



# AMERICAN PUBLIC GAS ASSOCIATION

June 22, 2018

Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Ranking Member Cantwell:

On behalf of the American Public Gas Association (APGA), I express our strong support for the President's nominations of Mr. Daniel Simmons to serve as Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) at the Department of Energy.

APGA is the national association for publicly-owned natural gas distribution systems. We represent nearly 750 public gas systems across 37 states. Publicly-owned gas systems are not-for-profit, retail distribution entities 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.

EERE plays a crucial in executing the Department's mission of ensuring "America's security and prosperity by addressing its energy, environmental and nuclear challenges through transformative science and technology solutions." EERE is involved in various aspects of the downstream energy policy nexus, including consumer technological development, vehicle technologies and research, manufacturing and industrial energy application research and development, and efficiency standards and other regulatory activities.

In his role as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Mr. Simmons oversaw the development of technology in the energy efficiency and sustainable transportation sectors. In addition, his background at the Institute for Energy Research has provided him with the knowledge and expertise to pursue the goal of providing affordable energy for all Americans. Energy is the lifeblood of America's economy and Mr. Simmons skills and leadership will play a critical role in ensuring that consumers continue to benefit from our current supply of abundant domestic energy resources.

It is our sincere hope that Mr. Simmons' nomination will move quickly and successfully through the Committee and the full Senate. We thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bert Kalisch  
President & CEO