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**APGA Statement on Incoming Biden Administration**

*Washington, D.C. (January 19, 2021)* – The American Public Gas Association, representing more than 700 local, municipally owned natural gas systems in 38 states, issued the following statement in advance of the presidential inauguration.

“APGA is pleased to see America’s democracy played out through the successful transfer of power with the inauguration of President-elect Biden. We look forward to working with the new Administration, as well as the newly elected Congress to achieve our top advocacy priorities, which include:

* Allying with the new Administration to provide the continued support of public natural gas utilities throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery;
* Recognizing the needs of energy consumers by passing legislation that allows for reasonable rates for natural gas customers with the same protections as electric utilities;
* Coordinating with the federal government to devise practical regulations to maintain the safety of our members’ pipeline systems while discussing the continued construction and maintenance of natural gas infrastructure with sensible permitting policies; and
* Collaborating with the new Administration to ensure that every American has the ability to choose the energy source they prefer, recognizing the affordability and reliability of natural gas in particular.

We congratulate the president- and vice president-elect and remain committed to working with the incoming Administration to advance these advocacy priorities and achieve these critical energy goals.”

*APGA is the national association of municipally and publicly-owned local distribution systems. There are about 1,000 public gas systems serving more than 6 million customers. These public gas utilities are not-for-profit retail distribution entities that are owned by, and accountable to, the citizens they serve. They include municipal gas distribution systems, public utility districts, county districts, and other public agencies that have natural gas distribution facilities.*