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NGSA Reaffirms Support for Carbon Pricing to Achieve Emissions Reductions

(Washington, D.C.) – Natural Gas Supply Association (NGSA) President and CEO Dena Wiggins will call on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to provide momentum for development of carbon pricing policies in remarks at the Commission's (FERC) technical conference on carbon pricing today.

Wiggins will reaffirm NGSA's support for carbon pricing, while asking FERC to provide a supportive environment by making it clear in a policy statement that the Commission does not intend to impose carbon pricing but remains amenable to approving proposals submitted by ISO/RTO's. NGSA also will ask the Commission to reaffirm that trading mechanisms, such as RGGI, are acceptable market constructs within wholesale electricity markets.

She will say, "We know that it will require a great deal of hard work to build a lower carbon energy future. And we know that nothing is easy when it comes to power markets. There are many complicated elements that each state or region will have to sort out. Regardless of how it is done, our member companies see natural gas as an important building block in reaching ambitious climate goals – a building block in partnership with renewables."

According to Wiggins, NGSA ideally supports national economy-wide pricing but recognizes that without it, states and regions will take the lead.

Wiggins will point out that several prominent attributes of carbon pricing make it the most effective long-term solution in power markets. "We think a price on carbon is the most effective longterm solution in power markets. It allows states and regions to achieve carbon reductions without compromising competitive power markets and the benefits they've provided to consumers. Furthermore, it allows all resources to compete and facilitates the partnership between natural gas and renewables. Allowing the market to select the most economical resources has never been more important considering the economic hardship that states, households and businesses are experiencing."

Wiggins will state that, "Keeping the lights on is a goal that we all share."

NGSA became the first national natural gas trade association to publicly support a price on carbon in December 2019. Wiggins' prepared remarks are available here on the NGSA.org website.

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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 advocates for well-functioning markets that foster a growing, competitive market for natural gas. NGSA is dedicated to achieving a cleaner future through strong partnerships with renewables and supporting innovative technologies and market solutions that reduce emissions. For more information, please visit www.ngsa.org.