NGSA Pleased FERC Closely Monitoring Pipeline Rates

(Washington, D.C.) – Following the announcement by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission that it had opened Section 5 investigations into the earnings of four interstate pipelines, Dena E. Wiggins, president and CEO of the Natural Gas Supply Association, made the following statement:

“We are pleased that FERC continues to be committed to ensuring just and reasonable pipeline rates. Natural gas suppliers and other pipeline customers look to FERC for protection from excessive pipeline charges and we are gratified that FERC has chosen to initiate these Section 5 investigations.

“Legislation that reforms Section 5, granting FERC the authority to award refunds to shippers in cases where pipelines are determined to have overcharged, would further enhance consumer protections since currently FERC can only order an overearning pipeline to lower its rates going forward from the date of the Commission’s order. Now that FERC has adopted a new modernization surcharge policy that grants interstate pipelines new opportunities to recover costs outside of a general rate case, Section 5 reform is more important than ever.”

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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.

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