



April 27, 2007

The Honorable Neil Abercrombie  
United States House of Representatives  
1502 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Abercrombie:

Over the past several weeks, a series of advertisements have been published by the Clean Sky Coalition in the Washington, D.C., area. They have been characterized as an effort by the natural gas industry to capture market share from coal. These advertisements were not purchased by the natural gas industry and were not developed with the knowledge of the industry.

Rather, the natural gas industry recognizes both the challenge to America to meet its future energy needs and the importance of meeting those needs with a wide mix of energy supply sources. Coal continues to play a significant role in supplying energy, particularly for electric power generation. Coal, oil and natural gas, together supply over 80 percent of America's current energy needs and will continue to be the primary sources of American energy for the foreseeable future. Clearly, the nation must develop other energy sources – nuclear, wind, solar and additional alternatives. It needs to use energy efficiently and wisely. America's strong economy is sustained by energy – producing almost a quarter of the world's gross domestic product.

As the nation addresses its energy-related issues – whether global climate or energy security – both coal and natural gas will have important roles to play. Now is not the time to engage in efforts that attack or criticize an energy source. Rather, from the natural gas industry's perspective, now is when the nation should be seeking ways to move toward a common goal of securing a strong American energy supply to sustain our healthy economy.

Sincerely,

Barry Russell  
President, IPAA

Red Caveney  
President & CEO, API



Don Santa  
President, INGAA



Dave Parker  
President & CEO, AGA



Skip Horvath  
President, NGSA