH ENERGY CASE COMPETITION Call for Virtual Mentors

**International Switch Energy Case Competition** – Switch Energy Alliance is seeking mentors to virtually assist university students during the third annual International Switch Energy Case Competition. Just **90 minutes of your time** is needed. Below is an overview of the Competition:

- Self-formed teams of 3-4 university students compete for US\$25,000 in prize money as they develop solutions to an interdisciplinary energy poverty-based prompt.
- The teams have three weeks to research their chosen issue, create a PowerPoint, and film a 10-minute video explaining their solution. The PowerPoint and video are submitted to SEA and then reviewed by judges.
- The top five teams advance to the Finals where they virtually compete via a live video conference format shown throughout the world.
- Last year, the global response was incredible! Over **250 teams from 37 different countries** and six continents registered.
- More information on the International Switch Energy Case Competition can be found at <u>switchon.org/case-competition</u>.

**Mentors** – The Competition is seeking energy professionals to remotely mentor the teams.

- Energy professionals from all energy fields, countries and organizations (business, academic, government, nonprofit, etc.) are welcome.
- Mentors are free to mentor **one team or multiple teams**.
- Mentors will virtually meet with their teams via videoconferencing once a week for **30** minutes for three weeks between October **10**<sup>th</sup> and October **30**<sup>th</sup>.
- Mentors have flexibility in deciding when to virtually meet with their teams.
- The mentors' objectives include:
  - Act as a sounding board for the teams
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Keep the teams on track to finish the presentations in a timely manner
  - Help the teams develop roles within the teams
  - Assist the teams set goals and stick to them
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Provide general guidance, but not specific solutions to the prompt
  - Encourage the teams to think critically about potential energy sources and to consider a true interdisciplinary approach to their recommendation

**Supporters** - The case competition is brought to you by the Switch Energy Alliance (SEA) with additional support provided by SEMPRA and the Hildebrand Department of Petroleum & Geosystems Engineering at UT Austin (PGE). SEA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit whose mission is to inspire an energy-educated future. SEA's global video- and web-based approach (found online at www.switchon.org) engages students, educators, and general viewers in a civil manner to address energy challenges. PGE holds No. 1 undergraduate and graduate petroleum engineering program rankings according to 2020 U.S. News & World Report rankings.

**Contact:** Direct questions about the Competition to: Carl Steffensen / carl.steffensen@switchon.org