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**<http://www.NGSA.org>**

**<http://www.NaturalGas.org>**

## **NEWS**

### **With Clarifications on FERC Transparency Rules, Market Can Take it from Here, NGSA Says**

(Washington) ... Clarifications are needed to help ensure that Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) actions to promote natural gas market transparency -- something the market itself is already providing -- do not result in significant harm to competition or innovation, the Natural Gas Supply Association (NGSA) said.

"NGSA, which represents major integrated and independent natural gas producers, continues to be supportive of any truly constructive steps to enhance market transparency without also harming underlying competition and market efficiency," said Jennifer Deegan, the association's director of energy markets. "Experience suggests, however, that the market itself is always in the best position to make those contributions."

In moving to ensure such transparency under new authority granted as part of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAct), FERC is proposing to require public posting of natural gas flow data by intrastate pipelines, and yearly filings of aggregate purchase and sale information by wholesale buyers and sellers in the interstate natural gas market.

The U.S. natural gas market is already among the most transparent commodity markets in the world, according to an NGSA filing on the proposed regulations. "The natural gas market's response to supply and demand fundamentals has been linked by some to a lack of transparency, even though no amount of increased reporting or government oversight will eliminate the price volatility that results from these fundamentals," Deegan said.

Also, the definition of a “market participant” should be clarified by FERC, and be consistent with the Natural Gas Act, NGSA said in its comments, which voiced support for FERC’s proposed public workshop to further discuss such compliance issues.

“Ultimately, reducing regulatory barriers, not adding them, is what will enhance the depth and liquidity necessary to foster ongoing participation in the U.S. natural gas market,” she said. “Continued ease of participation, coupled with access to more natural gas resources, will allow the U.S. energy market to grow the U.S. economy while also playing a vital role in meeting the nation’s environmental goals.”

*NGSA represents integrated and independent companies that produce and market natural gas 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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