



NEWS

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Contact: Daphne Magnuson dmagnuson@ngsa.org (202) 326-9314

Changes to CFTC Data Reporting Requirements Would Improve Efficiency and Effectiveness, Says NGSA

(Washington, D.C.) -- The Natural Gas Supply Association (NGSA) yesterday requested changes to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission's (CFTC) swap data reporting requirements in order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of reporting.

Jenny Fordham, NGSA vice president, markets said, "NGSA members have reported hundreds of thousands of swaps since the CFTC's new reporting requirements went into effect over one year ago. Their experience enabled them to identify several areas where the rules could be improved to make reporting both more efficient and more effective."

NGSA asked the commission to adopt a more uniform methodology for determining the value of a swap, noting that the notional value of the same swap can be calculated quite differently depending upon the rule or definition it falls under. Fordham said, "Inconsistent methods for determining swap notional values create confusion among market participants and make it difficult to check reports for accuracy."

In order to improve efficiency, NGSA also identified some data fields that should be eliminated because they are duplicative or present no incremental value. NGSA asked the CFTC to consider publishing a guidebook on swap data reporting to clarify how transaction reporting rules will be applied.

Finally, NGSA called for clarification of the CFTC's 7-Part Guidance for forward contracts with embedded volumetric optionality in connection with trade option reporting requirements. Fordham said, "The need for clarification of the seven-element guidance remains pressing. Under the existing language, there is considerable uncertainty in determining whether a contract is excluded or reportable."

Read NGSA's [comments filed at the CFTC here](#) or view NGSA's [previous letters](#) and [press releases](#) related to reporting requirements and the 7-Element Guidance here.

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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 and www.naturalgas.org

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