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APGA Files Motion to Intervene in Opposition to Southern LNG Export Application

Today, the American Public Gas Association (APGA) filed a motion with the Department of Energy (DOE) to intervene in opposition to an application by Southern LNG Company to export approximately 0.5 billion cubic feet per day (“Bcf/d”) of LNG from an existing LNG import terminal on Elba Island, Georgia to any country with which the United States does not have a Free Trade Agreement with. A copy of the filing is available on the APGA website at www.apga.org/InterveneLNG.

In its filing, APGA states that Southern LNG Company’s proposal to export LNG is inconsistent with the public interest because it will increase domestic natural gas and electricity prices to the detriment of all consumers; inhibit this nation’s ability to forge a path toward energy independence; and, undermine sustained economic growth in key manufacturing sectors.

APGA has opposed the export of LNG as it will increase prices and harm consumers. APGA has also argued that the price increases caused by the export of LNG will inhibit efforts to foster natural gas as a major transportation fuel, which is important in weaning the U.S. from its historic and high-risk dependence on foreign oil. To date, 20 applications have been filed at DOE to export 28.67 Bcf per day of LNG to Free Trade Agreement Countries. This equates to approximately 45% of our daily consumption.

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APGA is the national association of municipally and publicly-owned local distribution systems. There are about 1000 public gas systems serving more than five million customers. These public gas utilities are not-for-profit retail distribution entities that are owned by, and accountable to, the citizens they serve. They include municipal gas distribution systems, public utility districts, county districts, and other public agencies that have natural gas distribution facilities.