



NEWS

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NGSA Stands with Sen. Murkowski and says, “The dialogue must begin now on a national energy policy.”

Washington, D.C... Skip Horvath, President of the Natural Gas Supply Association (NGSA) today stood in support of a national energy policy, saying “Sen. Murkowski has worked very hard to get to where we are today, beginning a dialogue on a national energy policy. I stand with him in saying that as we begin that dialogue today, it must end with a consensus around a clear national energy policy.”

Sen. Frank Murkowski (R-AK), Chairman of the Senate Natural Resources Committee, held a press conference today to announce his intent to introduce legislation on a national energy policy. Attending the press conference were representatives from consumer, industry, and energy trade groups.

Horvath continued, “Producers of natural gas know the realities of what we face as we enter a whole new natural gas market. Demand continues to be strong. Although we are confident supply can keep pace, a key component to increased supply is access to now off-limits federal lands. NGSA has the same goal as Sen. Murkowski, a balanced energy strategy that includes long-term supply of natural gas to fuel our nation’s energy needs. That goal can better be achieved by allowing producers to explore and produce natural gas utilizing all of our domestic resources.”

Currently, the National Petroleum Council (www.npc.org) estimates approximately 213 Tcf (trillion cubic feet) of natural gas is located on land owned by federal and state governments that is either closed or restricted from drilling. Put another way, at current consumption rates, that represents approximately 10 years worth of natural gas.

Horvath concluded, “We look forward to working with the Administration and Congress on a national energy policy that balances energy and the environment. We recognize that there is a lot to get done in the next year to achieve that goal, but the dialogue cannot begin too soon given the difficult winter season we just finished. It is in everyone’s best interest to work out our differences and move forward. We appreciate Sen. Murkowski giving us the first step in that process.”

NGSA represents integrated and independent companies that produce and market the majority of the natural gas produced in the United States. NGSA is actively involved in pursuing regulatory and legislative issues that affect the association's members. Established in 1965, NGSA encourages expanded use of natural gas and supports regulatory and legislative actions that foster competitive markets.

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