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**APGA Concerned about Framework for the CLEAN Future Act**

*Washington, D.C. (January 9, 2020)* – The American Public Gas Association (APGA), representing more than 700 local, municipally owned natural gas systems in 37 states, issued the following statement in response to a framework developed by House Democrats for the Climate Leadership and Environmental Action for our Nation’s (CLEAN) Future Act.

“The American Public Gas Association appreciates the House Energy and Commerce Committee’s work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve the environment. However, the impact several proposed initiatives will have on natural gas consumers and the economy as a whole is cause for concern. Unfortunately, the proposed framework fails to recognize the role direct use of natural gas plays in reducing carbon emissions as a clean, reliable, affordable and plentiful domestic energy alternative with quantifiable benefits to the environment.

“The direct use of natural gas in homes and businesses reduces demand for other, more carbon intensive forms of energy and results in net carbon emissions reductions. With its growing domestic supply and safe, reliable and efficient delivery system, the direct use of natural gas is an important part of our country’s energy future and should be part of the solution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. APGA looks forward to working with the committee and members of Congress in both parties to craft sensible policy solutions to reduce the nation’s carbon emissions.”

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*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.*