



A Message from the LGA President

As I sit in my easy chair at home on an incredibly cold south Louisiana evening with snow and ice falling from a 25 degree January sky, my thoughts are on the product and services the natural gas industry provides. We supply our communities, businesses, friends, and associates each and every day with a reliable energy source that warms our homes, cooks our food, dries our clothes, provides hot water, generates electricity, fuels

vehicles, dehumidifies indoor environments and provides outdoor lighting.

The Louisiana Gas Association board of directors, members, and associate members contribute greatly to the economy of Louisiana by promoting the transmission and delivery of a natural product of the earth that is abundant, affordable, environmentally-friendly and versatile for many industrial, commercial and residential uses.

As I begin two years of service as your LGA president, I consistently think of the phrase that Atmos Energy's Louisiana Division President, Tom Hawkins shares with our leadership group often. Tom says, "There's never been a better time to be in the natural gas business than now." With relatively low worldwide prices, a plentiful supply (thanks primarily to the United States producers) and a great safety record of transporting many Bcfs of natural gas without incident, we are truly in a great industry that supplies more than 25% of our nation's daily energy needs. My 36 years of natural gas operations experience has instilled in me the sense that our product is essential to the nation and therefore, it is important that we tell our story often to our neighbors and friends who do not recognize the value and benefit they receive from this wonder fuel.

The LGA delivers great educational offerings to our members throughout the year and hosts the premier pipeline safety conference in the Gulf Coast region. We support college scholarships each year through our LGA Golf Tournament and Crawfish Boil, Silent Auction and raffle tickets sales by board members. We offer superior networking opportunities throughout the year to our members at our annual Operations Conference and various trade show participation.

I would like to challenge our association members to increase membership by 10% in 2018 to be able to continue offering the valuable programs we currently enjoy. This year we are on schedule to complete our long-term project "Gas Leak City" a training cooperative project with the Louisiana State Police. At Gas Leak City our members can take an active role in training emergency responders in handling releases of our product safely, train their own employees in realistic

scenarios that mirror operations in a typical natural gas system and build relationships with other natural gas stakeholders in the process.

Please reach out to new employees in your companies to become involved in the LGA through conferences, committee participation, and sponsorship of our many offerings to the industry. We need your experience and input to make the LGA even more valuable to all members. Come and help us deliver superior value for our association,

Yours in service,



David Raymond
LGA President



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Louisiana Gas Association

SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT & CRAWFISH BOIL

May 17, 2018 | Jennings, LA

Support the LGA Scholarship Program!

Each spring, LGA hosts a golf tournament and crawfish boil to raise money for the LGA Scholarship Fund. This year the event will take place on May 17, 2018 at the Jennings Golf Club in Jennings, LA. Your registration fee NOT ONLY supports the scholarship fund, but includes a delicious lunch, complimentary beverages, and hot crawfish when you finish the course. All participants go home with a fun door prize too! Do not miss out on this exciting event - REGISTER TODAY!

To register and learn more about the Scholarship Golf Tournament & Crawfish Boil, please visit our website, www.LouisianaGasAssociation.org/golf.

Online Registration

Registration Brochure

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Make Plans to Attend the Premier Pipeline Safety Conference!

Please make plans to attend this year's Pipeline Safety Conference that will be held July 30 - August 2, 2018 at the Astor Crowne Plaza in New Orleans, Louisiana. The 2018 Pipeline Safety Conference will bring together individuals in the Natural Gas Industry, expert presenters on the federal and state levels, and suppliers all that aid in our mission to enhance performance, promote safety, and broaden public awareness.

Due to the success in 2017 and great feedback received, the 2018 conference will run concurrent tracks throughout the entire week for Hazardous Liquid, Gas Transmission & Gas Distribution.

Our Pipeline Safety Conference Committee is working to develop an amazing lineup of presenters as well and improve the networking opportunities for attendees, exhibitors, and sponsors. Please stay tuned for the final agenda that will be released within the coming months.

LGA MEMBER EXCLUSIVE!

Beginning on February 1, 2018, LGA members will have one month to register online and select their exhibit booth before registration opens to the public. This is an LGA Member EXCLUSIVE benefit. On March 1, 2018, registration will open to the public. If you have not renewed your dues for 2018 or are interested in joining LGA, please click [HERE](#) for more information.

We look forward to seeing you in New Orleans this summer. For hotel accommodation and more information about the Pipeline Safety Conference, please visit www.LouisianaGasAssociation.org/psc.

Exhibitor & Sponsorship
Opportunities Brochure

Exhibitor & Sponsorship
Online Registration



Before digging, call 811 at least two full work days in advance. That's all it takes to notify LA One Call members, so they can mark nearby utility lines and pipelines to prevent injury and costly accidents.

IT'S THE LAW. IT'S FREE. Call or click www.LAOneCall.com

LGA Committee Corner: *Highlights from the LGA Marketing Committee*

GETGASLA.COM – During the 4th quarter of 2017, our remaining resources were used to generate activity on our website. Through the use of Google ad words and other methods we were able to get the weekly traffic on our website to over 250 visits per week. For the year from inception we had a total of over 4000 sessions with over 6800 page views. Over 87% of the visitors were new visitors and new to our website. Most of the traffic on our site is from people looking for the gas utility that serves them. But we also had people looking for hurricane information, natural gas cooking and natural gas appliances.

2017 saw many firsts for the marketing committee and with the support of the LGA leadership and membership we will continue to use our resources to help the municipal gas systems communicate with their customers while providing information that will help all of us retain the customers that we have and grow our meter count.

LGA Online Training ~ Quick, Easy & Flexible
Hazardous Liquids and Gas Transmission & Distribution
Click Here to Register Now!



Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposals, Submissions and Approvals: Pipeline Safety

On October 18, 2017, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) published a notice in the Federal Register to invite comments on an information collection under Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control No. 2137-0629 to revise Form PHMSA F 7100.1-1 Annual Report—Gas Distribution System, and the instructions associated with this Form.

During the 60-day comment period, PHMSA received five comments in response to this information collection from the stakeholders. PHMSA is publishing this notice to respond to the comments received and to announce that the information collection will be submitted to OMB for approval.

Click [HERE](#) to read more.

Colder Winter Means U.S. Natural Gas Customers May See 5% Bill Increase

Clean Natural Gas Will Continue to be the Most Affordable Option for Home Heating

Washington, D.C. – The American Gas Association (AGA) said today that natural gas customers nationwide may experience a five percent increase, on average, on their heating bills this winter compared to last year. Following two unseasonably warm winters for much of the country, residential customers are likely to use an

average of three percent more natural gas this winter due to colder temperatures, which may result in a moderate increase in overall bills.

Natural gas will continue to be the most affordable option for home heating in the United States.

“Americans may use slightly more natural gas this winter to heat their homes, but due to the excellent energy value provided by natural gas, people are not likely to see a very different bill than what they have seen over the past seven years,” said Chris McGill, vice-president of Energy Analysis and Standards at AGA. “We are entering the third winter heating season following the extreme cold of 2013-2014 which included the polar vortex. We expect to see temperatures this winter that are more near normal – not as cold as three winters ago, but not as warm as last year. This accounts for an expectation of three percent more consumption and an estimated five percent increase in overall bills.”

AGA held their annual Winter Outlook event today where they presented analysis of supply, demand, temperature, weather events and pipeline capacity, and how these factors may impact customer bills. The results are based on a survey of 42 local gas utilities throughout the nation.

“The price of natural gas this winter for residential customers has largely been influenced by stable and now growing production, a flexible underground storage position and the presence of strong pipeline exports to Mexico, as well as growth in LNG exports. Utilities work all year to prepare for the possibility of extreme temperatures and employ a portfolio approach to help ensure they can meet the needs of their customers at affordable prices on the coldest days of the year,” McGill said.

- 177 million Americans enjoy the benefits of natural gas in their homes and that number continues to grow
- 39 states are now looking at ways to expand natural gas infrastructure so that more citizens and businesses can access this domestic fuel source
- Households that use natural gas for heating, cooking and clothes drying save an average of \$874 per year compared to homes using electricity for those applications

LOUISIANA GAS ASSOCIATION

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