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**APGA Calls on Senator Alexander to Alter S. 739 by Adopting a Technology-Neutral Approach**

*Washington, D.C. (April 12, 2012)*- Today, the American Public Gas Association (APGA) sent a letter to Senator Alexander (R-TN) urging him to alter his legislation, "To authorize the Architect of the Capitol to establish battery recharging stations for privately owned vehicles in parking areas under the jurisdiction of the Senate at no net cost to the Federal Government" (S. 739), to adopt a technology-neutral approach which allows all vehicle technologies including natural gas vehicles (NGVs) to compete equitably on the free market.

Bert Kalisch, president and CEO of APGA said, "I was troubled to see that your legislation, S. 739, directs the Architect of the Capitol to, 'to construct, operate, and maintain on a reimbursable basis, battery recharging stations in parking areas under the jurisdiction of the Senate on Capitol Grounds for use by privately owned vehicles used by Senators or covered employees.' Nowhere in the bill are natural gas vehicles (NGVs) or other technologies mentioned and thus, all other technologies are excluded from the tangible benefit of a refueling facility on Capitol Grounds nor do they receive the symbolic imprimatur of the U.S. Senate.

Kalisch went on to discuss how NGVs have a significant advantage over electric vehicles in terms of their flexibility in application that is unmatched by any known or near-term projected electric vehicle. NGVs can provide a transportation solution for almost any consumer or business, across all vehicle classes.

Kalisch concluded that, "Given that the federal government has and is currently intervening in the transportation market, APGA believes that similar incentives and opportunities as embodied by S. 739 and in current tax policy must be extended to NGVs to "level the playing field."

A copy of the letter is available at: [www.apga.org/correspondence](http://www.apga.org/correspondence).

*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.*