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**APGA Urges Biden Administration to Include**

**Public Gas Utilities in Emissions Reductions Efforts**

*Washington, D.C. (April 22, 2021)* – The American Public Gas Association (APGA), representing more than 700 local, municipally-owned natural gas systems in 38 states, issued the following statement in response to the Biden administration’s recent announcement to reduce U.S. greenhouse gas emissions by half over the next decade:

“APGA applauds and supports President Biden’s goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the United States. As publicly owned utilities deeply committed to their customers, APGA members see themselves as responsible stewards of the environment and of the communities they serve, and seek to reduce emissions and address global warming through efficient, reliable delivery systems and innovations in infrastructure and energy sources*.*

In reaching this ambitious target, however, APGA cautions the Biden administration and Congress against misguided electrification proposals that put all of our ‘eggs in one basket’ by eliminating Americans’ ability to choose the energy source best fit for their needs and budget. A policy-driven electrification model could increase average residential household energy-related costs by between $750 and $910 per year, or about 38 to 46 percent — a large financial burden for many who already struggle to pay their bills each month. Proposals to reduce emissions should preserve Americans’ ability to access the reliable, affordable energy of natural gas that public gas utilities deliver through the nation’s resilient gas distribution system.

For decades, our nation’s gas distribution network has contributed to good-paying jobs and equitable energy access in our communities; since 1970, America’s gas utilities have added 30 million residential customers with virtually no increases in emissions. Public natural gas utility employees strive to deliver efficient natural gas at an affordable price to their customers every day — some of whom are among our most vulnerable citizens, including older Americans and low-income families.

APGA members are pioneering clean energy technologies through investments in innovation — both in the increasingly resilient and efficient physical infrastructure that delivers affordable energy to our customers, and in the increased adoption of sustainable fuels like renewable natural gas and hydrogen. APGA urges President Biden to continue building on these innovations in our resilient public natural gas infrastructure and experienced workforce as the Administration works towards achieving America’s clean energy goals. We stand ready to partner in these crucial efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.”