



## NEWS

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Contact: [Daphne.Magnuson@ngsa.org](mailto:Daphne.Magnuson@ngsa.org) (202) 326-9314

### **CEQ Guidance Overreaches, Should Be Withdrawn, Says NGSA**

(Washington, D.C.) -- The Natural Gas Supply Association (NGSA) today urged the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) to promptly withdraw its recent revised draft guidance calling for federal agencies to expand the scope of their reviews of energy projects considerably beyond the statutory and regulatory obligations of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

“CEQ’s proposal would guide federal agencies to evaluate a host of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change considerations that are not only outside the respective agencies’ jurisdiction and control, they are also speculative and not reasonably foreseeable,” said Dena E. Wiggins, president and CEO of NGSA.

Jenny Fordham, senior vice president, government affairs for NGSA, said, “CEQ’s proposal is simply not the way to address greenhouse gas emissions or to implement climate change policies. In fact, if adopted, the revised draft guidance could undercut the very key to achieving U.S. environmental and economic goals – development of natural gas infrastructure to move clean-burning natural gas to market.”

Fordham said, “Attempting to task agencies with even more requirements beyond NEPA’s time-tested process could burden agencies with evaluating impacts that cannot be assessed using a rigorous, balanced or transparent approach and risk bringing infrastructure development to a standstill.”

In its written comments, NGSA pointed to the environmental and economic benefits made possible by greater use of natural gas including lower GHG emissions, lower household energy bills, lower overhead costs for businesses and lower costs for products as diverse as pantyhose and fertilizer, writing that, “There is little doubt that natural gas is paving the way for reduced carbon emissions from the electricity generation sector and U.S. manufacturing growth.”

“Achievement of U.S. climate objectives and economic revitalization can and should go hand-in-hand,” said Fordham. “Both hinge on environmentally sound and efficient natural gas supply and infrastructure development; however CEQ’s approach would broaden the NEPA process to the point of risking impact on natural gas projects.”

Fordham concluded, “We owe it to the American consumer to find a better way.”

Click [here](#) to read NGSA’s letter to CEQ.

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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](http://www.ngsa.org) and [www.naturalgas.org](http://www.naturalgas.org).

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