



5th German-Japanese | 5th International
Symposium on Nanostructures

*March 4-6, 2012
Wenden/Olpe, Germany*

Ministry for Climate Protection, Environment,
Agriculture, Nature Conservation and Consumer
Protection of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia



address by

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for the

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Particularly in Germany, we are on the brink of a new energy era with an accelerated energy turnaround. The old - nuclear and fossil - energy era is about to end. And we are seeing the dawn of a new, of a renewable era the cornerstones of which are: renewable energy - energy saving - energy efficiency - resources efficiency.

North Rhine-Westphalia wants not only to influence, but to actively promote this new era of energy policy as an ecological pioneer and, being already the number one industrial state in Germany, to also become the number one climate protection state.

With the proposed Climate Protection Act, we are embarking on a new path at the federal level. Our goal is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 25% by 2020, and by at least 80% by 2050, compared with 1990 levels.

To achieve this goal, we need pioneers of change, creative minds and passionate hearts that organize the technological transformations in the energy and materials sectors and set the course into the new energy era.

The OZ Symposium does exactly this for the fifth time now and, in Japanese-German cooperation, brings together creative minds that develop sustainable solutions for a successful future with imagination and passion.

"We are doing pioneering work", said Henning Zoz, president of Zoz Group, these days. And it is pioneering work like this that prepares the ground for the new energy era. For this, I wish the company and this year's German-Japanese Symposium all the best, every success and a great public response!