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APGA Files Motion to Intervene in Opposition to Freeport-McMoRan Energy, LLC LNG Export Application

Today, the American Public Gas Association (APGA) filed a motion to intervene in opposition to an application by Freeport-McMoRan Energy, LLC to export approximately 3.22 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d) of liquefied natural gas (LNG) to non-free trade agreement (FTA) countries from the planned Main Pass Energy Hub Deepwater Port, which will be located off the coast of Louisiana. A copy of the filing is available on the APGA website at www.apga.org/Freeport.

In its filing, APGA states that Freeport-McMoRan Energy '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 consistently opposed the export of LNG because 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, the total export capacity that has been applied for is 29.93 Bcf/d and 28.54 Bcf/d to FTA and non-FTA nations, respectively. This equates to approximately 45 percent 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 5 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.