



Weekly Update – September 29, 2011

Register NOW for the APGA Gas Utility Management Conference

Join us in Richmond, VA for the APGA Gas Utility Management Conference (GUMC) on November 1-2 at the Jefferson Hotel in Richmond, VA. The GUMC is held annually as an add-on to the fall board and committee meetings. This conference provides public gas system managers with information on a broad variety of issues that impact public gas systems. Issues covered include natural gas vehicles, marketing, operations challenges, and legislative and regulatory initiatives.

At this year's conference the winner and finalists of the APGA Marketing & Sales Award will present their system's successful marketing campaigns to conference attendees. There will also be a presentation on the future of natural gas as well as an overview of the Clean Cities Program and the role of natural gas vehicles in the program. The November 1st program will end with a legislative and regulatory update on the issues of interest to public gas systems. On November 2nd the program will focus on operations issues, presentations will address, among other things, Department of Transportation pipeline safety initiatives as well as the role of technology in enhancing pipeline safety. There will also be an update on congressional efforts to reauthorize the pipeline safety act.

Information regarding the GUMC and the fall board and committee meetings is available on the APGA website at www.apga.org. **The cut-off date to reserve rooms at the APGA rate is October 6.** If you have any questions on this article, please contact Dave Schryver of APGA's staff by phone at 202-464-2742 or by email at dschryver@apga.org.

R&D Matters: Join us in Chicago at the Research & Development Conference This October

WHAT: The 2011 R&D Forum. Sponsored by the APGA Research Foundation (RF) and the Gas Technology Institute (GTI)

WHERE: Chicago, IL at GTI Headquarters.

WHEN: October 25 & 26, 2011

COST: Hotel (two-nights) and food provided at no cost. Just get to Chicago.

WHY ATTEND: Learn about new technologies that will help you to reduce operating costs while improving customer satisfaction and new technologies that will help you provide your residential and commercial customers environmentally-friendly end-use appliances. You will leave the Forum reaffirmed that research and development is crucial to the long-term success of the natural gas industry.

AGENDA: The R&D Forum program begins at 5:00 pm CT on Tuesday, October 25, with a tour of GTI facilities followed by a networking dinner with GTI leadership and R&D project managers. The forum picks up on Wednesday, October 26, with morning and afternoon informative classroom presentations on supply, operations and end-use R&D projects, some of which are near commercialization. GTI will then host a reception and dinner on Wednesday evening.

HOW TO REGISTER: Please go to www.apgarf.org/2011Forum by October 5, 2011 to mail or fax your registration form. Please encourage one of your Board members to join you. There is no registration fee, food costs are covered for all attendees and two nights room plus tax will be covered for the first forty (40) registrants.

THE HOTEL: Radisson Hotel O'Hare. The hotel provides a complimentary 24-hour O'Hare airport shuttle. The hotel will shuttle between the hotel and GTI at specific times.

The RF Board and GTI looks forward to seeing you in Chicago! Again, space and hotel rooms are limited.

Please call Bob Beauregard at APGA 202-464-2742 or Mary Kos at GTI 847-768-0950 with your attendance confirmation or questions.

APGA Files Data Requests on Furnace Direct Final Rule

September 23, APGA filed three data requests with DOE, contending that without the requested information, APGA could not effectively review, analyze and comment on critical information provided by DOE in the subject docket. APGA asked DOE to respond to the three specific data requests as soon as possible, given the fast approaching comment deadline (October 17) and DFR/ NOPR effective date (October 25).

[See the data request letter here.](#)

For further information, contact Bob Beauregard at 202.464.2742 or bbeauregard@apga.org

DOE Denies APGA Comment Extension Request on Furnace Direct Final Rule

By September 20 letter, DOE denied APGA's extension request on comments and effective date for the furnace Direct Final Rule and associated NOPR. The letter finds there is no substantive reason to grant the request, and even if there were, DOE lacks authority to extend the comment deadline based on the Energy Policy Conservation Act, as amended.

[See the DOE letter here.](#)

For further information, please contact Bob Beauregard at 202.464.2742 or bbeauregard@apga.org

Greenhouse Gas Reporting Deadline Is Tomorrow September 30

If your utility delivered 460 million cubic feet or more of natural gas in 2010 you must go online at www.ghgreporting.epa.gov by **September 30** to report the sources and deliveries of natural gas that passed through your utility in 2010. This Subpart NN reporting, named after the subpart of the regulation that prescribes these requirements, allows EPA to estimate the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) that is produced by burning natural gas. Originally EPA required ALL natural gas utilities to report, but settled a lawsuit filed by APGA to exempt those under 460 mcf throughput from Subpart NN reporting as a supplier of natural gas.

The Subpart NN reporting should not be confused with the Subpart W fugitive methane emissions reporting rules that EPA issued late in 2010. The first reports under Subpart W are not due until March 30, 2012. Subpart W is a completely separate reporting requirement and some utilities that must report under Subpart NN as a supplier may not have to report fugitive methane emissions under Subpart W while others may report fugitive emissions but not as a supplier. To estimate fugitive methane emissions each utility must conduct a leakage survey of its piping and components at all aboveground meter/regulator stations where it receives gas from transmission suppliers. It must count the number of valves, regulators, relief valves, orifice meters and other components listed in Subpart W that are found to be leaking during this leakage survey. The count of leaking components is then multiplied by a leak factor provided in Subpart W to estimate the total annual leakage. In addition, utilities must multiply the miles of main, number of service lines and number of other meter/regulator stations by emission factors, adding those to the total for gate stations and converting cubic feet of methane to equivalent tons of CO₂. If the estimate exceeds 25,000 metric tons, which is approximately 60 million cubic feet of natural gas, the utility must report under Subpart W in March 2012.

To assist utilities with Subpart W calculations, APGA created a free EXCEL spreadsheet that lets members insert their count of leaking components at gate stations, miles of main, number of services and number of meter/regulator stations and performs all the required calculations and conversions to determine if the utility must report under Subpart W. This calculator has been recently revised to reflect changes to EPA's equations that correct errors pointed out to EPA by APGA earlier this year. The latest Subpart W calculator is version 3.0. If you are using an earlier version you can download the new version at www.apga.org.

APGA will conduct a webcast at 2 pm EST on November 17 to discuss Subpart W reporting, demonstrate how to use the APGA Subpart W calculator and answer any questions members might have. To register for the webcast go to www.apga.org/osroundtable.

Again, for members who delivered 460 million cubic feet of gas in 2010, remember your deadline for Subpart NN reporting is Friday, September 30.

For further information contact John Erickson of APGA 202-464-2742, ext 1002 or jerickson@apga.org.

2011 Public Natural Gas Week is Coming Up!

This year Public Natural Gas Week (PNGW) is October 2-9! We hope that you will join us in this nationwide observance honoring the work and importance of public natural gas systems. As a member of the American Public Gas Association we would like to encourage you to promote your public gas system and generate enthusiasm about the benefits of natural gas. Many of you prepare elaborate full-fledge promotional events and campaigns every year, but for those of you who could use some additional ideas, please visit www.apga.org/2011PNGW. There you can download helpful materials including stock press releases, op-ed, city council letters, event suggestions and design templates.

We would also like to extend the opportunity to those who do fully participate in PNGW campaigns to submit an article to the *Public Gas News* (approximately 200-400 words) detailing how your system effectively used creative marketing to promote the overall community benefit of public natural gas during Public Natural Gas Week. Please send your article submissions to Kristin Gomez of APGA at kgomez81@gmail.com for consideration to be published in the *Public Gas News*.

Be a Part of the Conversation: Use Social Media to Connect with APGA

APGA uses multiple social media platforms that include Facebook, LinkedIn, three Twitter accounts and a Vimeo page. Social media doesn't work without participation so please join us! It's more than a bulletin board ...it's about sharing and starting conversations. See you all online!

Twitter - <http://twitter.com/APGA> // @APGA

**if you follow us, please tweet us so we can reply!*

Research Foundation Twitter www.twitter.com/apgarf

Security Integrity Foundation www.twitter.com/apgasif

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/pages/American-Public-Gas-Association/106622913812>

**post on our wall/like our posts*

Vimeo (watch videos of APGA webinars) <http://www.vimeo.com/apga>

LinkedIn APGA group

<http://www.linkedin.com/groupInvitation?groupID=1786944&sharedKey=72933B42BC03>

Watch Last Week's Popular Webinar on GPS Tracking Technology

On September 23, Gas Technology Institute (GTI) & APGA hosted a widely attended webinar to share the results from a pilot project conducted this summer at Greenville Utilities Commission (GUC) to demonstrate a new software application that uses GPS to track leak survey routes and create electronic leak tickets. Langley Willauer of InMaps & Jonathan Britt of GUC presented an overview of VeroTrack© Automated Survey Tracking (AST) and the highlights and issues encountered during the 60-day evaluation period at GUC. VeroTrack AST integrates GPS technology into routine leak surveying and pinpointing operations. The application, developed by GTI and InMaps, attaches GPS coordinates to survey routes and leaks while tracking

compliance requirements. The application also automatically creates and populates an electronic leak form that is directly transferred to a back-office leak management system.

The presentation was followed with an engaging question & answer session with participants in order to better understand the technology & implementation process for their own specific systems. **If you would like to view a recording of the one-hour webinar, please go to <http://www.vimeo.com/29487614>.** If you have any questions about VeroTrack AST, please contact Langley Willauer at langley@inmaps.com.

Help Support the Natural Gas Booth at the 2011 National Home Builder's Show

The American Public Gas Association would like to offer its members the opportunity to support the natural gas industry at the 2012 National Association of Home Builder's (NAHB) International Builder's conference in Orlando, FL this February. The conference is widely attended, with attendance at this show between 60,000 – 100,000 people! The natural gas industry booth has positioned natural gas as the energy of choice to builders for many years and should continue that winning effort in 2012. To make sure this happens, a task force comprised of several North American gas companies was created to take our natural gas message a step further in 2012 by focusing on:

- 1. Increasing builder attendance and traffic to the Natural Gas Industry booth**
- 2. Creating a cohesive message that speaks to both builders and consumers**
- 3. Developing touch points and communication with attendees (pre-show, during and post-show)**
- 4. Extending messaging to consumers through media opportunities**

The 2011 International Builders Show was a great success thanks to the overwhelming funding commitment received from natural gas utilities. Booth organizers and supporters hosted several events within the booth to maximize attendance, sponsoring NAHB Green Day which enhanced our messaging during the show as well as to consumers through media outlets, and adding messaging that brands natural gas as the fuel of choice.

APGA and the task force ask for your help this year to continue this important initiative. The goal is \$45,000 - \$50,000 to execute our plan at the 2012 International Builder Show.

We ask you consider any level of contribution in support of the 2012 Natural Gas Industry booth. However, by making a contribution of \$500 you will receive:

- **One free registration to the International Builder Show (a \$295 value)**
- **Hotel rooms at the Hilton Garden Vacation Club at SeaWorld International (pay for your own rooms)**
- **Your Company listed in the booth brochure**
- **Opportunity to work the Natural Gas Showroom/booth during the show**

We need your commitment by **October 15, 2011** so that we can move forward with our plans. Note that payment is not due until January 15, 2012. Please respond with your commitment level to me or to Task Force Chair, Christine Cole (see contact info below). The Southern Gas Association will be handling the invoicing for this project.

Thanks for your consideration and if you have additional questions please feel free to contact me. I look forward to working on this project!

Sincerely,

Christine A. Cole
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IBS Task Force Chair
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EIA Reports Storage Build of 111 Bcf to Put Working Gas Storage at 3,312 Bcf

Here is the weekly EIA Summary Report issued on Thursday, September 29, 2011, that reports last week's storage report highlights for Friday, September 23, 2011. A 111 Bcf increase has been reported.

Summary

Working gas in storage was 3,312 Bcf as of Friday, September 23, 2011, according to EIA estimates. This represents a net increase of 111 Bcf from the previous week. Stocks were 91 Bcf less than last year at this time and 5 Bcf above the 5-year average of 3,307 Bcf. In the East Region, stocks were 52 Bcf below the 5-year average following net injections of 67 Bcf. Stocks in the Producing Region were 54 Bcf above the 5-year average of 982 Bcf after a net injection of 33 Bcf. Stocks in the West Region were 3 Bcf above the 5-year average after a net addition of 11 Bcf. At 3,312 Bcf, total working gas is within the 5-year historical range.