**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**APGA Applauds ICC for Transparent and Fair Appeals Process**

*Washington, D.C. (October 8, 2020)* – The American Public Gas Association (APGA), representing more than 700 local, municipally-owned natural gas systems in 38 states, issued the following statement in response to the International Code Council (ICC) Board’s recent decisions on its joint appeals with the American Gas Association (AGA):

“We are appreciative and supportive of the ICC Board’s decision to exclude the provisions contested by APGA and AGA from the 2021 International Codes. Because ICC codes are adopted at all levels of government, transparent and robust procedures are critical to success. The ICC appeals process, which provides all stakeholders an opportunity to engage, is an excellent example of today’s effective code development practices. On behalf of our members, APGA advocates for consumers to be able to maintain their right to choose efficient, affordable, and reliable direct use of natural gas as an energy source for their home. APGA looks forward to engaging further with ICC and all stakeholders in future code development efforts.”

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*APGA is the national association of municipally and publicly-owned local distribution systems. There are about 1,000 public gas systems serving more than 6 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.*