NGSA NEWS

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Federal Intervention in Power Markets Would Needlessly Harm Consumers and Competitive Power Markets, Says NGSA

(Washington, D.C.) – The Natural Gas Supply Association (NGSA) released the following statement in response to an Administration memo describing plans to make unprecedented use of the Federal Power Act and the Defense Production Act to prolong the operation of certain coal and nuclear power plants that are no longer economically viable.

Dena Wiggins, president and CEO of NGSA said:

"This is a terrible idea on multiple levels. It's an extreme measure and unprecedented, inappropriate use of the Federal Power Act, the Defense Production Act and other federal authorities intended for use only in immediate emergency situations such as sudden increases in demand or a shortage of electricity -- none of which are taking place in today's power markets. In fact, grid operator PJM is on record telling the Administration that the region is 'unquestionably reliable' during DOE's first unsuccessful attempt to justify subsidies for failing coal and nuclear units.

"This misguided attempt to artificially resuscitate a specific set of aging and uneconomic power plants will do far more harm than good. It raises costs and undermines the very competitive power markets that have a long track record of delivering affordable power to customers. We urge the Administration to move away from a narrow, short-term focus on resuscitating individual projects and focus on long-term solutions that help consumers and strengthen power markets.

"If this effort goes forward, we anticipate mounting a significant legal challenge."

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The Natural Gas Supply Association (NGSA) represents integrated and independent companies that supply natural gas. Founded in 1965, NGSA is the only national trade association that solely focuses on producer-marketer issues related to the downstream natural gas industry. NGSA maintains a deep focus on the regulatory issues that affect natural gas producer-marketers and has been involved in a substantive manner in every one of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's significant natural gas rulemakings since FERC's creation in 1977. For more information, please visit <u>www.ngsa.org</u> and <u>www.naturalgas.org</u>.

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