



For Immediate Release – February 25, 2011
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**Natural Gas Council Offers to Work with NERC to Prevent Future
Power and Supply Disruptions**
Encourages Recognition of Interdependence of Natural Gas and Power Grid

Washington, DC – Leaders of the Natural Gas Council (NGC) yesterday wrote to the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) to express interest in working with NERC and others to understand what transpired in the power sector during a recent unprecedented cold snap in the southwestern United States and to take steps to minimize such serious impacts in the future. The NGC encouraged NERC to recognize the growing interdependence between natural gas and the power grid.

Independent Petroleum Association of America President and CEO Barry Russell, on behalf of the NGC, said, “The natural gas industry and NERC worked together in the ‘90s on interdependency issues, and it is good for us to occasionally revisit that topic and assure we are communicating with each other sufficiently.”

Earlier this month, the delivery of power from natural gas, coal and wind was disrupted in Texas and parts of the southwestern United States due to an unprecedented cold snap, which greatly increased the heating demand for natural gas and electricity. The NGC pledged to work with NERC, as well as other key energy stakeholders, to seek ways to mitigate such power disruptions going forward, not just in Texas but throughout the country.

The Natural Gas Council collectively represents nearly all companies that produce, transport and distribute natural gas consumed in the United States. It includes members of the American Gas Association, the Independent Petroleum Association of America, the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America and the Natural Gas Supply Association.

To view the full letter, [click here](#).

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The American Gas Association, founded in 1918, represents 199 local energy companies that deliver clean natural gas throughout the United States. There are more than 70 million residential, commercial and industrial natural gas customers in the U.S., of which 91 percent — more than 64 million customers — receive their gas from AGA members. Today, natural gas meets almost one-fourth of the United States' energy needs.



Founded in 1929, the Independent Petroleum Association of America (IPAA) represents more than 6,000 companies that drill 90 percent of the nation's natural gas and crude oil wells. These companies account for 74 percent of U.S. natural gas production and 44 percent of U.S. oil production. For more information, please visit www.ipaa.org.



INGAA is a trade organization that represents the interstate natural gas transmission pipeline companies operating in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. Its members transport over 95 percent of the nation's natural gas through a network of 220,000 miles of pipelines. For more information, please visit www.ingaa.org.



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.