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**Banning Natural Gas in San Francisco Homes Hurts Consumers and the Environment**

*Washington, D.C. (November 12, 2020)* – The American Public Gas Association, representing more than 730 local, municipally owned natural gas systems in 38 states, issued the following statement in response to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors banning natural gas in new buildings.

*“We are disappointed by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors’ action to eliminate the direct use of natural gas in homes. This policy is flawed, short-sighted and will only serve to negatively impact homeowners by restricting consumer choice. Over 54,000 San Francisco residents rely on natural gas for hot water, home heating and cooking. These households have chosen to use natural gas directly in their homes for its many benefits, including its cost-effectiveness, reliability and efficiency. At three times the efficiency of electricity and one third of the cost, consumers value the ability to choose natural gas as an energy solution that works best for their budgets and lifestyles.*

*The direct use of natural gas is an important part of our country’s energy future and a pathway to addressing global warming. To truly make meaningful progress toward a sustainable energy future, policymakers in San Francisco should consider a balanced approach that combines renewable energy sources like solar and wind alongside reliable, resilient and domestically abundant natural gas. This comprehensive approach would ensure San Francisco has access to clean, cost effective and efficient energy solutions without sacrificing consumer choice or adding burdensome costs to low-income families and seniors.”*