(Washington, D.C.) -- In recognition of “Infrastructure Week,” Dena E. Wiggins, president and CEO of the Natural Gas Supply Association, made the following statement today about the importance of natural gas infrastructure to the U.S. economy, environment and energy reliability.

“In recognition of Infrastructure Week (#infrastructurematters), we are calling on policymakers to ensure adequate natural gas infrastructure to meet our nation’s economic and environmental objectives over the next decades.

The contribution of natural gas to a vibrant U.S. economy, affordable energy prices, a manufacturing renaissance and 20-year lows in U.S. carbon emissions has been well-documented. During seven months of 2015, electricity generated from natural gas exceeded coal generation for the first time ever, helping U.S. carbon emissions to reach their lowest levels since 1993. We’ll need to use even more natural gas in order to meet our climate objectives, requiring more infrastructure.

Just last week, the National Association of Manufacturers released a report by IHS that quantified the staggering level of economic benefits and jobs resulting from the construction and development of pipeline infrastructure. Natural gas infrastructure spurs growth in the industries that provide materials and increases overall demand for goods and services that benefit the U.S. economy.

None of these benefits can be fully realized without the pipelines and infrastructure needed to deliver natural gas to the millions of customers who rely on it.

Natural gas infrastructure is important to the environment, the economy, to U.S. manufacturing and to U.S. households and it should also be important to policymakers when considering natural gas projects.”

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The Natural Gas Supply Association (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, thus encouraging increased supply and the reliable and efficient delivery of natural gas to U.S. customers. For more information, please visit www.ngsa.org and www.naturalgas.org.

**Markets Matter:** Representing America’s Major Producers and Suppliers of Natural Gas Since 1965