The American Gas Association (AGA) represents companies delivering clean natural gas safely and reliably to 187 million Americans every day. AGA’s mission is to develop and advocate for informed, innovative, and durable policy that fulfills our nation’s energy needs, environmental aspirations and economic potential. We are committed to providing state-of-the-art solutions for AGA members to safely and securely deliver reliable and affordable natural gas and advanced fuels to homes and businesses across the nation.

Service to 187 million Americans remained uninterrupted and safe.
America’s natural gas utilities will continue to provide much-needed leadership to our customers and communities. Progress was hard won in a year when COVID-19 continued to create social, economic, political and personal turmoil.

We met new obstacles head on and engaged in debates in regulatory and legislative forums over starkly different visions of the role of natural gas in America’s energy future. In the face of these challenges, our industry continued to move forward, performing with extraordinary resilience and resolve. Recent analysis shows that we added more than 876,000 new residential customers in the U.S. from 2019 to 2020, the largest increase since 2006! Our future is bright.

Building on our bold Climate Change commitments in January 2020, AGA will release a seminal analysis detailing how American’s natural gas utilities will be essential to meeting our emissions reduction goals including net-zero. We will demonstrate our accomplishments to date and our comprehensive efforts into the future to advance deeper emissions reductions within the natural gas utility industry while ensuring safety, reliability, resilience, affordability, and equitable outcomes for customers and communities. AGA will continue to serve as the essential leading voice regarding the critical role natural gas utilities and our infrastructure will play in fulfilling our nation’s vast energy needs and ambitious environmental goals. We are charting a course and illuminating the pathways to a net-zero future for policymakers at every level.

At each step on this journey, we are fortunate to be guided by outstanding leadership. As Chair of the AGA Board of Directors for 2021, David Anderson from NW Natural provided a shining example of poise in the face of myriad challenges. Our 2022 chair, Kim Greene from Southern Company Gas, already has set a high bar for herself and her colleagues for reimagining what we can do as solutions providers and leading voices for a better tomorrow.

TOGETHER, we are moving forward.
Protecting PEOPLE
SAFETY FIRST

Underscoring the importance of safety as our highest priority, AGA bolstered the industry’s commitment to safety and security by expanding the Commitment to Enhance Safety, Environmental Stewardship and Security. These new program elements promote advanced safety cultures and the expansion of efforts to support the implementation of Pipeline Safety Management Systems. A key element of the PSMS program included conducting 11 virtual assessments with more than 600 attendees.

AGA made significant progress on cybersecurity issues, addressing the increasing threats that malicious actors pose to our industry and calling on government to establish reasonable cybersecurity regulations. Our collective efforts will help to ensure natural gas pipeline infrastructure remains safe and resilient while addressing growing and dynamic cyber and physical security threats. In addition, AGA upgraded the electronic platform of the Downstream Natural Gas Information Sharing and Analysis Center hosting more than 800 alerts for threats to industry physical, cyber and IT systems.

AGA held the Operations Conference and Exhibition, the natural gas industry’s foremost gathering of natural gas utility and transmission company operators across North America. With multiple layers of COVID protocols and protections in place, 1,800 operations management leaders came together to hear more than 100 speakers and technical presentations and learn about new technologies and services from more than 200 exhibitors spanning 50,000 square feet of exhibit space.

MORE THAN 800 ALERTS

The Downstream Natural Gas Information Sharing and Analysis Center (DNG-ISAC) is the premier cyber and physical threat sharing and analysis organization for the natural gas industry in the U.S. and Canada facilitating situational awareness and threat communication between operators and with the federal government.
In November, AGA’s premier safety event for natural gas utility executives and safety directors, the 2021 Virtual Executive Leadership Safety Summit, featured presentations from the Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration and the Chemical Safety Board. In addition, industry leaders delivered keynote addresses sharing key strategies that enhance their company’s performance in all areas of safety.

Reflecting our focus on the serious emerging issue of field worker assault prevention, AGA hosted webinars on best practices for protecting frontline workers in the natural gas industry and developed new materials to assist companies in building an assault prevention program.
PROTECTING OUR CUSTOMERS AND COMMUNITIES

AGA works year-round communicating the message that natural gas is a clean, reliable and affordable energy source. With projections for colder weather and rising winter fuel prices — and many customers still facing COVID-related financial pressures — AGA released our Winter Outlook to the media, Congress, and other industry partners highlighting that a typical natural gas customer could save up to 67% this winter compared to customers using other forms of energy and lower their carbon footprint at the same time. We also have been educating the local media about how natural gas utilities protect their customers from price volatility — for example, by offering flexible payment plans and by purchasing gas supplies at favorable prices during off-peak times and storing it to meet winter demand.

AGA also stepped in to support customers and communities by advocating tirelessly for critical legislation and to secure $8.25 billion in Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funding — the highest ever in a single year. The United States Department of Health and Human Services distributed a majority of these funds to the states in advance of the 2022 winter to ensure they were available when needed.

$8.25 BILLION IN LIHEAP FUNDING

The highest funding level in the history of the program.

AGA also redoubled its efforts to help prevent customers from falling victim to utility scams — yet another area of financial exposure for the families and businesses utilities serve. We used the occasion of Scam Awareness Day November 17 to help spread awareness of the suspicious behaviors and the evolving tactics that scammers use to target customers. These are critical messages that we integrate into our communications channels all year long, but the collective effort in November — a collaboration of the nation’s natural gas, electric and water utilities — helped highlight these messages broadly across the country.
Preserving the **PLANET**
AGA continues to build on the research and analysis that we have conducted for many years to establish and articulate the value of natural gas and natural gas infrastructure today, and the long-term value these resources and assets bring to the collective effort to meet bold and ambitious environmental targets.

Included in this ongoing effort is the groundbreaking study we commissioned with ICF that explores the net-zero emissions opportunities for natural gas utilities.

In addition, AGA continues to drive a fact-based discussion on the implications of mandated electrification policies to inform and educate policymakers and other stakeholders. Building upon the AGA national study that examined the consumer costs, infrastructure requirements, and environmental outcomes of mandated residential electrification policies, AGA has embarked upon studies of individual cities and the impacts of policy-driven electrification. These “Grounded in Reality: The Implications of Electrification” research reports clearly identify the negative effect that mandated residential and commercial electrification would have on customer costs, Gross Domestic Product, jobs, and total carbon footprint in Baltimore, Chicago, Columbus, Denver and Nevada.

This growing body of research is vital to the success of the AGA’s advocacy efforts. For example, our government affairs and public policy team leveraged our efficiency data to make a case for including fuel-neutral language in the bipartisan infrastructure package passed by Congress in November. Our efforts ensured that natural gas equipment is eligible for energy efficiency grants and grants for charging and fueling infrastructure.

We are increasingly active in the states. To raise the voice and profile of our industry, AGA is leading and participating in several pro natural gas coalitions. These coalition partners include manufacturers, labor unions, the agricultural community and home and industrial builders as well as consumer advocates. Through these efforts, we are bringing together allies to help promote the value of the natural gas utility industry and tell the stories of businesses and industries that rely on the clean and affordable energy it provides. To date, 20 states have passed legislation preserving energy choice for customers.
Picturing the POTENTIAL
Goals

AGA launched the **Gas Energy Efficiency Roundtables** series with three goals in mind:

1. To demonstrate and grow the industry’s contribution to a clean energy economy, to give program administrators opportunities to engage with their peers and learn from each other, and to accelerate the exchange of information around innovative and dynamic topics in energy efficiency. The series has attracted attendees from 26 utilities, 22 U.S. states and three Canadian provinces.

2. AGA’s annual **Energy Efficiency Report** highlights how natural gas utilities continue to invest in efficiency programs and work with their customers to help them cut their energy use, saving money while also reducing emissions. This report highlights that natural gas utilities funded 126 programs in North America: 120 programs in 42 states in the U.S. and six programs in Canada. This investment in energy efficiency programs totaled $1.7 billion, an 11% increase from the previous year.

3. And finally, to help our customers picture the potential for tastier results in the kitchen, AGA continues to promote our popular #CookingWithGas campaign through social media and a vibrant website that hosts a number of recipes and testimonials from chefs.

AGA has been actively engaged in the federal regulatory agenda through comments and intervening on the Biden administration initiatives that directly affect AGA members at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Energy, Securities and Exchange Commission and other federal agencies. AGA has also intervened in litigation challenging the prior administration’s positions to preserve those aspects that facilitated the safe and efficient operation of natural gas utilities. In addition, AGA filed amicus briefs in federal court and supported member litigation. We expect the regulatory arena to become increasingly active and we are well prepared to support our members through amicus briefs or litigating issues that impede member operations.
WHO WE ARE

AGA has continued supporting local DC-based organizations including Martha’s Table, Comfort Cases, SOME and the Humane Rescue Alliance. AGA staff donated clothing, food, funds, and duffle bags filled with necessities and toys for kids in foster care.

“Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, America’s natural gas utilities have continuously served our customers, ensuring families and businesses have the energy they need when they need it most,” said Greene. “We have never stopped working, and as our economy begins to rebound, the dedicated employees across the natural gas industry will continue to serve the nation, reducing emissions and providing Americans with a clean, safe, reliable, affordable energy source. I firmly believe that the most practical, realistic way to achieve a sustainable energy future is to ensure it includes natural gas and the infrastructure that transports it, which is why I am excited to lead this organization at this critical time.”

Kimberly S. Greene
Chairman, President & CEO, Southern Company Gas
AGA has been named a Top Workplace for the seventh straight year by The Washington Post.
2022 AGA Officers

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Kimberly S. Greene
Chairman, President & CEO, Southern Company Gas
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The American Gas Association, founded in 1918, represents more than 200 local energy companies that deliver clean natural gas throughout the United States. There are more than 77 million residential, commercial and industrial natural gas customers in the U.S., of which 96 percent — more than 73 million customers — receive their gas from AGA members. AGA is an advocate for natural gas utility companies and their customers and provides a broad range of programs and services for member natural gas pipelines, marketers, gatherers, international natural gas companies, and industry associates. Today, natural gas meets more than 30 percent of the United States’ energy needs.