



NEWS

For Immediate Release: February 27, 2009

Contact: Jeff.Schrade@ngsa.org (202) 326-9300

NGSA.org or NaturalGas.org

Proposed Federal Budget Plan Will Raise Natural Gas Prices & Hurt American Manufacturers

Natural Gas Supply Association Thanks Senate Majority Leader Reid and
House Speaker Pelosi for Supporting Natural Gas

(Washington, DC) Natural Gas Supply Association President and CEO R. Skip Horvath warned today that the budget plan put forward by the White House will increase the price American consumers pay for natural gas.

“We received troubling news in the President’s budget yesterday. If enacted as presented, the budget would negatively impact the amount of investment needed to bring more natural gas to market and raise the price of natural gas. That is not the right signal to send to U.S. manufacturers who rely on natural gas. The unintended consequence of this budget will be to send manufacturing jobs offshore,” Horvath said. “We are in danger of continuing a failed strategy of the past: promoting the use of natural gas, such as converting the Capitol power plant from coal to natural gas, while squeezing its supply. We learned at the beginning of this century that doing so only makes energy more expensive for American consumers.”

Horvath said he was heartened yesterday by the actions of Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi who asked the Architect to switch a century-old power plant near the nation’s Capitol to natural gas.

“We appreciate and thank them for their support for natural gas. They clearly recognize it as a clean-burning form of energy. But it’s more than that,” Horvath said.

Approximately one-third of the natural gas used in the United States is used as a chemical building block in manufacturing hundreds of consumer products, including detergents, plastics, food containers, antifreeze, pharmaceuticals and more.

-- more --

Proposed Federal Budget Plan Will Raise Natural Gas Prices & Hurt American Manufacturers

Page 2

“Natural gas has a huge impact on American jobs. When you hurt clean-burning natural gas, you negatively impact millions of American workers,” Horvath said.

According to a study released by PricewaterhouseCoppers in January of 2007, the U.S. natural gas and oil industry provides more than \$570 billion annually in economic value to the nation. Another study by ICF International, released in January of this year, found that natural gas and oil industries directly and indirectly employ approximately 6 million Americans.

####

NGSA represents integrated and independent companies that supply natural gas. Established in 1965, NGSA encourages the use of natural gas within a balanced national energy policy, and promotes the benefits of competitive markets to ensure reliable and efficient transportation and delivery of natural gas and to increase the supply of natural gas to U.S. customers.

Clean Natural Gas:
Smart, Secure and Essential