



American
Petroleum
Institute



February 10, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20050

Dear Mr. President:

The Natural Gas Council writes to you today, on behalf of the people and companies who produce, transport, and deliver U.S. natural gas across this country and around the world, to offer our industry's support and request your administration's partnership to improve lives and solve energy and climate challenges using America's natural gas resources.

We are closely following the ongoing energy crisis in Europe, and our industry is doing what it can to help. We agree with your recent statement with European Commission President von der Leyen acknowledging that U.S. natural gas exports will "enhance security of supply while we continue to enable the transition to net zero emissions." Because of our abundant domestic supply of natural gas, America's LNG facilities have operated at near-full nameplate capacity to help our global allies and customers reduce strain on their energy supplies. The United States has been Europe's largest supplier of LNG in 2021 and can continue to be in early 2022.

Our industry's ability to support Europe during this crisis is no accident. It was enabled by American innovation and federal and state policies that welcomed natural gas infrastructure investment. Our domestic shale revolution and private investment in United States natural gas infrastructure has allowed our nation to lead the world in LNG exports—exports that have a lower emissions intensity than many of Europe's other suppliers.

However, the United States is not immune to future challenges—like those now facing Europe—if we are unable to continue growing and modernizing our natural gas system. Europe has discouraged natural gas development in recent years and the consequences are now clear—restricting natural gas threatens energy affordability and reliability in the near-term and hinders climate goals in the long-term. We cannot let the United States follow that same path. We reject a false choice between developing America's abundant natural gas resources and achieving our climate goals. We urge you to pursue federal policies that reflect your campaign statements on the importance of natural gas and your recent statement on European energy security.

Natural gas is essential to continue reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Since 2006, the switch to natural gas in the electric power sector has prevented nearly 3.4 billion metric tons of CO₂ from being emitted in the United States. Those savings are about 58% higher than what has been achieved in the same time frame by all zero-carbon emission sources combined. But this is just

the beginning. Our industry continues to work aggressively to drive down emissions from our operations, leveraging innovative technologies and setting both near- and long-term targets. We support smart federal policies to bolster our efforts, including methane regulations issued by EPA and PHMSA that are safe, effective, practical and protect energy reliability.

Natural gas generation also complements increasing renewable energy by providing an on-demand, fast-ramping partner for periods when renewables are not available. Research from the National Bureau of Economic Research has demonstrated a correlation between the growth of natural gas for power generation and the increased deployment of renewables. Just last month two Virginia agencies released a report that recognized the role natural gas will play meeting the Commonwealth's decarbonization target by 2045. The report cautioned against banning or prematurely shutting down natural gas infrastructure, recognizing that doing so would threaten reliability, affordability, and innovation.

We share your goal of keeping energy prices affordable and promoting economic opportunity. Here again, natural gas provides a solution. The cost to heat an average home with natural gas this winter will be \$746, according to EIA, while homes using electric heating will pay \$1,268—nearly 40% more. The natural gas industry delivers real, tangible savings to American families and businesses while supporting millions of well-paying jobs. Natural gas workers earn a median hourly wage of more than \$30 an hour, roughly 59% higher than the national average.

America's abundance of natural gas enables opportunity across our economy. The shale gas revolution has spurred more than \$200 billion in U.S. manufacturing investment, as reported by the American Chemistry Council. This investment supports more than 700,000 jobs and reverses a trend that saw manufacturers moving operations abroad due in part to high energy prices. Similarly, between 2016 and 2019, jobs in natural gas electric power generation grew across our country—60% in Texas, 32% in New York, 22% in Florida, and 21% in California.

Recent events demonstrate how much can be achieved for American families and businesses, and for people around the world, if your administration begins to recognize the U.S. natural gas industry as a partner. We stand ready to continue growing and modernizing our infrastructure to fully realize the security, climate, and economic benefits of our country's energy resources. But doing so will require collaboration between government officials and industry experts to craft effective policy in challenging areas, such as infrastructure permitting and emissions regulations.

We welcome an opportunity to meet with you to provide our perspective on the federal policies that would most effectively advance our shared goals.

Sincerely,



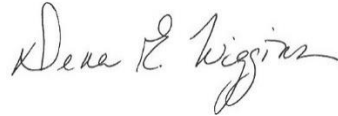
Amy Andryszak
President & CEO
Interstate Natural Gas Association of
America



Karen Harbert
President & CEO
American Gas Association



Barry Russell
President & CEO
Independent Petroleum Association of
America



Dena Wiggins
President & CEO
Natural Gas Supply Association



Mike Sommers
President & CEO
American Petroleum Institute

cc: The Honorable Jennifer M. Granholm, Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy
The Honorable Richard Glick, Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
The Honorable Gina McCarthy, National Climate Advisor
The Honorable Cedric L. Richmond, Director, White House Office of Public Engagement