



NEWS

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Natural Gas Industry Leader Says Traditional Sources Will Continue to Dominate America's Energy Supply

(Washington, DC)... Even with climate change legislation, it will be decades before renewable energy sources overtake traditional forms of energy, and the United States needs to ensure that gas, oil, coal and nuclear power remain strong, warned Skip Horvath, president and CEO of the Natural Gas Supply Association (NGSA).

"Wind and solar power are great dreams for the future. But they are not without their own challenges," Horvath said.

Other forms of alternative energy sources also face challenges ahead before they will become more economically viable. Until that happens, Horvath said that gas, oil, coal and nuclear power are going to be the major sources of America's electrical production.

"We need to get those facts out to the American people. The energy industry needs to have that honest discussion with the public. Wind is good. Solar is good. But our traditional sources of energy are also good and will supply 85 to 95 percent or more of our energy needs for a long time to come," Horvath said.

Horvath made his comments at the Fourth Annual State of the Energy Industry held at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

"Many political leaders are calling for a 60 to 80 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) by 2050. But for Americans to achieve that number today, it would mean finding some other way to get to work - three to four days a week - other than driving a gasoline-powered car or using public transportation. Even

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assuming that new technology delivers wonderful efficiency gains, Americans are going to have to accept a lot more change than they have demonstrated so far if we are to achieve these numbers,” Horvath said.

The gas industry leader said that his energy sector is well positioned to provide relatively quick-to-construct gas powered electricity plants which provide clean power. But he also warned that unless this nation gets more serious about developing its own sources of natural gas, Americans will experience upward pressure on prices.

“We need to continue to ask ourselves as a nation if this is the direction we want to go down. If we truly want to address climate change in this country, we will definitely need solar and wind power. We definitely need more energy efficiencies in our buildings, our appliances and our vehicles. But we also will need to continue to develop our domestic sources of energy as well,” Horvath said.

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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.