



AMERICAN PUBLIC GAS ASSOCIATION

August 13, 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 nomination of Mr. William Cooper to serve as General Counsel 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.

Mr. Cooper possesses over 30 years of legal and policy experience which would greatly benefit him in the role of General Counsel. In addition, his work on the House Energy and Commerce and House Natural Resources Committee has provided him with the skills and knowledge to help the Department of Energy meet its mission of advancing the national, economic, and energy security of the United States.

It is our sincere hope that Mr. Cooper's 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