



AMERICAN PUBLIC GAS ASSOCIATION

June 23, 2021

The Honorable Joe Manchin
Chairman, Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: June 24, 2021 Committee Hearing to Examine Infrastructure Needs

Dear Chairman Manchin:

The American Public Gas Association (APGA) appreciates your leadership in holding this hearing and releasing a discussion draft for legislation to address the infrastructure needs of the U.S. energy sector.

APGA is the trade association for approximately 1,000 communities in 38 states across the U.S. that own and operate their retail natural gas distribution entities. Our members include municipal gas distribution systems, public utility districts, county districts, and other public agencies, all locally accountable to the citizens they serve. Public gas systems focus on providing safe, clean, reliable, and affordable energy to their customers and support their communities by delivering fuel to be used for cooking, clothes drying, and space and water heating, as well as for various commercial and industrial applications.

We were pleased to see that the Committee's legislative proposal includes significant investments in research and development on hydrogen technology. APGA applauds the Committee for recognizing that a diverse mix of energy sources, including natural gas, can be used to produce clean hydrogen.

APGA also appreciates that the Committee's draft text proposes investing in research that allows for continuing use of our country's existing natural gas pipeline infrastructure. The current network already safely and effectively transports energy to a myriad of end-users and is manned by a skilled, existing workforce that is well positioned to play a vital role in delivering hydrogen in a future clean energy economy.

Finally, APGA supports the Committee's proposed investment in energy efficient buildings through a grant program for states to establish revolving loan funds for energy audits and efficiency upgrades. Public gas systems are not-for-profit, and our members are dedicated to keeping costs low for the communities they serve, including through support for efforts to encourage use of more energy efficient appliances and equipment. Natural gas appliances are among the most efficient available for cooking and heating and can help consumers reduce both emissions and their energy bill.



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APGA supports the Committee's work to move our energy infrastructure towards a cleaner future. We are grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the conversation on this important topic, and we look forward to working together in this effort.

Dave Schryver
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