



March 19, 2021

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Chairman
House Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Ranking Member
House Committee on Energy and Commerce
2322 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Pallone and Ranking Member Rodgers,

The American Gas Association (AGA) appreciates the House Energy and Commerce Committee's continued work in addressing the United States' long term economic growth and energy security through modernizing our country's infrastructure. AGA, founded in 1918, represents more than 200 local energy companies that deliver clean natural gas throughout the United States. More than 179 million Americans in homes and businesses in all fifty states utilize natural gas served by an infrastructure base that is unrivaled in the world.

The scale, affordability, reliability, and resilience of the U.S. natural gas system is the envy of the world and is a strategic asset for both achieving ambitious greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals and for geopolitical strength. Natural gas has led the reduction in United States greenhouse gas emissions. Moreover, the natural gas delivery system is flexible, reliable, versatile, and enables increased renewable energy integration. The use of natural gas, in combination with renewable energy and efficiency, has contributed to U.S. energy-related carbon dioxide emissions declining to the lowest levels in three decades. Furthermore, methane emissions from natural gas utility distribution systems have declined 73 percent since 1990, even as natural gas utility companies added more than 760,000 miles of pipeline.

As companies continue to modernize our natural gas infrastructure and connect homes and businesses to the system, new opportunities arise to achieve low-cost greenhouse gas emissions reductions by leveraging new and existing natural gas infrastructure, advanced technologies, and the nation's abundant natural gas resources. Additionally, natural gas infrastructure can be used for renewable energy storage and the delivery of renewable gases derived from biogenic sources and zero-carbon electricity. The gas system's ability to integrate high-value sources of energy

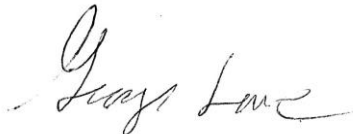
like renewable natural gas and hydrogen is a critical component of our nation's ability to reach ambitious greenhouse gas reductions goals.

As your Committee considers H.R. 1848, the “Leading Infrastructure for Tomorrow’s America Act,” during the legislative hearing entitled, “LIFT America: Revitalizing our Nation’s Infrastructure and Economy” on Monday, March 22, 2021, we ask that you consider the work AGA and our members have done to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through smart innovation, new and modernized infrastructure, and advanced technologies that maintain reliable, resilient, and affordable energy service choices for consumers. AGA also asks that the following studies and reports that illustrate these important facts be submitted to the Committee’s hearing record:

1. [Implications of Policy-Driven Residential Electrification;](#)
2. [Electrifying the Columbus, Ohio Metro Area’s Building Stock- Economic and Power Market Impacts;](#)
3. [Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Pathways;](#)
4. [Building a Resilient Energy Future: How the Gas System Contributes to US Energy System Resilience;](#) and
5. [Opportunities for Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions Through Emerging Natural Gas Direct-Use Technologies.](#)

Thank you for the opportunity to submit for the record this important material. AGA looks forward to our continued work with your Committee on how natural gas utilities and our nation’s pipeline infrastructure plays, and will continue to play, an integral role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions while providing an affordable, reliable, and resilient energy source to homes and businesses throughout the country.

Sincerely,



George Lowe
Vice President
Governmental Affairs and Public Policy
American Gas Association