This year has been a record year for the natural gas industry.
Over the past year, the U.S. natural gas industry has made history with record-high production, demand, and exports while continuing to supply reliable energy to American homes and businesses amidst global turbulence. AGA’s member companies have delivered more than 25 Tcf of natural gas, invested nearly $33 billion in modernizing our distribution systems, added 763,000 new customers, all while reducing emissions.

The American Gas Association has brought the story of our industry to the fore of America’s energy conversation, highlighting the important roles natural gas utilities play in delivering safe, reliable and affordable energy to homes and to businesses that drive the American economy. Our commitment to our nation’s environmental goals has yielded a 70% reduction in our methane emissions and 60% reduction in power sector emissions.

Safety and security will always be our industry’s highest priority and AGA continues to enhance resources for our members. The AGA-led Downstream Natural Gas Information Sharing and Analysis Center, the industry’s premier alert system for both physical and cyber threats, has issued more than 2,000 alerts and shared more than 650,000 indicators of compromise between members and partners on its digital platform.

Additionally, AGA has continued its steadfast focus on providing a safe industry for our customers and employees. AGA has supported its members with 11 in-person peer reviews and virtual assessments to ensure our industry not only meets but exceeds standards in safety and security to protect our critical infrastructure.

AGA and its member companies have immense gratitude for 2023 Board Chair Suzanne Sitherwood of Spire Inc. for her unwavering commitment to our industry and we celebrate her many accomplishments. As we advance into 2024, Jerry Norcia, Chairman and CEO of DTE Energy, stands ready to build on the progress of the past year and to support the progress and growth of America’s natural gas industry. The AGA Board of Directors has great confidence in our industry’s ability to continue to “advance America” through safe, affordable, and reliable energy for American families and businesses. Our energy future remains strong and our environmental progress continues to accelerate with the help of natural gas.
ENHANCING SAFETY & SECURITY IN THE NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY
Safety and security will always be our industry’s highest priority.

AGA filed comprehensive comments in response to two monumental Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration Notice of Proposed Rulemakings — Leak Detection & Repair and Safety of Gas Distribution Pipelines. AGA worked closely with hundreds of its utility members to advocate for changes for reasonable, practicable, and cost-effective regulations that advance public safety and environmental protection.

AGA fostered opportunities for greater collaboration between the U.S. Transportation Security Administration and pipeline operators through in-person TSA Inspection Forums, virtual TSA Technical Roundtables, and topical TSA Stakeholder calls. These educated TSA and informed pending proposed cybersecurity rulemaking. The Securities and Exchange Commission incorporated a dozen of AGA’s comments into its final rule on cybersecurity incident reporting.

The natural gas industry’s premier technical event, the 2023 AGA Operations Conference & Exhibition convened a record-breaking 3,200 attendees, showcased two football fields of technological innovation, and presented more than 200 speakers focused on advancing safety, reliability, and operational efficiency.

“Impacts of Hydrogen Blending on Gas Piping Materials” and “Working with Other Stakeholders to Advance Pipeline Safety in Damage Prevention” are among more than a dozen timely technical notes and security infographics authored by AGA’s technical committees to effectively educate industry stakeholders and inform federal and state policies.

Expanding the Peer Review Program

AGA’s Peer Review Program is a decade old with 135 peer reviews administered since the program’s inception, including 11 peer reviews featuring 26 topics in 2023.

LEADING THE DISCUSSION

14,000+

More than 14,000 member employees participated in AGA Best Practices meetings, Discussion Groups, workshops, and forums, including the semi-annual Security Conferences, 16th annual Executive Leadership Safety Summit, and the eighth annual Pipeline Safety Management Systems Workshop.
Evaluating the Industry’s Commitment to Emissions Reduction and Energy Efficiency

AGA’s Energy Efficiency Survey Report reflects the natural gas industry’s dedication to reducing emissions. Investments in energy efficiency programs have dramatically increased since 2007, with $941 million invested in 2023.

Furthermore, AGA’s report Understanding Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Natural Gas highlights a significant 70% reduction in gas utility distribution system methane emissions since 1990, underscoring the industry's progress in environmental sustainability.

Pioneering Research in Low-Carbon Solutions and System Resilience

AGA has advanced research with two new studies from the American Gas Foundation. Regulatory Pathways for Advancing Low-Carbon Gases for Gas Distribution Companies assesses policies for establishing regulatory frameworks to incentivize low-carbon gas production and use. Enhancing and Maintaining Energy System Resilience explores the technical, commercial, and regulatory aspects necessary to bolster the U.S. gas system’s resilience. These studies highlight AGA’s commitment to sustainable energy infrastructure and system resilience.

The Advancing America Series highlights the critical role of natural gas in fueling American prosperity. Launched by AGA in 2023, the series examines the critical role of natural gas to many U.S. sectors – including agriculture, hospitality, healthcare, and pharmaceuticals. This ongoing series is another opportunity to discuss the benefits of natural gas to the broader economy and to engage new coalition partners.

Advancing Data and Market Insights in Natural Gas

AGA continues to highlight the essential role of natural gas and its infrastructure in sustainable energy solutions.

Key Energy Analyses conducted this year include studies on home appliance energy use and operating costs, the growth of natural gas utility consumers, record levels of future natural gas supplies, and the increasing use of natural gas in electric power generation, among others. These analyses detail natural gas’s affordability, reliability, and environmental benefits.

1,000+

AGA also conducted thorough analyses of natural gas market fundamentals and utility planning for the winter heating season, showcased in our Winter Heating Outlook series. Through three webinars, AGA reached more than 1,000 industry members and stakeholders, reinforcing natural gas as a cost-effective and reliable home heating fuel.

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BOOSTING OUTREACH & LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT IN THE NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY
Twenty-nine individuals representing 17 AGA member companies joined AGA for a successful Executive Leadership Development Program, where participants learn how to successfully navigate the political and regulatory maze of Washington, D.C. Since the event in June 2023, several attendees have received promotions, making it a valuable investment for members aiming to prepare their organization for effective leadership.

AGA continues to increase financial community outreach on behalf of the natural gas utility industry. More than 500 attended the 2023 Financial Forum and 33 publicly traded AGA member companies participated in this annual event. For the first time, AGA’s Mini-Forum was held in Boston with a record 70 attendees at the event.

Developing Strong Leaders Through the Next Level Leadership Women’s Program

AGA brought together 50 rising stars from America’s natural gas utilities for three in-depth sessions to cultivate new leadership skills, network with peers across the industry and meet industry leaders. Due to consistent and expanding interest, the program will grow to 60 participants in 2024. AGA also launched book club for alumna, and we are building a new slate of alumna activities in 2024.
Member communication and engagement were enhanced by continuing our popular educational webinar series and the AGA Updates newsletter with more than 3,000 member company employees receiving updates on key issues and AGA activities.

The 2023 Executive Conference, the association’s premier conference for member company CEOs and their senior leaders, drew more than 200 attendees. In conjunction with this year’s event, the Leadership Council met and hosted Margaret Spellings, the new president and CEO of the Bipartisan Policy Center.

For the first time in the program’s history, AGA hosted Basic Rate School and Advanced Rate School at AGA’s offices in Washington, D.C. A record 55 participants attended the Basic Rate School. The Advanced Rate School featured a new program, advanced witness preparation, a first-of-its-kind offering designed to supplement the traditional rate school programs.
Sharing voices of chefs. Through the #CookingWithGas campaign, AGA highlighted the stories and love of #CookingWithGas from three talented chefs in Kansas City.

Humanizing the Natural Gas Industry
AGA shared the insights, knowledge, success and impact of employees across the country. Learning from Leaders highlights the vision of industry leaders. Natural Gas Heroes and Making a Difference spotlight impact employees have on the communities they serve.
Supporting Customers and Communities

Negotiations for the fiscal year (FY) 2024 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) last fall provided cause for hope, with the release of nearly $3.7 billion of the $4 billion in FY2024 funds plus $100 million in funds authorized by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The continued funding of LIHEAP underscored the bipartisan congressional support for the program as well demonstrating the successful advocacy work from AGA, Edison Electric Institute and our LIHEAP and low-income home energy assistance grassroots advocacy partners in the National Energy and Utility Affordability Coalition.
Advocating for Our Members

AGA and our partners in oil and natural gas trade associations are actively engaged in bipartisan discussions with the U.S. House Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Energy and Commerce and the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation to help craft useful, reasonable pipeline safety reauthorization legislation. AGA and our member companies developed a list of reauthorization legislative priorities, including language that seeks to prevent third-party pipeline damage incidents and improve hydrogen-natural gas mixture research.

AGA worked to support local and state advocacy efforts led by our member utilities. In 2023, five states adopted fuel choice legislation, bringing to 25 the number of states, ensuring that homes and businesses maintain the opportunity to use affordable, reliable natural gas.

Seven states adopted freedom to cook legislation ensuring that consumers continue to have access to the natural gas appliances that they depend on for hot meals and warm showers. Eight states adopted legislation designed to increase the production and utilization of renewable natural gas and hydrogen and other emissions-reduction technologies. Recent legal action has resulted in positive progress for consumers across the West Coast as several California jurisdictions, Eugene, Oregon, and the state of Washington have rolled back natural gas bans.

Engaging Communities

In 2023, AGA introduced the Fueling Our Communities public engagement platform. As a part of this initiative, there were numerous letter-writing campaigns to federal regulators, championing the continued use of natural gas and customer choice. Our efforts successfully enlisted more than 6,500 public advocates – a diverse group spanning the entire country.
ENGAGING IN THE FEDERAL REGULATORY AGENDA
AGA is extensively engaged in the federal regulatory agenda through comments and intervening on initiatives that directly affect AGA members.

Supporting AGA’s Advocacy Efforts
AGA filed comments in 50 pending regulatory matters impacting members and the natural gas industry, including proposed revisions to the EPA’s Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program, permitting reform, and numerous energy efficiency proposals. These filings ensure the natural gas industry’s voice is heard and represented at the highest level.

Gas/Electric Harmonization
AGA participated in the North American Energy Standards Board’s (NAESB) Gas-Electric Harmonization Forum and filed multiple comments on coordination matters. The final report was issued by NAESB and filed at FERC, and it included more than 20 recommendations to improve harmonization. AGA also supported efforts at NAESB to update the force majeure provisions of the Base Contract for Sale and Purchase of Natural Gas to help improve supply reliability.

Understanding Natural Gas Combustion Emissions
In response to regulatory inquiries into the potential health effects of natural gas residential use, AGA supported independent research and analysis which resulted in published data driven, objective, and nonpartisan scientific studies.
SERVING OUR
COMMUNITIES
AGA is proud to be Certified™ by Great Place To Work®
Natural Gas Industry Impact

INVESTED

$33B ON SAFETY

$1.4B ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS

ADDED

20,700 MILES OF DISTRIBUTION PIPE

763,000 NEW CUSTOMERS

AGA’s Impact

2,000 Capitol Hill meetings, individual calls, emails and letters

29,000 State events, individual and group calls, emails and letters

200+ events and 14,000 attendees at operations and engineering events

15 Peer reviews and virtual assessments on 27 topics

22 Discussion groups and more than 2,000 participants
2024 AGA Officers

CHAIR OF THE BOARD
Jerry Norcia
Chairman and CEO, DTE Energy
Detroit, Michigan

FIRST VICE CHAIR
Lloyd Yates
President and CEO, NiSource Inc.
Columbus, Ohio

SECOND VICE CHAIR
Robert “Sid” McAnnally
President and CEO, ONE Gas, Inc.
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President and CEO

Kimberly Denbow
Vice President, Security and Operations

Megan Dunn
Vice President, Talent Operations

Sue Forrester
Vice President, Advocacy and Outreach

George Lowe
Vice President, Governmental Affairs and Public Policy

Andrew Lu
Vice President, Safety, Operations and Engineering

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General Counsel

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Vice President, Membership, Strategic Development and Corporate Secretary

Terri Oliva
Chief Financial Officer

Jennifer O’Shea
Vice President, Communications

Christina Sames
Senior Vice President, Safety, Operations, Engineering and Security
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 74 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 nearly one-third of the United States’ energy needs.