



NEWS

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CLIMATE CHANGE PROPOSALS COULD PRESSURE CLEAN NATURAL GAS FROM ALL SIDES, SAYS NGSA

(Washington, D.C.) -- Natural gas could be squeezed between coal subsidies and renewable mandates unless policies that recognize and encourage the ability of natural gas to meet environmental goals are included in climate legislation, according to expected remarks today by R. Skip Horvath, president and CEO of the Natural Gas Supply Association (NGSA). Horvath is speaking at a panel discussion at the U.S. Energy Association's (USEA) annual "State of the Energy Industry" event.

"There's a false perception that natural gas will come out a winner in any climate change scenario because of its low emissions and reliable performance record," according to Horvath. "The environmental benefits of natural gas will allow it to hold its own on a level playing field, but not if the field is dramatically tilted by subsidies for coal or overly rigid mandates for renewable energy sources."

Horvath is expected to say it is a myth that natural gas is certain to flourish under climate change legislation and point to analyses by the U.S. Energy Information Administration and independent economists that show natural gas losing market share under some climate change scenarios, despite the ability of natural gas to affordably reduce overall emissions while providing reliable energy to consumers.

The NGSA president will debunk three other myths that natural gas suppliers frequently encounter: meritless claims that the industry could be overwhelmed by a "dash to gas" by power generators; the notion that carbon capture and storage (CCS) is a coal-only technology; and the idea that the role of natural gas is limited to that of a bridge fuel. Horvath will point to extensive investment in development of geographically diverse and abundant shale gas, the leading role of natural gas producers in using CCS and the ability of natural gas to serve as a sustainable solution for the foreseeable future.

NGSA provided Congress with a [list of policy recommendations](#) to be included in any climate legislation in October 2009. Today Horvath is expected to reiterate the association's recommendations that Congress adopt an evenhanded approach that does not disadvantage natural gas in designing climate change legislation.

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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. For more information, please visit

www.ngsa.org, www.naturalgas.org and www.bluejobs.org

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